



Smiles for election victory

Mrs. Syrtiller Kabat and Robert Hoover will become Ravenswood District trustees July 1.

Two activists win seats on E. Palo Alto board

Two Negro civil rights proponents ousted two Caucasian incumbents from the Ravenswood City School District board of trustees in Tuesday's election, a trend that started six years ago when the first Negro ever elected to a school board in San Mateo County was chosen in Ravenswood.

Robert Hoover, a community organizer and principal of the East Palo Alto Day School, and Mrs. Syrtiller D. Kabat, a widow and a teacher in the day school, got 1,165 and 1,053 votes.

They defeated incumbents Leon E. Shiells, board chairman and a trustee for two years, and Charlotte Roden, board member for 11 years.

Shiells received 970 votes and Mrs. Roden received 938.

TWO OTHERS

Hoover and Mrs. Kabat will join Dr. Andrew W. White, who was elected in 1961, and Harry Bremond, who was appointed in Feb. 7, 1966, the second Negro in San Mateo County History to become a school trustee. The fifth board member is Mario Regalado, a Caucasian attorney.

On Tuesday, Mary Jo Howell, an administrative secretary, was elected to the San Mateo school board, the first Negro to hold a school trustee position in the North San Mateo County area. She defeated incumbent Allan L. Fink.

A third challenger in the Ravenswood election, James A. Wilmore, a Negro and East Palo Alto barber-shop owner, received 299 votes.

Hoover and Mrs. Kabat ran a team, supported by numerous civil rights, community and church organizations. They were endorsed by ECCO (Executive Committee of Community Organizations) a year-old group representing 40 of the about 60 org-

anizations and churches in the East Palo Alto area.

The group includes Mothers for Equal Education (MEE), which started the day school because children were behind grade level, especially in reading, and Taxpayers for Equal Education (TEE), the YUC youth group and Baptist Ministerial Alliance.

Mrs. Kabat said today she feels a good cross-section of Negro and Caucasian residents turned out for the elections.

She said "good communication" between candidates and the electorate was responsible for this. She and Hoover will continue to stress such communication between the school board, staff and parents, she said.

Specifically, she said parents will be notified of student progress, problems and achievement levels.

She said she felt there would

be "no conflict of interest" between her and Hoover's affiliation with the day school and board duties.

69 PER CENT NEGRO

The district covers East Palo Alto and Menlo Park between Middlefield Road and the bay. It has a 69 per cent Negro population.

Election results showed that 23 per cent of the district's 9,932 registered voters went to the polls.

Commenting on his defeat, Shiells said:

"I congratulate Mr. Hoover and Mrs. Kabat on their election. I wish them success in meeting and solving the problems of the district. I am confident they will enjoy the support I have had from the teachers and administration. I urge the entire community to support them in their efforts."

Mrs. Roden had no comment to make on the election.

Tax hike foes win Altos school posts

Darrell L. Wallace and H. Rodney Peery, the only two candidates to run on an anti-tax platform, were elected Tuesday to the Los Altos School Board of Trustees. Today they said they would continue their opposition to the 30-cent tax rate increase before the voters May 16.

Peery beat incumbent Mrs. Edith Williams by only 17 votes. A total of 4,322 of 17,446 registered voters, or 24.6 per cent, cast ballots.

Both Wallace and Peery and Mrs. Williams agreed that the winners' stand against a pro-

posed 30-cent tax increase next month was the main factor in their victory.

Mrs. Williams and four other challengers had all supported the 30-cent tax increase.

Perry and Wallace will take office in July, but their election cast a cloud over proponents of the 30-cent tax hike proposal. Both of the winners were endorsed by the Los Altos Taxpayers' Rebellion—tax hike foes—and the tax hike was by far the main issue of the campaign.

ISSUE

Wallace and Peery said today that they are not against