



THE SCHOOL BOARD RACE

For longer than the residents of this community care to remember, the cry for a better and more complete education for our children has sounded loud over the Ravenswood and Sequoia school districts. These cries have largely been unheeded. The school boards charged with the responsibility of creating programs that would properly educate our children, operates more like the courts than educators.

Mrs. Gertrude Wilks and her MOTHERS FOR EQUAL EDUCATION have continuously brought the education problem of East Palo Alto to the attention of every educator, politician and civic leader concerned. Results have been few.

Now, there are two positions open on the Ravenswood Elementary School Board. It would be tragic for the electorate of East Palo Alto to send two more uncreative, apathetic, unconcerned representatives back to the board. It would be equally tragic for the electorate to send representatives to the board who do not have a working knowledge of the educational system in the state and in the district. With Ronald Reagan attempting to make education in the state of California a privilege available only to the aristocracy, this, or no other community can afford to gamble the future of their children with a board whose values dictate the perpetuation of mediocrity and sub-standard achievement.

There are three East Palo Alto candidates on the ballot for the school board election. Mr. Robert Hoover, educated at Penn State University and Stanford, and who is a teacher by profession, is in the race. Hoover is perhaps more familiar with the ills of East Palo Alto than any other candidate. In his job as community organizer, Hoover is in daily contact with community and county leaders. He possesses a keen knowledge of the problems of education in East Palo Alto and he has been actively involved in creative programs to solve the problem. He has gained the confidence and trust of the total community. More important he is trusted by the youth of the community.

There is no doubt that Mr. Hoover's election to the Ravenswood Elementary School Board would be a credit to education and to the community.

Mr. James Wilmore, a prominent barber in East Palo Alto has also declared he candidacy. Mr. Wilmore has been active in community affairs but his capacity and qualifications to meet the demands of the school board have not yet been fully explored.

Mrs. Syrtiller Kabat, educated at Montclair State College in New Jersey and former San Jose State speech instructor, has been involved in community activities for some time. Her background speaks well for her candidacy.

It should be pointed out that only two seats are available on the board...only two can get elected. It should also be pointed out that this community has to begin somewhere to attempt to establish political unity. This means that sometimes the good of the community must transcend the ego of the individual. It means the mobilization of the total community to achieve political victory. It means that each member of the community must assess his talents and work wherever he can be most effective.

The fact that only two seats are available on the board and three East Palo Alto candidates are running clearly presents a problem. It means that the vote could be effectively split so that neither of these candidates would be elected and perhaps send the incumbents back to the board. This would be most unfortunate. Moreover, the community could only blame itself.

Considering that neither of the candidates can withdraw at this time, there seems to be only one practical solution to this problem. The three candidates should get together - without hesitation - and decide among themselves the two who would most likely capture the seats on the board, and who is most qualified for the post. The individual who will not participate in the campaign should notify the press that he will not campaign and that he would support the other two candidates. Although his name would still appear on the ballot, he could do an invaluable service to the community.

This newspaper does not suggest that certain people do not have the right and responsibility to seek public office...everyone has that right...even James Meredith.

John Laurence Rayon, Publisher

OICW PLOTS PURGE

MITCHELL OUSTER IMMINENT

Rumors are abound that Jesse Mitchell, assistant director of OICW, is to be fired for his persistent attempts to involve the East Bayshore community more positively in the control and operation of the training center.

When asked to comment on the rumors last Wednesday night, Mr. James Banks, director of OICW said, "I would rather not

talk about things that have not yet happened. I would rather talk about things in the past." When asked who has the responsibility for hiring and firing at OICW, he replied that he has the responsibility. When asked if the Board of Directors has some say he returned, "My decisions may be appealed to the Board but I do all the hiring and firing."

The community would sorely miss the creative contributions Mr. Jesse Mitchell has made to OICW. He is known as a man who will speak out honestly even though it may hurt him. He was one of the driving forces behind the establishment of OICW in the East Bayshore community.

HOOVER, KABAT, WILMORE IN RESB ELECTION



HOOVER ADMIRES YOUNGSTERS WHILE HE CONTEMPLATES WHAT THE FUTURE MIGHT HOLD FOR THEM



EAST PALO ALTO'S DESERVING YOUTH

SNCC BIRTHDAY

by Mrs. Ernestine Hardy

On Sunday, March 5th, SNCC held an anniversary party in San Francisco attended by many East Palo Altans including Mrs. Syrtiller Kabat, Mr. Bob Hoover, a contingent from YUC and myself.

It was an all day affair and the entertainment consisted of two jazz bands, a puppet show, a group of Gospel singers, and two speakers: Mr. Marion Barry from Washington D.C. and Mr. Hoover.

Mr. Barry spoke of the des-

perate need for unity among all black people. Mr. Hoover emphasized that the black community must control its own schools, businesses and public services; must, indeed, provide the direction and leadership for all black people.

Our narrator was John Hardy, a disk jockey on KDIA. We also had a visit from Willy Brown who urged the people to donate money to SNCC.

TEE PICKS HOOVER-KABAT

At a suspenseful meeting Thursday night, March 2, the TEE elected Mrs. Syrtiller Kabat over 4 other candidates to run with Mr. Bob Hoover in the School Board election. The Thursday meeting was held the night before the last day possible to file candidates.

The Taxpayers for Elementary Education (TEE), headed by Mr. Lewis Turner, had decided that it would be best to wait until the last day possible to file their candidates. It was thought that the challenge of Mr. Hoover and Mrs. Kabat would cause the two incumbent candidates to try to flood the ticket with other candidates in an attempt to dilute the vote of the black community. The 2 incumbents are Caucasian.

Late last year a group of concerned citizens gathered together to discuss the problems of edu-

cation in the Ravenswood Elementary School District. The basic problem, they realized, was that their children were not getting the education that their tax dollars were paying for. Their children weren't being taught to read and do math at grade level or better. To work effectively for improved education they formed the Taxpayers for Elementary Education.

Reading failure they saw as the most important problem. "Culturally Deprived", they believed, is a term used by the school system to shift the burden of failure from the school to the parents. But, no matter how many encyclopedias, chemistry sets and grand pianos in the home, the child must still learn to read.

To improve the reading program in the district, the TEE proposed a thorough citizens-school study of all possible reading methods. At the last School Board meeting, steps were taken to implement the TEE plan.

In February, the TEE decided to take direct action by running two candidates in the April 18 school board in which two seats are open.

NO FEE

Office manager to handle books and deposits, \$500/mo.

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THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY

Once when the old man was fishing in the Bay, the governor sent two officials to go and tell him: "I would like to trouble you with the administration of my state."

The old man held on to his fishing pole and, without turning his head, said, "I have heard that there is a rare possum in Sacramento that has been dead for 100 years. The governor keeps it wrapped in cloth and boxed and stores it in the state museum. Now would this possum rather be dead and have its bones left behind and honored? Or would it rather be alive and dragging its tail in the mud?"

"It would rather be alive and dragging its tail in the mud,"

said the two officials.
The old man said, "Go away! I'll rather drag my tail in the mud!"

KELLY PARK NEWS

Winners of the recent Billiards Tournament held at Kelly Park were: John Stringer, junior division; and Thomas Graves, senior division. Stringer and Graves beat out 45 other contestants for the title.

Signups are now being taken for Kelly Park Bike Rodeo to be held March 24 and 25. Various events and obstacles have been selected for the contestants. Prizes and ribbons will be awarded to the winners.

BASKETBALL SEASON CLOSES

The Ravenswood HS Trojans finished a fine season last Friday by scronching San Carlos 71 to 61. The last few minutes of garbage points made the score that close.

Charles Lowery scored 34 points the 4th straight time over 30pts;

a league record. In so doing he broke the league season scoring record with 415 points and the league pts/game ave. with 25.9. Lowery was named to the SPAL all-star team.

Lowery's sparkling performances sometimes obscured the outstanding play of the Trojans' other four starters. The strong rebounding of Lincoln Minor kept the Trojans in contention in every game they played even against much taller opponents. Gates, Brewer and Mangrum all had

IMPORTANT MEETINGS

EDUCATIONAL RALLY
Friday, 8pm, 3/10
Macedonia Baptist Church

EPA DAY SCHOOL
10am Saturdays
Green Oaks School
2450 Ralmar Ave., EPA

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BOARD
Monday, 8pm, 3/13
2160 Euclid Ave., EPA

ECCO East of Bayshore
Tuesday, 7:30, 3/14
Ravenswood HS Staff Room

Sequoia District HS Board
Wednesday, 8pm 3/15
480 James, Redwood City

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THE BECKS REPORT

KABAT AND EDUCATION

How many areas of agreement can the leadership of the various groups of East Palo Alto find? What are some of the issues that they would agree on? Finally, at what level are decisions made?

There is a large amount of money coming into the East Palo Alto area--money which has been requested in behalf of the people of EPA. Yet, the conditions in EPA don't seem to get any better. As a matter of fact, they seem to be getting progressively worse.

The community has gone through many new studies and funds from many new grants are forthcoming. With all they are doing for us, there is less unity in East Palo Alto than there was in 1964. There is less organization than there was in 1964. There are fewer groups that can qualify as legitimate organizations than there were in 1964. There is less

trust and respect among us, etc. etc.

People who have been crying for help don't realize the crippling effect of that help that they have been receiving.

There are about 2 1/2 million dollars of grants--OEO--ESEA--Ford Foundation and other funds that have been allocated to the East Palo Alto area to help us. Considering the help that we are getting and the amount of affluence we are enjoying, one must conclude that the funds are being received by those outside the community who have promised to serve us.

Wherever decisions are being made, they are not being made by us or for our benefit. They are made by others and for the benefit of others.

We still have to address ourselves to the issues of the poor--

the uneducated--the disorganized the powerless--the unemployed. At the rate we are going it will take considerable time to take meaningful action on our own behalf--for we still must find those areas of unity in the community. We must be able to coordinate efforts so that funds for the same purpose don't go down too many different "rat holes." How can you have a balance of the blame under these conditions?

We have got to do more talking to one another rather than to outsiders. We have got to listen more to one another rather than to outsiders. We have got to trust one another rather than outsiders.

We can have a sense of unity only if we weld it ourselves--unity out of our own blood, guts and misery.

In a press conference held last week announcing their candidacy for the elementary school board, Mrs. Syrtiller Kabat and Mr. Bob Hoover discussed the educational needs of the district.

Foremost they see is an improvement of the entire reading program. They urged the adoption of a flexible, phonetic district-wide reading method. With a district wide program students moving within the district would not lose valuable learning time. When a student gets behind he often becomes lost and loses interest as he is passed from grade to grade.

Mrs. Kabat is strongly opposed to the use of the term "culturally disadvantaged" in reference to Afro-American children. It implies a superiority on the part of the white-middle class culture and is very damaging to the child's self-concept. The use of the term implies that the broad purpose of education is to get the children to adopt the white middle class culture. This, she maintained, is not only bad for the education of the child but is

an attempt to downgrade and destroy a rich and diverse culture. A culture that has given America its soul.

Mrs. Kabat stated that the learning potential of any child should not be considered limited because of test scores. "There is no test that can truly evaluate learning potential; the tests can show only the least a child can learn, never the most."

Mr. Hoover called for greater involvement of the board in the life of the community: in the homes, churches and streets. He stressed that the board must work with teachers, parents and administration and lead them in the education of the children. He promised that if he and Syrtiller are elected the board will be a "Action Board."

EDUCATION RALLY

Friday night, March 10 the educational rally of the year gave thanks to the fine job being done by the EPA Day School. At the rally, held at Macedonia Baptist Church, 1110 Berkeley, M.P., Rev. Henry Milton pastor (and Day School dean of boys), the mothers of day school children testified to the joy and learning the school has wrought.

Mrs. Evelyn Wallace reported on the contributions realized by "Fasting for Education" pledges. Empty stomachs and full hearts rejoiced at the good news.

Miss Wilma Jones speaks on a theme beautifully illustrated by the development of the EPA Day school: Black Power.

The program was made complete by singing and praising God by two outstanding choruses: the Macedonia Male Chorus and the St. John Inspirational Chorus. With the establishment of the Day School the community has, indeed, much to sing about.

GEMS

Lets dwell in individual Christian faith.

God's promises are for us personally. We have an individual right to pray for and receive every blessing promised to the believer.

Jesus said, "Every one that asketh receiveth." (Matt:7.8). He emphasized that fact 6 times so that we would clearly understand that he wants us to feel free to ask him what we want. He says: "Ask and it shall be given you; seek and ye shall find; knock and it shall be opened unto you; for everyone that asketh receiveth and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened." (Matt:7.8, &)

My friends, I trust you have seen, as never before, that faith will always move the hand of God. Faith always possesses. Faith is a persistent force. Faith relies on the ability of God, it knows no defeat, it thrives on a test. Faith never argues, never gets excited, never brags on itself. Faith is never nervous, never trembles & is never overpowered.

Every blessing Christ died to provide is the private property of every person for whom Christ died.

Christian Faith adds a lot of charm and beauty to our lives, its a safety valve, its the mark of culture and the breeding of Ladies and Gentlemen.

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DAY SCHOOL CLASS SHOW AFRICA MAP



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FOODLAND MARKET: CLOSED FOR GOOD?



QUIZZICLE YOUTH VIEW/CUB/REPORTER

WHERE WERE POWELL'S FRIENDS WHEN HE WAS UNSEATED?

"If a man falls, he shall rise again. . . In your personal life, don't ever consider a personal defeat a permanent defeat." The Rev. Adam Clayton Powell included this sage advice in a 15-minute outdoor sermon last Sunday in Bimini, where he remains securely ensconced, pending the outcome of his lawsuit this week in federal court, where his attorneys confidently expect a favorable ruling on his regaining his seat for a 12th term.

If the court rules that the House action was according to law, Powell will run in a special April 11 election in Harlem's 18th District, where Negroes are shouting, "We'll elect him every 30 days if necessary!" Rep. William F. Ryan (D-NY) introduced legislation Tuesday to require the Federal Government to pay the estimated \$90,000 to \$100,000 cost of the special election.

When the 90th Congress opened in January, Congressman Powell had served five years, with distinction, as chairman of the prestigious House Education and Labor Committee, which made him the most politically powerful Negro in the Government. The House voted to relieve him of the chairmanship pending an investigation of charges of improper conduct. Then followed the vote to not seat him.

Powell and his constituents, together with voices in many places of great influence, branded his ouster as racism. Among these voices was the Presbytery of New York, the governing body of 118 parishes, which urged that Powell be seated and reinstated to his position of chairman. The Presbyterians said:

"Powell's colleagues felt they had to 'get' him because the country had not yet been able to live with a wheeling, dealing Negro politician who learned his lessons too well and used them to the hilt for the benefit of Negroes and others who live on the grimy side of American affluence.

"At least that is the inevitable conclusion we are driven to unless

Congress immediately begins the job of reforming all committees."

Where were Powell's friends in Congress, to speak up in his behalf while they were voting him out, denying American citizens in Harlem legal representation?

Public statements in support of Powell were written by New York Senators Jacob K. Javits and Robert F. Kennedy, but their statements were released for publication AFTER the seating of Powell had been refused. William H. Booth, chairman of the New York City Commission on Human Rights, said, "I fear that their silence when the action was being contemplated fanned anti-white feelings in the Negro community. Their speaking out after the fact will exacerbate that feeling for this indicates that our Senators know the effect of the House action and themselves took no action."

We shall wait, not without a tinge of cynicism, to see what action shall be taken in the following cases: Senator Thomas Dodd (D-Conn.) accused of using campaign funds to pay personal bills; a Drew Pearson report states that "Rep. John McMillan, chairman of the District of Columbia Committee has used his political influence to arrange locations in D.C. buildings for a vending company in which he is interested . . .;" and "Rep. Mendal Rivers, the powerful House armed services chairman whose drinking problem has made him the Nation's worst security risk? He has access to the most sensitive secrets of the Defense Department and Central Intelligence Agency; yet, by any security standard, he can't be trusted with classified information."

So let's be fair and impartial and investigate and punish members of the House and Senate who deserve it. "The entire Congress must now use the Powell episode," said the S.F. Chronicle editorially, "as an opportunity to undertake a universal self-examination and to deal with abuse of congressional privileges . . . with the same harshness meted out to the congressman from New York. Anything else would be less than fair."

Open Letter to Women Readers

As black women, we have watched with increasing alarm our husbands, sons, brothers and sweethearts being taken away from us to defend the white man's questionable ambitions. Yet we have failed to protest. Those of us who have been fortunate enough to have them return to us in the entirety, if they have come back at all, have seen them return to the same racist, black-castrating society which demands of them the burden of patriotism without the rights of citizenship. Yet we have failed to

As if the black family existed solely for the purpose of producing soldiers and casualties in the white man's war, we have raised our sons to die. Yet we have failed to protest.

And now as black women, as mothers, wives, sweethearts and sisters, we ask ourselves and America, is equality death?

Join us in the BLACK WOMEN'S PROTEST MARCH, scheduled Friday, March 31, beginning at 12 noon at 100 McAllister St.,

If you live in the East Bay and need transportation, contact Isha Osheba, OL 8-0459.

THE TATTER

The Big Black Raven chuckles as he considers how culturally deprived he is switching his radio dial from station KYA back to KDIA. "If that's the white man's culture, he can have it. I'll take:

'Bernadette!'

'When somethings wrong with my baby, Somethins wrong with me.'

'It takes two to make a dream come true.'

'I've got a rainbow in my heart.'

It isn't heaven but it's ours."

"She will not be chained, to a life where nothings gained and nothings lost, Goodbye Ruby Tuesday."

"Oh it's such a pain, to keep from goin insane."

"Oh! Look at all the lonely people Where do they all belong?"

"Here comes my nineteenth nervous breakdown!"

Mrs. Wilks donned the professors robes last week when she went to Stanford to give a lecture.

There are salesmen around selling mini-max, an educational machine which costs nearly \$400. Always be sure exactly what you are getting for exactly what cost. Mr. Henderson at the Legal center advises never to buy from door-to-door salesmen.

Russian roulette proved fatal last week in Flood Park Estates for a Redwood City teenager; that is one game we should have left with the Russians.

There is a rumor around that a little lady in the Gardens wrote last weeks Tatter. Better watch your tats!