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CURE
CITIZENS UNITED FOR RACIAL EQUALITY

VOLUME 1 NUMBER 8
FEBRUARY 1969

WANTED
Adventurous City to Create Educational Park

by Larry D. Carlin

Once again the voters of San Diego are asked to approve a bond issue -- $91.3 million "to cover building program needs for the next five years." Recommended by a 43-member citizens committee, a special election is to be held March 11. A predicted 44,000 enrollment growth, the district claims, will create a need for the equivalent of 47 new schools by 1978.

With another bond election, the question must again be raised: Will the school district use this opportunity to deal creatively and constructively with the serious San Diego problem of school racial and economic segregation? Or will the district continue to plan and build and replace school buildings without apparent regard for this serious educational and social issue?

In 1965 the San Diego Board of Education approved a bond election to provide funds for meeting the school district's building needs. Opposition (composed of UACT, a confederation of civil rights organizations, and the American Civil Liberties Union) was mounted against the election because of the concern that bond funds would be used to build schools which would increase racial apartheid.

Board of Education members and other school district representatives assured voters that the bond funds would not be used to further school segregation and repeatedly cited the existence of the Citizens Committee for Equal Educational Opportunities (Lindsley Committee). In spite of the organized opposition and probably because of the Lindsley Committee, the 1965 bond election passed.

Since that bond election, all-white Patrick Henry Senior High School has been constructed. The Lindsley Committee has submitted its report. The Board of Education has rejected or effectively ignored the meaningful school integration recommendations of the Lindsley Committee. And the racial isolation of San Diego's school children has increased each year.

If now the school district chooses, in the School Board's words, "to use whatever means are in keeping with sound educational policies to retard and reduce the growth of racial/ethnic segregation," it might well consider the potentialities of the educational park.

The educational park is a total education facility. Elementary, junior high, secondary (and possibly even junior college) students are grouped together on a single site in separate "sub-schools" sharing common facilities such as auditoriums, language and science labs, gymnasiums, and cafeteria facilities.

The San Diego League of Women Voters pointed out that an educational park would "provide a firm center that would be relatively impervious to housing patterns and changes, and could end the gross inequalities in classroom space and part-time use of auditoriums, etc. Could serve as a vigorous center for adult community life after regular school hours."

It praised the "educational value received for the investment" and noted that "all facilities would serve all the children on a nonsegregated basis in whole communities in park-like areas."

The Lindsley Committee recommended the educational park concept as the primary means for providing a quality integrated education for the children of San Diego. Among the advantages cited by the committee were these:

1. Educational parks can be planned so as to qualify for federal and state financial support, insuring relief to the local property owner. (Former U.S. Commissioner of Education Harold Howe said, "The U.S. Office of Education is seeking one or two great Americans cities that are adventurous enough to join us in planning the educational park of the future.)
2. Educational park benefits would be available to pupils at all levels.
3. Educational parks group together, for maximum availability, many special services. It is more economical to staff one large library than to maintain service in scattered smaller units. Nursing service would always be available, not, as at present, one or two days a week. More effective use can be made of the personnel and equipment in various remedial and special programs.

(CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE)

INCIDENT

Once riding in old Baltimore,
Heart-filled, head-filled with glee,
I saw a Baltimorean
Keep looking straight at me.

Now I was eight and very small,
And he was no whit bigger,
And so I smiled, but he poked out
His tongue, and called me, "Nigger."

I saw the whole of Baltimore
From May until December;
Of all the things that happened there
That's all that I remember.

Color

COUNTEE CULLEN 1925

CURE

VOLUME I FEBRUARY 1969 NO. VIII

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The purpose of this newsletter is to provide a forum for the dissemination of information and the expression of opinion among those concerned with combating racism. CURE believes the opinions herein need to be expressed, although they may not represent official policy of CURE.

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Food Program A Reality

It now appears that the long awaited surplus food commodity program will be a reality in the near future. It is hoped that the actual distribution of food can begin soon. This achievement will be a climax to an effort by many private agencies in San Diego County over the past two years to secure this supplemental help for low-income families.

In the meantime this program has become more than a "surplus" food program. It is now conceived as a "public health" program which is designed to provide the proper nourishment for those families who normally live at a below subsistence level. As such, the Department of Agriculture purchases several kinds of food in addition to the surplus commodities.

The five private agencies which made commitments to the Board of Supervisors to assist in the distribution of surplus food are the Salvation Army, Neighborhood House, Imperial Beach Office of Economic Opportunity, Greater Parish Ministry(Presbyterian), and Metro (Methodist).

Any persons who wish to donate their services or equipment should leave names and addresses at the Metro office 234-3158 or the Good Neighbor Center 264-0368. N.S.

OPERATION STIMULATION

Operation Stimulation was started by a Development Organization during the summer of 1968 to meet the needs of Black children which have not been adequately attacked by the public school system.

One of the major roadblocks to a Black child's learning capacity is that many Black children feel they can't learn, and many don't try to learn. As a result, the Black person who finishes high school is often three years behind his white counterpart in English and mathematics.

His chances for being admitted to college are small, his chances for success there are meager, and even his motivation to attend college has long since been stifled. The objectives of Operation Stimulation are to find ways to solve these problems and to implement them by instilling in the Black student the sense of self-image and self-confidence which will allow him to make the most of his potential. This summer's program attempted to do this through:

1. Teaching Black literature and Afro-American history.
2. Exposing students to Black people in positions of success (doctors, lawyers, mechanics, judges, clerical workers, etc.) There were three field trips a week.
3. Teaching academic subjects. Mathematics and English were heavily stressed.
4. Involving the parents in the educational process. Teachers visited with the parents in the home each week and went over the lessons with the parents. Parents were encouraged to be positive with their children in terms of learning and achieving, i.e., "You can learn" instead of "You are stupid."

The school had thirty students--ages 7 to 11, and the basis of their selection was that the school system had termed them behavior problems, discipline cases, or "under - achievers." The staff consisted of two teachers, two part-time social workers, and one teacher-administrator. Operation Stimulation was originally planned as a summer project, but parents of children in the school, interested community people and the staff asked that a full-time Operation Stimulation school be started for children in southeast San Diego.

The Development Organization (headed by David Crippens, Tom Johnson, and Napolean Jones) has undertaken the organization of such a school with the support of the Episcopal Community Service. Arthur Graham has been hired to plan the program.

After much consideration it was decided that a private school starting with 150 to 200 children in kindergarten through third grade could provide a workable and meaningful program. However, such a program would require a large sum of money.

Funds from foundations are essential and two foundations have offered positive encouragement. The next step to prepare a grant proposal will take time and help.

Contacts must be made with foundation representatives, programs at other schools must be researched and evaluated, and community interest in the program must be developed. This will take money, to finance research, travel, and the costs of preparing the proposals--but, even more important, to demonstrate to the foundations community support for the program.

Contributions should be made to "Operation Stimulation -- E.C.S." and are tax deductible, in care of: The Episcopal Community Service 555 19th Street, San Diego, Calif.

HOUSE OF AFRICA: "HABARI GANI"

"Habari Gani" -- translated, "What's Happening?" -- identifies Leonard Jones' House of Africa, located at 2602 Imperial Avenue. The idea for his shop originated last summer when Jones couldn't find a Buba (man's shirt) anywhere in San Diego. By October 12 he had opened his own shop selling not only Bubas, Filia hats, Agbadas(3-piece suits), Ethiopian jewelry, natural wigs, and "Black is Beautiful" T-shirts, but also records by such artists as Miriam Makeba and Hugh Masekela, Baby Nancy Dolls from Operation Boot Strap of L.A., books primarily by and about Blacks, and local artists' paintings of Dr. Martin Luther King and Mohammed Ali.

Handsomely dressed in his own Agbada and Filia, Jones described his shop as, "Not just a commercial enterprise, but a place where people can meet and relate to a cross between American and African Black culture, because it's set up in such a way that when anyone wants to find out something about Blackness he can come to the House of Africa to find it." J.C.

JAZZ FESTIVAL: Fun and Funds

Sammy Davis, Jr. has accepted an invitation to participate in the jazz festival of the San Diego 200th Anniversary.

Mrs. Geraldine Rickman, director of COPE, (Community Opportunity Program in Education) for San Diego County, made the proposal for the festival, "Jazz By the Bay" to be held from June 14-22, 1969.

The week-long jazz festival includes the Fiesta de Jazz, a formal ball for kick-off, a variety show featuring semi-professional and local talent performing at matinee and evening shows, a benefit at the Naval hospital, the Balboa Park Jazz Symposium, and Jazz Workshop in the Park and also one at San Diego State College. In addition to Sammy Davis Jr., Buddy Collette, and other top talent is being invited. Aretha Franklin will be asked to be Queen of Soul.

Additional jazz symposia, with local jazz groups competing for prizes, will also be held during the week at San Diego State. A Jazz Parade throughout the city is also planned.

"The entire community of San Diego will be represented in the planning and the implementation of this musical extravaganza," Mrs. Rickman said.

"The community will also be enriched by the creation of broader and expanded educational opportunities for the disadvantaged community members."

"'Jazz By the Bay' is an exciting idea," according to Charles E. Cordell, president of the 200th. "The concept includes total community involvement, where everyone can work toward a purpose which we know is good and also enjoy the event." The proceeds of "Jazz By The Bay" will be given for budgetary support of COPE aimed at encouraging minority and low - income persons to seek advanced education.

The "Jazz By The Bay" Committee will be calling upon the community in a variety of ways to actively support the entire week. "Plans include coordinators from the Mexican-American community, Asiatic, Black community, and from the larger Anglo community," Mrs. Rickman said.

Other projects that "Jazz By The Bay" will support are tutoring and community projects that cannot get support from other sources.

Will Minorities Benefit from Charter Review? *by Ronald L. Tarbox*

A study is presently being undertaken in the city that could result in a greater voice in local politics by our minority neighbors. Whether or not this result is achieved is up to us.

The mayor has formed a charter review committee to study and propose changes in the city charter. Under the initial direction of Dr. F. Wilcox, professor of public administration at San Diego State College, the charter is being reviewed in three stages.

During the summer months and terminating in October, a pilot committee of nine members, including Tom McJunkins, met regularly for the purpose of raising issues relating to the charter and pointing out possible problem areas--but not proposing any specific changes.

In essence, they roughed up the surface to facilitate the deliberations of the follow-up committee, which is called the "Blue Ribbon" committee. Composed of the nine pilot members and sixteen additional ones (each council member nominating two), the group commenced its work in October and expects to finish in January 1969. They are charged with the development of more pertinent and specific recommendations for charter changes, but they are not responsible for developing the language of the proposed changes.

The latter task will be part of the function of the final review group which is to be called the "Citizens Convention." Composed of a broadly representative group of 45, the membership will be determined as follows: three selected by each council member, three selected by the city manager, three selected by the city attorney, fifteen selected by the mayor from a panel of thirty nominees presented by the "Blue Ribbon" committee.

The "Citizens Convention" will decide which specific recommendations relative to the charter are to be finalized for presentation to the mayor and council by June. The date was set in order to facilitate council review, follow-up action and possible placement of changes on the November ballot.

Why should we be interested in this review and how can we influence the reviewers? If we believe that council districts should be reviewed to prevent or eliminate gerrymandering and if we are convinced that true minority group representation is not possible on the City Council at present, with members being voted on at large and not necessarily reflecting the desires of their district, then we should let the members of the "Blue Ribbon" committee know of our interest.

A letter to the committee in care of Dr. R. F. Wilcox, 5351 Hewlit Dr., San Diego, or to a committee member, will reach the committee. A concerned citizen should voice his interest in the committee's work, request participation in the deliberations of this and the final review group, express concern for the true representation of minority groups by councilmen, and encourage the widespread publication of their deliberations at regular intervals.

A heavy and continuing expression of citizen concern with the council election system can pave the way for reform. Will you take the time to let your sentiments be heard?

CITIZENS UNITED FOR RACIAL EQUALITY

☐ I want to help; please call me. My telephone number is _____

Enclosed is $ _____ for:

_____ Subscription to newsletter
☐ To my address
☐ To names and addresses enclosed

_____ Memberships for me or those whose addresses are enclosed

☐ I cannot send money now but will contribute, time, services, facilities.

☐ I would like to write, research or publish in the newsletter.

I would like to be on the Open ☐ Restricted ☐ Mailing list.

MEMBERSHIP FEES:

STUDENT	$2
INDIVIDUAL	$5
FAMILY	$8
CONTRIBUTING	$25
SUSTAINING	$100
LIFE	$1,000
Subscription to Cure Newsletter	$2
Organizations	$15

I am interested in helping in the areas of:

☐ Education ☐ Housing ☐ Employment ☐ Neighborhood discussions ☐ Volunteer bureau ☐ Speakers bureau

☐ "Telephone Tree" ☐ Other (specify) _____

A Membership to CURE includes Newsletter Subscription

WHERE THE ACTION IS

HAPPY NEW YEAR! Are you one of those running or getting ready to run? Know someone who is? How about the difference between racial prejudice and racial discrimination? Take your anxieties or a questioning friend to a Design for Understanding.

Sunday and Thursday (March 2,6,9,13,16,20,23rd), 7:30 p.m. The Social Action Committee of the Priest Senate of the San Diego Catholic Diocese is sponsoring a Design at the Theatre of the University of San Diego College for Women. For registration call Mr. Gene Platten 582-7773. Fee $10 for individual, $15 for family.

Pacific Beach has scheduled a Design for Monday nights starting February 10th and running 7 weeks. The Design will be held at the Pacific Beach Junior High School. Fee's are $10 per person, $15 per couple and $5 for students. For registration call Mr. McKinnon at 274-3210.

"GOOD NEIGHBORS COME IN ALL COLORS." The recently organized "Pacific Beach Fair Housing Council" will hold two introductory meetings at the Pacific Beach Congregational Church, 2088 Beryl Street, February 10th and 13th at 8 p.m.

Anyone interested in open housing in the Pacific Beach-La Jolla area is invited to either the Monday or Thursday meeting. A detailed fair housing plan will be presented. Many specific opportunities to participate (involving as little or as much time you wish) will be explained. For further information, call Mark Birnbaum 488-9159.

A BLACK HERITAGE SERIES began January 7th sponsored by the San Diego Branch of the AAUW (American Association of University Women). The family oriented study course on the culture and history of Black America is being co-ordinated by Dr. William Cheek of San Diego State College. The course fee for the entire 12 weeks is $10 individual, $15 for a family. For information about the remaining Tuesday night programs call Mrs. Homer N. Wallin, 278-0027 or Mrs. Rudy Cesena, 278-3749.

IS COMPENSATORY EDUCATION A SUCCESS? The League of Women Voters is sponsoring a public meeting on compensatory education, Thursday, February 6 from 9 am to 11:30 am at the auditorium of the Education Center on Normal Street. Dr. Wilson Riles, Director of Compensatory Education, the State Department of Education will speak.

AN AWARENESS - Expanding Experience awaits you in the forthcoming Afro-American Culture Show. Mwanf-unzi Sukumo's San Diego US organization, a Black awareness group founded by Maulana Ron Karenga of L.A., will entertain with Afro-American drummers and dancers. During this performance, moderator Kudumu will explain the background for each dance, emphasizing the African heritage.

On February 1st, the Afro-American Culture Show will entertain at the First Unitarian Church, 4190 Front Street.

The Calendar for the Community Action Councils is as follows:

Feb. 3 - Area B: Lowell Elementary School
Feb. 5 - Area D: Emerson Elementary School
Feb. 11 - Area E: Knox Elementary School
Feb. 17 - Imperial Beach: Imperial Beach Civic Center
Feb. 18 - Linda Vista: Linda Vista Recreation Center
Feb. 19 - Area A: Sherman Elementary
Feb. 19 - Normal Hts. - City Hts: Central Elementary
Feb. 20 - National City: Kimble Elementary
Feb. 26 - Area C: Stockton Elementary School
See telephone directory for addresses.

(CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE)

EDUCATIONAL PARK

The educational park has great potential for providing an environment in which more humanized education can take place. Robert G. Lamp of Stanford University has noted that one of the primary aims of the educational park is to create an environment "in which the student gives his lifetime and energy to something which has meaning for him, in which he knows what he is doing, has an influence on what is being done, and feels united with, rather than separated from, his fellow man."

San Diego voters are asked to invest over $91 million in the buildings and facilities of the San Diego Unified School District for the next five years. The voters should have a guarantee - more than lip-service-assurance--that those funds will be used to create equal educational opportunities, that is, quality integrated education. The educational park has the potential for creating an environment in which sound, humanistic, and racially and economically integrated educational programs can be developed and maintained.

CURE
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ACTION:
Want to DO something to combat racism? as you pay your monthly bills, C.U.R.E. suggests you include in your envelope, or take to the store, one of the coupons below. We believe this is one of the kinds of ACTION that can help employers overcome any uncertainties about hiring minority employees. Need more coupons? Just retype the pattern or send stamped self-addressed envelope to C.U.R.E. Room 502, 520 "E" St., San Diego 92101 requesting number needed for you and your friends.

I support equality of opportunity in employment. As your customer, I urge you to expand your policies and practices to assure equality of opportunity at every level of employment, regardless of a person's race, color or creed.
Signed.....
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