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CURE
CITIZENS UNITED FOR RACIAL EQUALITY
ROOM 502, 520 E STREET, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92101

FEBRUARY 1971
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EDUCATIONAL EQUALITY CURE MEETING TOPIC

by Nikki Symington

In the 70's education in San Diego will have to change and develope to assure equality in education, concluded Father Doug Regin at the CURE general meeting on education held Tuesday, January 12, at Taft Junior High School.

This was no surprise conclusion! However, the past, present and future of education in San Diego was given some form by Dr. George Hall, representing the San Diego Unified School District; Ambrose Brodus, from the Urban League; and Saxon Wraith, Vice-President of Southwestern College.

Hall discussed past policy of the Board of Education concerning equality in education. As an outgrowth of the Lindsely Report (Report of the Citizen's Committee on Equal Educational Opportunities) of October 11, 1966, Bell Junior High was constructed and the districts between Bell and O'Farrell Junior High rezoned so as to assume a more equitable ethnic balance.

A special permit was established by Board of Education policy in 1967 which would allow inter-district transfers if the move would improve the ethnic ratio of the school.

In 1968, the District decided to provide free bus transfers to those students desiring to use the special permit. Today 858 students are attending schools on this permit.

In the 1968 budget $100,000,000 were set aside to go to two schools. The schools pilot improved instructional techniques and set a guide for successful integration. The schools compromise what is known today as the Fremont and Silvergate Plans.

The Balboa Park Program, which was initially financed by federal funds, has been continued and financed locally as a result of Board of Education Policy. Two bus-loads of fifth graders are bussed to the park to learn and share experiences for two weeks. One bus comes from minority areas.

The Valencia Park Plan was rejected by the Board of Education. It would have been much like the Silvergate Plan only in reverse, with whites being bussed into a minority school.

Nationally, 80 per cent of the white students from kindergarten to grade 12 attend 90 to 100 per cent all-white schools. These were the findings of a federal study by the Office of Economic Opportunity.

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CALIFORNIA TERRACES DEBATE/CONSTRUCTION CONTINUE

The objective of the City Council to insure that South Bay Terraces (now called California Terraces) will become a racially and economically balanced community is one step closer to reality with their acceptance of a proposed action program submitted by the developer.

The action program is designed to implement Council Resolution No. 195865, adopted when the master plan for South Bay Terraces was approved: "That in view of the magnitude of this proposed development and its proximity to an area of the City increasingly occupied by minority groups, and in recognition of the City's responsibility for anticipating and minimizing potential human relations problem areas, it is the objective of the City to insure as far as possible that a balanced community will result and that racial, ethnic, and economic imbalance will be avoided."

The plan the developer has agreed to implement as a condition for Council approval of subdivision maps No. 6 through 18 was recommended by the Planning Department and the City Manager. It includes recommendations made to the Council by a citizen's committee composed of members of the Black Action Council, Citizens Coordinate, CURE, the League of Women Voters, and the Urban League.

At the Council's request, representatives of the citizen's committee, the League of Women Voters, and Mitek, a consultant firm, worked with representatives of the developer and

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Speakers Bureau has New Member, More Input

Ray Schwartz, author of the Welfare Advocate column, has joined the CURE speakers bureau and is available to speak to your group.

Schwartz has been involved in public welfare for the past six years, first as a welfare worker, then as a student of social work and more recently as a professional journalist and columnist.

His Welfare Advocate column appears in a local paper, The Voice News and Viewpoint, each week. The column not only answers welfare questions, but gives information on all matters of poverty and hunger, both statewide and nationally.

Schwartz offers to introduce your group to the real problem of public welfare and offers a positive alternative.

For more information write the CURE office, 520 "E" Street, San Diego 92101.

OPPORTUNITY TO BUILD NEW SCHOOLS; Equal Education

by Brenda Goodfriend

It is time to reconsider the notion that a child must be bussed out of Southeast San Diego in order to achieve a more desirable ethnic balance in our schools. The Lindsley Report and the Public Ethnic Survey for 1969-70 demonstrates the need for remedial action and the district must finally make a commitment. Yet somehow this usually is translated into transporting black kids to predominately white schools.

The implication inherent in the bussing concept is clear: The only way of getting a satisfactory education is to send the children from Southeast to some other part of the city. A resident of Southeast must logically conclude there is something inherently inferior about his community.

Studies of early childhood have established the importance of a healthy self concept for successful achievement in school. Naturally this is impossible if you are led to believe there is something wrong with you and the neighborhood you come from.

There is evidence that whites too are not completely satisfied with what is offered their children at the neighborhood school. The average school just isn't up to snuff. It usually lacks a stimulating and creative atmosphere in which educationally exciting things happen.

San Diego Unified has the opportunity to change all this. With the requirement that twenty-six schools be rebuilt and the bond money in hand, both the system and racial balance can be markedly improved.

The Silvergate/Fremont program has demonstrated that whites will voluntarily bus their own children if they think it is educationally advantagious. This has been known for some time since parents of gifted children have driven or sent them via public transportation all the way across the city in the hope that superior education awaited them. Thus, a sufficient amount of discontent with the quality, content, and form of the program offered by the typical neighborhood school seems sufficient to provide incentive to enough white families to improve racial imbalance in schools in or near the ghetto if those schools have something to offer.

The opportunity is at hand to develop Educational Parks that will be so far superior to neighborhood schools in resource endowment and instructional opportunities as in the Silvergate/Fremont program. Families seeking a quality educational experience for their children will be lining up for the opportunity to drive their kids to them. It will now be kids from "up town" who will be coming to Southeast.

It is time to reverse the notion that there is something inferior about a school because it is in or borders on the ghetto. Let's build our finest, most creative, exciting and provocative schools along Highway 94 and the Wabash Freeway, and commit our finest teachers to them.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TAKES OFFENSE AGAINST FARM WORKERS EFFORTS

Farm workers, like poor people everywhere, are engaged in a basic self-determination struggle. Lettuce workers are now striking and boycotting to gain the right to have a union they want to represent them – Cesar Chavez and the UF WOC.

The issue in the lettuce strike is simple: Will farm workers have the right to build a union of their own or will their employers choose a union for them.

The Department of Defense is again supressing the struggle of the farm worker by using taxpayers' money to purchase Bud Antle lettuce in an effort to break the strike.

You can help by purchasing only UF WOC lable (the Black Aztec Eagle) head lettuce and by writing to your senators, congressman and Secretary of Defense, Melvin Laird, in Washington, D.C.

For information call 235-6087.

California Terraces & Debate Continue

Continued from page 1

city staff to reach agreement on the plan. While there are some reservations, the result is an encouraging beginning to the achievement of a balanced community in California Terraces.

The developer will submit quarterly reports to the city detailing by subdivision unit the number of bedrooms, the price, type, and distribution of each dwelling unit, and the number sold to each racial and ethnic group.

The action program outlines plans to hire "an authority in the field of establishing and maintaining integrated housing," emphasizing the "balanced community" concept in sales and advertising campaigns, seeking endorsement from civic, social, and labor organizations, and instituting high maintenance standards through deed restrictions and formation of homeowner and tenant associations.

A significant element in the achievement of a balanced community is the plan to distribute "rental units for low and moderate income families and elderly persons throughout the development."

The developer has agreed to do this "within the constraints imposed upon him by lending institutions, governmental agencies, and cold economic reality . . ." Unfortunately, the intent may be nullified if the 360 units of subsidized housing are built as planned all in one area. The developer is working with FHA in an attempt to scatter these units, that is, build a few units in several locations rather than building them in a concentrated mass.

The location and high density of California Terraces sparked the concern that it might become an extension of the existing ghetto in Southeast San Diego. However, to single out this development to the exclusion of others in the city would be refusing to recognize that freedom of choice to be able to buy or rent housing to fit one's needs in any part of the city is the significant factor that will stop extension of ghetto areas.

If the program planned to be implemented in California Terraces were to be employed city-wide, perhaps all of San Diego would become a balanced community.

White Majority Has Protection

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"As a black man my primary concern is to assure the best opportunity for the best education of black youth," said Ambrose Brodus. "The Lindsely Report indicated a situation where minority youth were not getting the kind of education any youth must have," he said. Brodus said he believed the efforts made so far were negligible and not enough to satisfy the black community.

"It is essential that the community be involved in decisions concerning their children's education," said Brodus. Discussing Dr. Jack Hornbeck's special report to the Board of Education from August 4, 1970, titled "Educational Organization for the 70's," he urged all concerned with education to read it.

Brodus said he felt Dr. Hornbeck's proposals revealed a clear understanding of the minority community's needs. He quoted from page 10 of the Report, "The present system of elementary and secondary regions should be discontinued and an effective plan for reorganization presented which would regionalize educational administration on a kindergarten through grade 12 basis, the number of regions should not be less than three nor more than five."

"Why is such a capable man willing and able to effect meaningful change leaving San Diego?" Brodus asked. San Diegans need to question the resignation of the Superintendent of Schools, especially as he has resigned right after presenting his program.

Some of the questions that should be asked were interjected by Father Doug Regin. What makes a meaningful environment for a superintendent? What are his criteria and options? What are the criteria for selection of a new superintendent? Selection of the man for this position will be of great importance to those concerned with the how's and why's of equality in education.

"Intellectual racism is not the problem, it is one of attitudes," said Saxon Wraith. There are two attitudinal problems, according to Wraith. People, to the point they are different than us, become in our eyes less human than us. This non-human syndrome is fed by race, languages, customs and socio-economic class differences.

The other attitudinal problem is the security syndrome where likes band together to protect themselves. To make an attack on racial inequality, differences must be minimized.

"The most necessary element is an economy that needs everyone," Wraith said. "Our economy is rigged to protect the white majority and fear of loss by entry of minorities leads to their suppression," he continued. Education could train people to do anything, but the prevailing majority protects their own.

"Education can help in the areas of minimizing language, custom, and socio-economic class differences. I believe there will be a great movement toward preschool education," Wraith said.

Wraith said he feels we should challenge every school system to adopt a policy to provide not just equal opportunity, but equal achievement among groups. Education as it exists now is designed to serve the majority culture. Different cultures require different educations. In terms of higher education, which seems to have lost it's way, Wraith proposes that each entering student must have equal preparation so that he may succeed in college, equality in earning degrees, and reaching children in early levels to erase differences so that education can provide achievement for all groups.

CITIZENS UNITED FOR RACIAL EQUALITY
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.....writing/production of newsletter
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.....community organization

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Sometimes we receive requests for use of our open mailing list from groups dealing with solutions to racial problems. Please indicate on which list your name should be included ..... open mailing list ..... restricted list.

Indians go to L.A., Protest Museum Display

by Ron Andrade

On Tuesday Dec. 12, ten men and two women, representing Indians of All Tribes, staged a sit-in at the Southwest Museum in Los Angeles. The Indians were protesting the display of a Cheyenne scalp, a sacred medicine bag, and the skeletal remains of Indian dead.

The Indians feel it is sacrilegious to display the remains of their dead and have asked the Southwest Museum for the remains so that they may be reburied according to traditional Indian religion.

At 1:00 p.m. they occupied the special display room at the museum and at 6:00 p.m., one hour after closing, they were arrested and taken to the city jail. The Indians did not resist arrest and there was no damage done to the museum. They were charged with trespassing and disturbing the peace to which they all pleaded not guilty.

Three previous meetings with the museum director, Dr. Carl Dentzel, had failed to bring about the removal of the Indian skeletons so the Indians vowed to remain at the museum until the skeletons were removed or until arrested.

The twelve Indians began the sit-in without legal consul and without funds for bail and are now faced with raising funds to meet the court costs. If anyone wants to help these Indians please contact Ron Andrade, United Native Americans, Mesa College, San Diego, 222-2026, or write the Southwest Museum and express your support for the Indian demands.

The Indians are beginning negotiations with the Museum of Man in Presidio Park because the museum has a display of a mumified Hopi baby and other displays which the Indians feel violate their religious beliefs. Letters of concern should be sent to the Museum of Man or letters of support sent to Ron Andrade, United Native Americans, Mesa College.

Where the Action Is . . .

MEMBERS NOMINATED FOR HUMAN RELATIONS AGENCY

Nominations of the 39 community members to the board of the County Human Relations Agency have been made by the Ad Hoc Committee on Human Relations.

The cities of Escondido, El Cajon, La Mesa, Imperial Beach and San Diego have agreed to join with the County through a joint powers agreement to establish this agency. Funding is being provided by the County.

The cities were requested to nominate nine members to the board to represent them. All 48 nominations were acted upon by the Board of Supervisors at their January 27 meeting.

GET 'EM WHILE THEIR HOT INTEGRATED COOKBOOKS

The CURE Integrated Cookbook turned out to be a best seller. The first 1,000 copies sold out in a week and the second printing of 1,000 is one quarter gone.

We welcome invitations to sell at any meeting or appropriate gathering. The price is still $3.00.

A few books had several blank pages. If you need a replacement page call 279-8809.

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ACTION DIRECTORY

ACTION DIRECTORY BEING UPDATED, INPUT WELCOME

CURE is in the process of updating its Action Directory. Any agency, organization or person with a recommendation for additions, deletions or corrections in the directory should advise the CURE office, 520 "E" Street, San Diego 92101 or call 279-8809.

The Action Directory is given wide distribution and has been found very useful. We need your help to keep it current.

STORYTELLERS NEEDED SOUTHEAST LIBRARIES

San Diego Public Library wants trained Children's Librarians who can do preschool story hours for smaller Southeast branches. Must be volunteers and must provide own transportation. Programs will be in the Skyline area to begin with, with others to follow.

Call Miss Ann Colburn, Southeast Coordinator, 236-5840 or Mrs. Jean Kockinos, Children's Coordinator, 236-5839 for more information.

PEOPLE FOR PEOPLE TO SPONSOR MEETING, PANEL

People for People will hold a general meeting on Feb. 18 at 7:30 p.m. at Grossmont College, Student Center. The 1971 officers will be introduced and a panel moderated by Carroll Waymon, director of Black Studies at San Diego State, will discuss "Where do we go from here?"

Panel members will include representatives from law enforcement agencies in El Cajon. Members of the El Cajon police and sheriff's departments and a representative from the Police Science Department at Grossmont College will participate.

For more information contact the El Cajon Chamber of Commerce at 442-9251.

CURE NEEDS TYPISTS FOR VARIOUS JOBS

CURE needs volunteer typists to help with various office tasks. Some jobs include maintaining the mailing list and taking one's own typewriter to the YWCA office to transfer information from their files to ours to add to the newsletter mailing list.

If you can't do either of these but would still like to help, call Betsy Bekken, 459-5809, and we'll find a job for you soon.

CURE
279-8809

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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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