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CURE

CITIZENS UNITED FOR RACIAL EQUALITY

3944 ½ Third Avenue, San Diego, California 92103

October 1975
Volume 8, No. 3

SAN DIEGO CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES FORUM IN SOUTHEAST

OCTOBER 30 7:30 P.M.

at

NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE
841 South 41st Street

Sponsored by:

Common Cause
Black Action Committee
Black Federation
Chicano Federation
Chinese Social Service Center
NAACP
Pilipino-American Committee
Union of Pan-Asian Communities
Urban League
Women's Civic League

HHRA, REALTORS SPONSOR HOUSING TRAINING PROGRAM

We have the tools; do we have the will (to provide equal opportunity in housing)? was one of the principal messages of Joseph H. Battle, keynote speaker at the program concerning equal opportunity in housing sponsored by the La Mesa Board of Realtors, La Mesa Community Advisory Committee, and Heartland Community Relations Association. The program, attended by over 80 people, realtors from San Diego and La Mesa, government officials, and private citizens, was held on September 25 at the American Legion Hall in La Mesa.

Mr. Battle's informal talk was illuminated by personal experiences that showed he has been, and still is, involved in the nitty gritty of the real estate business and in civil rights efforts. A Realtor for 25 years and the first Black man to become a Realtor, Mr. Battle operates a successful real estate business in the Cleveland area. He is one of the founders and a past president of National Neighbors, an organization of multiracial neighborhoods with the goal of promoting interracial living. He is also on the National Association of Realtors Equal Opportunity Committee. He has been active in maintaining Shaker Heights, Ohio, as a stable, viable, multiracial community. He knows whereof he speaks.

His message was a pragmatic one. While laws may not change people's attitudes, they do change people's behavior. He pointed out that just a few years ago he never knew where he might find lodging when he travelled in the South. Now, because of changes in the law, he has equal access to any public accommodations. He appreciates that change. There are now laws on the books and policies established by the National Association of Realtors which provide equal access to housing. And so, Mr. Battle pointed out, we have the tools to change behavior, if we have the will to use them.

Mr. Battle's talk was preceded by a film strip presentation prepared by the National Association of Realtors called "Winds of Change in Housing." It outlined the requirements of the equal housing laws. A skit by the Heartland Human Relations Association illustrated with humor questionable and illegal practices by a real estate salesperson.

The program was a follow up on a housing audit conducted by HHRA in the Heartland area last year. The audit turned up evidence of racial steering. The Association is continuing its relationship with the Realtors. Mr. Battle called attention to the strategy of forming a coalition of the Three Bs, as he called them, builders, banks, and brokers. HHRA hopes to expand its efforts to involve builders and lenders as well.

A BIG THANK YOU to all you readers who have sent in your membership dues for the current fiscal year which began June 1, 1975. Without you CURE cannot continue to operate. YOU are our only source of funds.

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FUND CUTS HIT ELEMENTARY INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE

by Irene Greiner

I am sure the young members of the Elementary Institute of Science, their parents and friends, the Board of Directors, and all others involved with its operation would wish to express their appreciation for the help and support of CURE. We especially appreciate the efforts of CURE in protesting against the termination of our participation in Federal Revenue Sharing Funds.

The Institute had had its funding discontinued at the September 2nd meeting of the Human Care Agency's advisory board. At this meeting 50 other programs were eliminated. The Human Care Agency claimed that the 144 programs previously funded would have to be cut back since the $6.5 million dollars placed at their disposal by the San Diego County Board of Supervisors would fall short of the amount needed by some $950,000. Sixty-three programs had been previously approved, and one other tentatively approved, pending further fiscal investigation. Twenty-nine other agencies received final approval at the September 2 meeting. The remaining agencies were given permission to appear before an appeals panel later in the month to show why they should receive a grant from the funds still remaining.

The Elementary Institute of Science had asked for $25,000—about one-third of 1% of the total funds available. In order to meet certain preconceived standards set by the appeals panel, representatives of the Institute were to be prepared to supply personal information regarding its young members about which no records have been kept, and indeed, no questions have ever been asked. The panel would like to know, for instance, how many were on welfare; how many had been recommended by psychiatrists or probationary officers; how many were from foster homes. They would also like information about family income.

The appeals panel concluded that the Institute was basically an educational institution and therefore not entitled to receive monies from Federal Revenue Sharing Funds. It is true that the instructions for disbursement of these funds did preclude the use of them for tax-supported agencies, including education, but the conclusion that the instructions applied to non-tax-supported education was in error. In any case, the appeal was denied and funding terminated.

The Elementary Institute of Science does not fit into any category. It is unique. E.I.S. does not exclude membership because of sex, color, or religion. Camp trips are unique because parents go along. No records are kept as to behavior, scholarship, police records, psychiatric backgrounds, broken homes or foster homes, family income; and no fees are charged.

E I S cannot be described as solely educational or recreational, although experimentation and other activities are planned in which learning will take place and be fun at the same time; if some of the kids get turned on to further participation in scientific studies, this is a plus value.

Parents of members meet once a month at which times they may criticize programs or offer suggestions for changes. They help by instituting fund-raising projects. They are welcome at all times, and over the years some have participated as students or instructors. Some are on the Board of Directors, and our salaried Executive Director is the parent of a member.

The Institute operates on week days after regular school hours and on weekends—offering healthy, socially rewarding activities that are probably preferable to some others that are available.

At this time the only qualification for membership is age; we are not yet prepared to accept people under the age of eight years. There are not now, and are not likely to be, any "cubs," or other designated levels of participation. We do have mostly secondary people in our evening classes, but this is mainly because parents generally prefer that young children attend daytime meetings.

When our members and former members learned that funding for the Institute was likely to be terminated, many wrote letters to Dr. Robert S. Caulk, who is head of the Human Care Agency's advisory board. Probably the value most often mentioned in their letters was the social one. Many spoke of how by participating in the activities they had learned to understand and get along with people different from themselves—even adults.

The Elementary Institute of Science had its beginning in Tom Watts' classroom in 1964. It has grown since that time and now occupies a building at 608 51st Street, in southeast San Diego. Many of us connected with it refuse to give up hope that Science Institutes for young people will one day exist all over this country, and indeed, the world.

Since the above article was submitted it has been learned that at the E.I.S. Board of Directors meeting on October 8, it was agreed that at the next meeting closing of the doors of E.I.S. will have to be considered because funds will fall short by about $1500 per month of meeting expenses.

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CURE

Office 295-5800

Published by Citizens United for Racial Equality, Inc. 3944½ Third Ave., San Diego, CA 92103

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

BLACK CAUCUS REPORT

The weekend of August 23-24 the Legislative Black Caucus convened a group of leaders from all over the state for the purpose of bringing about more minority involvement in the political process. This meeting proved to be a convenient forum for the delegates to voice their concerns and those of others in their communities. As reported to CURE, economic issues rated top priority in a list of significant areas to be dealt with by the Legislature. Within this area unemployment is a key factor. There is also concern about the use of revenue sharing funds. In addition, the source of a great deal of frustration is continued discrimination in housing. In the coming months the CURE Newsletter will endeavor to learn and report more about these issues as they affect San Diego.

CARLIN CASE RESEARCH CONTINUES

The Carlin Case, a class action suit to desegregate the San Diego Unified School District, scheduled for trial in September, was taken off the court calendar in June at the request of the plaintiffs' lawyers. This was done to await the decision of the State Supreme Court in the Crawford Case, a Los Angeles desegregation suit. The decision in that case, which was won by the plaintiffs, was modified by the Appellate Court. The Appellate Court narrowed the findings of the lower court, requiring, for example, that intent by the school board to segregate students must be proved. Judge Welsh of San Diego, who is hearing the Carlin Case, has indicated that he will rely heavily on the decision already given in the Crawford Case by the Appellate Court.

The State Supreme Court may very well reverse or modify the appellate decision to the advantage of the plaintiffs. Such a decision would also benefit the plaintiffs in the Carlin Case because of Judge Welsh's reliance on the Crawford Case. In the Pasadena Case, the State Supreme Court said "the harmful consequences of segregation require that school boards take steps insofar as reasonably feasible to alleviate racial imbalance in schools regardless of its cause," which suggests that they may give a decision more favorable to the plaintiffs in Crawford, and consequently Carlin also.

That decision could be made in a few months, or it could be as far away as a year from now. In any event, it is the understanding of the lawyers on both sides and the judge that the case will be placed back on the calendar as soon as the State Supreme Court has given its decision.

Meanwhile, the Committee to Support the Carlin Case is continuing its research into the School Board minutes, school boundary changes, optional attendance zones, and other areas. Additional volunteers are needed to help with the research. Anyone interested in this work is encouraged to call Shuf Swift at 223-8602.

On September 30, the Committee held a news conference. The purpose was to inform the community about the case, to correct some of the myths surrounding integration, and to stress that San Diego was still in the enviable position of being able to develop plans for integration which would not involve massive busing. However, the coverage tended to focus on the busing issue rather than the alternatives and opportunities San Diego still enjoys.

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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES For Fiscal Year June 1, 1975 to May 31, 1976
(includes a newsletter subscription)

Student . . $2	Contribution . $25	Donation . $____
Individual . $5	Sustaining. . . $100	
Family . . . $8	Organization. $15	

NAME . . . . . PHONE . . . . . .

STREET ADDRESS . . . . . .

CITY . . . . . ZIP . . . . . .

I am unable to send money now, but want to remain on the mailing list. ____

It is not too early to be thinking about gifts for those people on your Christmas list. How about considering a copy of THE INTEGRATED COOK BOOK for tempting, nutritious, variety menus. They are easy to mail, too. A limited number of these are still available from the CURE office at $4.00 plus tax (and postage if we send it to you). Call 295-5800 soon.

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LOCAL CONFERENCE ON HUNGER

On Monday, November 3, representatives of various public and private human care agencies will come together to share information on present programs and further needs of the poor in San Diego. Focus for this conference is on the right to eat. Interested individuals are encouraged to attend this workshop which will be held at Neighborhood House, 841 South 41st Street, form 8 a.m. until 12 noon. No reservations are needed.

JOHN MUIR SCHOOL

There is an alternative in San Diego. It is called John Muir Alternative School, a kindergarten through 12th grade school in the San Diego Unified School District. Entering its second year, Muir, located at 6880 Mohawk Street, is dedicated to the premise that students should be involved in responsible ways for their education. Students who want to work at their own rate, who want to take responsibility for their own education by becoming involved in their school, and who feel free to express themselves, will find Muir an exciting and rewarding school.

Muir offers an alternative to segregated education as well as an alternative to traditional education. It is dedicated to maintaining an ethnic balance which reflects the total population of the San Diego city schools.

While they are near capacity, inquiries are welcome. For further information, call 466-0531. The principal is Ernie McCray.

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WHERE THE ACTION IS

Agape Foundation Inc., which has been involved in resettlement of Vietnamese refugees, reports that there are many single men of wide age range who need sponsors. If you have wanted to help but cannot handle the needs of a large family, here is your opportunity. Call 427-2200 and inquire about sponsoring one man (or maybe two would like to come together).

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Homes are desperately needed for teenagers. The Foster Home Licensing Section of the San Diego County Department of Public Welfare reports that they have many different children with many different needs who cannot live in their own homes. Many are good students, healthy, nondelinquent, not involved with drugs or sex; some are poor students, unhealthy, delinquent, involved with drugs and/or sex. All of these youngsters need attention, concern, caring. If you think you might consider making a place in your home for one teenager who needs you, please call 279-8300 (or 745-4200 in North County) and ask an Intake Worker for more information.

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Many schools in our area have a need for tutors for students who need individual help. A special request has been received in the CURE office from Miller Elementary School. If you can give one hour or more per day or per week to work with a specific child, please contact Vice Principal Sarah O'Linde at 278-1405.

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There is a need for individuals who can befriend parents who have difficulties in their role—those who abuse or neglect their children. The duties of the parental friend include being available by telephone, providing regular and/or crisis-type services such as helping with transportation. The amount of time spent being a friend depends entirely on the relationship between the parent and the friend. If you are interested in befriending a parent, please call Barry Bernasconi, 262-0881, or Berly Miller, 279-8300.

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METRO reports a need for the following items for their Resident House: throw rugs, small reading lamps, alarm clocks, wooden dining room chairs, picnic table and benches. To donate, call 239-1487 (and tell them CURE sent you).

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