

# SC Library Again Asks Site Buying

Santa Cruz library commissioners this morning renewed their request to the city council for purchase of the Sigurdson property at 215 Locust street. A program for county branch improvement also was suggested.

The Sigurdson property is needed for expansion or reconstruction of the downtown library system nucleus, the commission feels.

Although the council levied taxes for the property purchase this year, it held off acquisition until the proposed countywide library district is settled.

However, during budget hearings last week, acquisition funds were budgeted on the basis that the city will demand compensation for all capital assets in any consolidation.

Librarian Geraldine Work this morning asked Vincent Locatelli, liaison from the county board of supervisors, about the possibility of the county increasing its library tax levy to provide for improvement of some 14 branches outside the city limits.

"I think this would be helpful, particularly for ultimate consolidation," Mrs. Work said.

Locatelli artfully dodged the question and the matter died.

He referred to a \$10,000 "paper" cut in the county library budget Wednesday.

Commission Chairman Warren Penniman pointed out that the county is obligated to pay its share of city-county library operating costs—based on circulation to outside-city residents—regardless of what amount is budgeted. Locatelli agreed.

Mrs. Work said the county share will be around the 58 per cent figure again this year. The exact figure will be set after July 1.