

Hospital hit as supervisors study budget

County moves towards home for delinquent girls

Despite the grief (and spiraling costs) experienced by supervisors in their attempts to build a new juvenile hall (see separate story on juvenile hall Page 8), the way was paved Monday by the board for the establishment of a county-operated girls' home "for the rehabilitation of delinquent girls."

Supervisors unanimously declared their "intent to build a county girls' home. Although the resolution approved by the board in no way commits the county to building such a home, the response by individual board members to an appeal by county's chief probation officer James Solomon that such "a program is badly needed" seemed generally favorable towards its ultimate construction.

The subject arose as the result of a request from the California Youth Authority, currently in the process of preparing its budget, asked the county "to declare its intention" towards participation in such a rehabilitation program, in order that funds may be allocated for the state's share of the project.

The facility itself, as proposed, would consist of a six bedroom house to be constructed by the county on a half acre of land. It would house eight girls with an estimated nine months average length of stay.

Solomon described the program as "the best approach to the problem" of dealing with delinquent girls whose "behavior is of such a nature" they can not be dealt with in their own homes," even under supervision and guidance of the probation department.

To farm these girls out to established "training schools" or the California Youth Authority costs the county between \$350 and \$400 per month, per girl, Solomon informed the board. Because of the cost and lack of available "bed space" at these facili-

ties, Solomon says the county has only been successful in having two girls admitted in the last four years. He estimates the county has had 50 girls under its jurisdiction the last three years "needing such training."

Chairman Tom Black, when presented with the total cost of the facility, said he "would personally favor the county going it on its own," if the board finally decided to go ahead with the program. He said he was against county-state share-the-cost programs, unless they involved figures in the hundreds of thousands of dollars, because of state "interference" in county business.

Cost of construction for such a facility is now budgeted at \$66,452.66, according to figures submitted by Solomon. The total outlay for the county would be \$42,452.66.

By indicating its "intent" now, the county would be eligible to draw upon state support for the next three years, holding off actual construction until 1970.

Garfield Park church ladies

Christian Women's Fellowship held their general meeting Tuesday in Garfield Park Christian church and completed budget discussions at the 11 a.m. session. Wilma Tye group served luncheon and those with July birthdays were honored. Grace Young group had charge of the gift table.

Mrs. Earl Pracht was narrator of a play, assisted by Mmes. J. Fitzgerald, Charles Wildman, Roy Weaklend, Romie Anderson, Eugene Carter and Gary Wells. Miss Ethel Johnson, worship leader, recognized those working in community service and additional volunteers were accepted.

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