

County Won't Participate In Food Distribution Plan

Damning the kidnaping of Patricia Hearst as a criminal act — "a grandiose rip-off" — county supervisors said today they wouldn't touch the kidnapers' food distribution program with a stick.

Supervisor Henry Mello, while explaining he finds the program morally distasteful, had said he thought that perhaps the county should extend some services in distributing the food to the local poor.

Mello's statement was in response to a query from Suzanne Smith, representative of a poverty program, who noted administrators of the food distribution program in San Francisco are interested in extending it to this county.

Mello said he had "strong reservations" about the program, but thought he shouldn't pass judgment on it, that that should be left up to the people who are hungry.

Chairman Dale Dawson said he "couldn't disagree more." He said the request amounted to asking the county to participate in an act of criminals and asking poor people to participate as well.

Supervisor Phil Harry, the only other member of the board present at this morning's session, said, "I wouldn't want to have any part in it."

Dawson thought that if the county helped the program "in any way" it would only encourage further acts of vio-

lence.

And Harry wanted to know what happens after one year when the Hearst money runs out. "Will somebody else be kidnaped so their family can start paying?"

Mello retorted that a hungry person in this county is no dif-

ferent from those in the San Francisco Bay area who are receiving the free food.

Harry cited the violence that has erupted at the food distribution points in Oakland. "They couldn't be too hungry,"

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Fearful Teachers Won't Testify

By TOM HONIG
Sentinel Staff Writer

Noting that "fear has spread through the community of teachers," the judge who originally ordered an investigation into last December's Pajaro Valley teachers' strike said today nobody connected with the affair will be charged with violating the law.

At a news conference, Superior Court Judge Charles Franich reported there is insufficient evidence to prosecute anybody, mostly because prospective witnesses are afraid to testify.

The judge said he was given that information by the county counsel's office, which along with the district attorney's office, investigated the strike.

"You know, I know and I think they know that there was a

violation of the law" during the strike, Franich said.

He indicated those teachers willing to testify regarding the strike are afraid "something will happen to them — even physically." He said the prospective witnesses are afraid of teachers who backed the strike.

He offered stinging criticism of that state of affairs. He read from the state education code a passage which said, "each teacher should endeavor to express on the (student's) minds...morality." He added a sentence which noted that the best type of instruction is "by example."

"When you're breaking the law you are not giving a good example," Franich said. He

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S.C. Won't Participate

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he observed, "or they wouldn't be throwing that food around. They'd be eating it."

"After a couple dozen of these (kidnapings)," Mello declared, "congress might find a better way to feed the poor. In any country where there are hungry people, then the rich people can't have the security that they'd like."

"If this kind of program is needed here," Dawson rejoined, "then we should find a way to fund it, but not ask the poor to participate in a crime."

Dawson and Harry stuck by their guns and the county will put forth no effort to assist the distribution program.