

3/30/82

SC

Weekly Flash

In effect, Measure B creates public housing in Santa Cruz. The intent of the law is to drive private owners out of business by setting and regulating a rate of return so low that the owners cannot make a profit. Measure B is simply the first step to even more stringent restrictions on private property rights. Measure B would create an enormous new city bureaucracy. First year cost could easily exceed \$250,000 and there are no limits as to what it would cost in the future because there are no limits on the budget.

Measure B would: Violate private property rights; create a seven member Rent Control Board; give the Board unlimited power to create rules, regulations, and controls; give the Board an unlimited budget; encourage owners to take rental property off the market; encourage property deterioration; make tenants pay for Rent Control.

Vote NO on Rent Control.
Vote NO on Measure B!

until 1 pm.

Rolle describes SCAN as an educational group, and says it will concentrate on organizing and lobbying efforts: it is not, however, registered as a political action group. A letter sent as part of its membership drive is signed by Mayor Rotkin and Councilmember Mardi Wormhoudt, among others, and its letterhead lists Supervisors Joe Cucchiaro and Gary Patton, and Councilmember Bruce Van Allen among its supporters. Rolle, one of the founding members of SCHAC, was Van Allen's campaign manager in 1979.

Love Creek residents file claims against County

AS OF LAST FRIDAY, SEVEN claims have been filed against the County by former residents of Love Creek. According to the County Counsel's office, the claims are demanding \$250,000

in general damages plus the value of real estate. Although the claims will go before the Board at their April 6 meeting for consideration, rejection of them is a foregone conclusion.

The basis of the claims consists of what County Counsel Dwight Herr calls "general allegations" that the county failed to warn people living in Love Creek of seismic dangers in the area. The claims also allege an inadequate seismic element in the County's General Plan, a failure to adequately map seismic hazards and violations of State regulations which require public notification of seismic hazards. The claims also state that the road running along Love Creek contributed to the damages sustained by the Love Creek residents.

Filing such claims with the County is a preliminary move to taking legal action to achieve financial compensation. Although litigation over landslide damage is common enough, filing a law suit under the circumstances of the Love Creek disaster is not. "A more appropriate response," remarked Herr, "would be to file a cross complaint against God Almighty."

The plaintiff's litigation will be handled by the heavy weight Monterey legal firm of Belli & Sabih (of Melvin Belli fame). A source close to the firm says that the hefty \$250 an hour fees commanded by Belli & Sabih is being paid by "interested people who are heavy contributors to the Disaster Relief Committee and other disaster funds."

The Disaster Relief Committee itself will not, however, become involved in funding any legal action. This became an issue recently when the Relief Committee was asked by some Love Creek residents to participate in raising funds for legal purposes. Stephanie Hauk, speaking for the Disaster Relief Com-

mittee, told the Weekly that her organization had no intention of becoming involved in litigation against the Supervisors. "Our purpose," said Hauk, "is not engaging in legal action, our purpose is raising money for disaster relief." Hauk added that it would in any case be highly inappropriate for the Relief Committee to participate in a suit against the Supervisors when it was that body which virtually brought the Relief Committee into existence.

Evidently the decision by the Committee not to involve itself in the impending litigation angered some Love Creek residents. Sheila Delaney, a former Love Creek resident and member of the Love Creek Homeowner's Disaster Association, emphasized that the claims were, to her knowledge, individual ones and not a concerted action. "It's a mistake to think it's (concerted filing of claims) a group thing," she said. •

Noteworthy

It's hard to find work for one thing. Life isn't that easy in the United States, so don't count on too much.

Advice given to a Polish refugee by the American consul in Vienna.

The Last Epidemic

THE FILM *THE LAST Epidemic: The Medical Consequences of Nuclear War* will be shown again on Friday, April 2, at 7:30 and 8:30 pm at the Loudon Nelson Center. The film, a documentary based on a conference sponsored by the Physicians for Social Responsibility, is the work of Eric Thierman, a Santa Cruz video and filmmaker and has received nationwide attention. Admission is free; for further information, call 425-5609. •