

# MPC President Again Claims County Needs Junior College

By Wally Trabing

Santa Cruz county is, by far, the most populated area without any kind of institution of higher education in the state of California.

And whether you know it or not, you, John Q. Taxpayer, are paying for it.

Last year the some 600 students from Santa Cruz county who attended junior colleges in neighboring counties, took with them in transferred tuitions \$315,000.

Next year, because the state legislation, has upped the tuition to \$300 per student, it will cost the county around \$464,000.

These amazing facts were placed before city and county school board members Monday night in the Capitola school by Dr. Calvin Flint, director of Monterey Peninsula college, and chairman of a statewide technical advisory committee on higher education.

Deciding a "fit for a king" chicken dinner which had borrowed a considerable amount of blood from the collective brains, almost 100 persons were held in rapt attention by the eye-opening facts pounded home by the speaker.

Dr. Flint, who wrote his thesis for his doctor's degree on research concerning Santa Cruz county's need for a junior college, pointed out how this county was in a "cart before the horse" position in higher education.

There is presently an attempt to lure a branch of the University of California into the county. The site selection committee was conducted through here a couple of weeks ago.

The state is working on a plan to put a state college in the Monterey Bay area. Many county leaders want that college located in Santa Cruz county.

Dr. Flint said, first of all, "the state does not look favorably on locating a state college in a county without a junior college."

State Senator Donald L. Grunsky, who spoke briefly following Flint's talk, said that last year Alameda county, which has the state's second highest priority for a state college, was assured such a college by the legislature.

"But this assurance came with the stipulation that not one dime would be appropriated until a junior college was setup," Grunsky said.

Dr. Flint next gave a discouraging blow at this county as a University of California site.

"I think you have injured your chance for getting the university, mainly because you have no junior college.

He said before a site decision was made, this technical advisory committee, composed of representatives from universities, state colleges, the state department of education and junior colleges, will no doubt enter into the picture. And it is this committee's opinion that a junior college is a prerequisite to a state college or other institution of higher learning.

Flint, answering a question by Conelly of Boulder Creek, said "it is a false belief that if a university were to be established in this county, there would be no need for a junior college.

"Only 10 to 11 per cent of the high school graduates are eligible to enter a university. So you can see that there still remains the bulk of the students to carry over into education past high school."

Why has the junior college seemingly become so important?

Dr. Flint was prepared to answer this question.

He started with the following figures: Between 1955-70 it is anticipated that the United States population will increase 30 per cent.

"In this same period the bulk

of war babies will be reaching college age." He said this age group (18 to 20) will increase by 80 per cent in the United States.

In the same period, those 25-64, the productive age, will increase only 18 per cent.

"You can see the situation, now, the great flood of students, which will be hitting the colleges and junior colleges during the next few years," he declared.

His California statistics had 600,000 youths between 18 and 21 years in 1954; and predicted 1,780,000 in this age bracket by 1970. Of these, he estimated there would be 506,000 full time students.

He said that now-a-days every parent wants their offspring to go through college and "every American child has a right to look forward to college if he qualifies."

"To handle these students we have developed a three-level educational system," he said.

1. The university system which trains professional people.

2. State colleges train teachers, and professional people also.

2. Junior colleges which have the status today to prepare lower division students for state colleges and universities.

"Today there are more upper division students in colleges who come from junior colleges than come up from the lower freshmen and sophomore classes," said Flint.

"The junior college is the only salvation in the big load of students coming up. Many states are recognizing this."

He said in California, 43.2 per cent of all the college students are in junior colleges; 20.5 per cent in state colleges; 18.2 per cent universities; and 18.2 per cent in private colleges.

He said the 79.1 per cent of all freshmen and sophomore students enrolled in Californian public institution are attending junior colleges.

Junior colleges are constructed by local bonding issues. They are partly operated financially by the state. Flint said that the states of New York and Illinois are leading the way to state financing of the building of junior colleges.

Flint said the technical advisory committee is on record recommending the following junior college points:

1. That the state help support the construction of junior colleges.

2. That the state give increased financial support for their operation.

3. That no four-year college be permitted in a county not being served by a junior college.

Flint was introduced by Norman S. Lien, county superintendent of schools. Joe Reimer, president of the County Trustees association, presided at the meeting.

Largest shifting sand dune in the United States is near Frankfort, Mich.

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