

RRSCLibrary

Patton Assures Librarian His Job Is Safe

6/23/76

By PAUL BEATTY
Sentinel Staff Writer

The Sentinel and Watsonville Mayor Bill Johnston were roasted by Supervisor Chairman Gary Patton during public budget sessions Tuesday.

Patton's blast was aimed at an article in Friday's Sentinel in which Johnston accused Patton and Supervisor Ed Borovatz of eliminating the south county representative from the City-County Library Board and that their action was part of Borovatz' attempts to get Librarian Charles Atkins fired.

Patton told Atkins during library budget hearings, "I apologize for the article on the front page of the Sentinel which goes to 34,000 homes" and complained, "No one from the Sentinel had the courtesy to call me up."

He asked Atkins, "As far as I know, no one on this board is trying to get you fired; do you have any illusion or belief we are trying to get you fired?"

Atkins answered, "I haven't talked with Mr. Johnston for months, so I have no comment."

Borovatz said, "I don't know where Mr. Johnston got his information." Patton jumped in, "It's not information."

Borovatz went on to say that Atkins had been a great help to him in his liaison work between the board of supervisors and the library board.

Johnston's charges against the two supervisors were made during the Mayors' Selection Committee meeting Thursday following the June 15 action of the city-county library board, which replaced Barbara Bollinger of the Watsonville area with Eleanor Engstrand of Ben Lomond.

Bollinger is in Supervisor Cecil Smith's district and Smith had re-nominated her to the Board.

Engstrand resides in Borovatz' district and he and Patton had nominated her. Their nomination was successful with a 3-1-0 vote of the county supervisors.

Smith voted against the Engstrand election and Supervisor Dan Forbus abstained, stating that he supported Bollinger but that Engstrand already had three votes, including that of Supervisor Dale Dawson, "by the time it got to me, so I abstained," Forbus said.

Patton told the press that he

was also angry "Because I attended the Mayors' Selection Committee meeting and nothing was said until I left."

Johnston was contacted this morning by The Sentinel and stated, "I'm not that interested in getting back into it," and referring to Patton's remark that the Watsonville mayor did not have "information," Johnston said, "I just consider the source."

Following the airing of the library board issue, everything was smooth sailing for Atkins as supervisors approved his \$764,919 county portion of the library system's \$1,124,881 budget.

Forbus even tried to add \$45,000 for land acquisition to

the library system's budget, pointing out that the Live Oak General Plan was nearly completed and three alternate sites for new branch library were identified in the plan.

Atkins said that he believed library facilities were needed in that area and that San Lorenzo Valley would need new facilities in the coming years.

Added to the county charges are the Watsonville agreement which brings the total county portion of the budget to \$831,419 with the south county city paying in \$54,000 operational and \$12,000 in loan repayment.

The library's budget is up \$106,672 for 1976-77 over the 1975-76 budget, due primarily to the increased cost of operations.

County Administrative Officer Ted Durkee informed the board in his recommended budget.

"The 1976-77 budget of \$1,124,881 is based on anticipated circulation of 1,060,000 books."

Bakalian Supports Panetta Candidacy

Leon Panetta, Democratic nominee for the 16th congressional district in the Nov. 2 election, announced today he has been given the endorsement of John Bakalian, one of two candidates who opposed him in the June 8 primary.

Bakalian in giving his support stated, "It is time for all

Democrats to unite to defeat (Republican incumbent) Burt Talcott."

Panetta responded, "I welcome the support of John Bakalian; he waged a hard campaign in the primary and I need his help to win the general election."

Hot Winds Slow Fire Fighters

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Hot, dry winds slowed fire fighters in their battle against a raging 800-acre brush fire in Ventura County today, but forecasters said winds were expected to slacken and take the edge out of the thundering blaze.

The fire was moving toward Hidden Valley, a thinly-populated ranching region. A spokesman for the Ventura County Fire Department said many of the structures were old and would likely burn quickly if reached by the blaze.

The Court Calendar

Tuesday, June 22, 1976

Municipal Court III
Judge Richard Kessell

Daniel Fielding, 44, 110 Valhalla Way, was fined \$125 for possession of marijuana.

Timothy Joseph Moran, 20, 115 Sunnycroft Road, had a charge of drunken driving dismissed against him and was fined \$125 for possession of marijuana.

Donald Lawrence Middaugh, 24, Newark, was fined \$190 for an amended charge of reckless driving.

Alexander Richard Forcina, 26, 210 The Esplanade, was fined \$125 for malicious mischief.

Stephen Eli Bariteau, 18, 33 Pasatiempo Drive, had a charge of drunken driving amended to reckless driving and was fined \$125.

Cecil Paul Tanner, 24, 615 Lighthouse Ave., had a charge of drunken driving amended to reckless driving and was fined \$125.

Phillip Angel Lara, 25, San Jose, was fined \$125 for possession of marijuana.

Superior Court I
Judge Donald May

Everett Norman Rockwell, 29, Long Beach, was sentenced to one year in the county jail and placed on five years probation for issuing a bankdraft with an attempt to defraud. He

was also given a suspended state prison sentence.

Frank Bermudez, 21, Modesto, was sentenced to 120 days in the county jail for possession of stolen property. He was also placed on four years probation.

Belinda Marie McWhorter, 27, 3714 Porter Gulch Road, was sentenced to 200 hours of volunteer services and placed on four years probation for possession of cocaine.

Patrick David Schoolcraft, 20, Santa Clara, was sentenced to 60 days in the county jail, to be served on weekends, for attempted burglary. He was also placed on three years probation.

Thursday, June 24

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