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Juvenile Hall Backers Strike Back At Grand Jury's Report

Two county supervisors and the county probation officer struck back yesterday at the final report of the 1960 Santa Cruz County Grand Jury criticizing the operation of the juvenile hall.

Chairman Lewis Nelson and Supervisor Hulda McLean did not feel the board should deviate from its plan to build a new structure as strongly recommended in the report. J. Ernie Balke, probation department chief, said he did not "see eye to eye" with the grand jury on many items in the report.

"The grand jury is right," Supervisor Vincent Locatelli stated. "This bears out what I have been saying all along. A new juvenile hall is not needed at the present time."

Mrs. McLean, liaison to the board on the juvenile hall, came out with the strongest attack. She called the report on the hall "irresponsible and superficial."

"We would be throwing \$50,000 away to build a new wing on a poorly planned facility," she declared. "The hall is already on space needed for hospital services and the wing would only make the situation worse."

Nelson agreed with Mrs. McLean and said there is no need to add to the hall. The chairman related he was "not in complete agreement" with the analysis by the grand jury.

"I agree something is desperately wrong," Nelson continued. "I am not satisfied what it is."

The report brought out increasing costs that were not justified, but Nelson and Balke contend there is a good reason. One factor for the cost jump is that the staff

is large enough to handle up to 30 inmates but the hall is constructed to hold only 10, according to Nelson.

Balke said the cost increase comes about because of the changeover from a couple system to an eight-hour shift operation that is handled by nine supervisors. There is a supervisor on duty around the clock.

When one couple was on duty at the hall during a 24-hour period, there were times when there was no actual supervision.

Supervisor Francis Silliman said he had not received his grand jury report yet but from the newspaper stories he feels there is a "conflict" of reports.

Mrs. McLean, in her liaison reports tells the board that the hall administration is "vastly improved," yet the grand jury report does not think much of the administration, he said. Silliman stated he will study the report and make an investigation.

President's Threatener Committed

Miami, Fla. (P).—Richard Pavlick, 73, of Delmont, N.H., accused of plotting to blow up President Kennedy at Palm Beach last December, was ordered committed to a mental hospital today.

U. S. Dist. Judge Emmett C. Choate directed that Pavlik, a former postal worker, be hospital-

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