

Weather

Temperatures for 24-hour period ending at 8 a.m. yesterday: Maximum, 61; minimum, 52. For 24-hour period ending at 8 a.m. today: Maximum, 62; minimum, 54.
Monterey Bay Area — Fair through tomorrow except some patchy cloudiness this afternoon and evening. Cooler nights but warmer days. Low tonight 35 to 45. Highs today in the high 60s. Northwesterly winds 10 to 20 mph today then variable 5 to 15 mph through tomorrow.

112th Year—No. 58

Santa Cruz Se

SUNDAY MORNING, MARCH 10, 1968

Hippies And Squares Sit Down To Talk

A beginning toward achieving peace between hippies and other residents of the San Lorenzo Valley may have been launched Friday night when some 300 persons spent two hours discussing the problems of community relations at the SLV High School in Felton.

At the same time, the role of the Peace and Freedom Party in the arrangements for the session, appears to have sparked new controversy in the rapidly growing and changing valley.

Spokesmen for all segments of the valley citizenry yesterday were contacted by The Sentinel to evaluate the effects, good or ill, of the discussion that seemed to center on personal and household sanitation, nude bathing and misuse of drugs.

The session was arranged by Jeffrey Kline, 21, a

philosophy senior from Los Angeles at UCSC's Cowell College, and was sponsored by the Peace and Freedom Party.

Kline, who now lives in Felton, may run as the party's candidate for the State Assembly. The deadline for filing is March 22 and Kline has until then to make up his mind.

Yesterday he told The Sentinel that he was pleased with the meeting. He said it may bear fruit as early as Tuesday when he hopes to ask the county board of supervisors to study the problem of sanitation in the San Lorenzo Valley.

Whether Kline appears before the board, he said, depends on his schedule of final exams at UCSC.

Kline, who will lead the Santa Cruz County

Peace and Freedom delegation to the party's state convention next weekend in Richmond, said some residents of the valley are unable to pay fees being charged for the disposal of garbage and other refuse at the county dump.

He said a suggestion may be made that the county subsidize families who cannot afford the fees. It also was charged that the fee structure is erratic and subject to arbitrary changes from day to day. The fees should be revised, Kline said.

The Sentinel was told by several sources that many businessmen in the valley stayed away from the meeting when they learned that the Peace and Freedom Party was the sponsor. Businessmen

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denied there was an organized effort to boycott the meeting, but they made clear they didn't appreciate its political overtones.

One lady who did attend the meeting, however, rather heatedly suggested that a "small element of merchants seeks to keep the situation stirred up" and that this group was absent. "If they had any guts," said she, "they'd have been there!"

She termed the dialogue "excellent" and added, "No one got hysterical."

She said there was a "good representation of the hippie community," estimating their number at about 50.

She added that the hippies are willing to accede to the wishes of the community and wear swim suits while publicly bathing.

The lady, noting that the hippie representatives emphatically denied they are the source of misused drugs in the valley, said, "Hippies are being used for scapegoats for problems that have been here for a long time and that no one has a solution for."

She asked that her name not be used.

Yesterday officials of the San Lorenzo Valley Unified School District reacted to charges that drugs are in illegal use in the valley's elementary schools and at the high school.

Said Kenneth Bailey, principal of SLV High School, "We have had no proven cases of illegal drug use by our students. We try diligently to sort fiction from fact to assure that before a person is judged guilty he must be so proved."

Bailey said school officials cooperate with law enforcement agencies in investigating all leads. He invited parents and other citizens with information to come to school and law enforcement officials.

"It is essential that we cover up nothing," he said.

John Provart, district superintendent, said he has received no reports from principals of elementary schools about alleged drug abuses by students. He also stressed that the district works closely with law authorities who are "trained to investigate and pursue leads and who are better equipped to handle these cases."

Although planners hoped the meeting would help to smooth relations between hippies and other segments of the valley's population, a by-product was to reveal distrust of the Peace and Freedom Party.

A Felton businessman, Ed Peterson, said, "The business community didn't want to become involved in what we

thought was a politically-motivated meeting arranged by a candidate who represents a party whose program is not in the best interest of the country."

His wife said it more succinctly, "I'm all for peace and freedom, but not going hand in hand with the Communists."

Other long-term valley residents expressed the view that many of the persons at the meeting were "outsiders" who asked pre-arranged questions.

Kline, who served as moderator, denied the meeting was politically motivated.

He said it was called to air the issues of the hippies' relations with the community.

He stated many persons who wanted to attend were unable to because the session was hastily arranged. According to Kline, major points voiced during the dialogue stressed that people should be treated as individuals,

that labels should be avoided, and that efforts should be maintained to reduce misunderstandings and avoid conflicts.

He said everyone was given an opportunity to say what was on his or her mind. "One man," he said, "got up and talked about the pains in his back and how God cured them."

Red Cross Gives Life Saving Class

A senior life saving class will be given by the local Red Cross chapter, starting Tuesday.

The class will be given Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights for three consecutive weeks, from 7 to 9 p.m., at Harvey West pool.

Participants must be 16 years of age or more, a Red Cross spokesman said.

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