

THE BLACK PANTHER

INTERCOMMUNAL NEWS SERVICE 25¢

VOL. IX NO. 3 Copyright © 1972 by Huey P. Newton SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1972

PUBLISHED
WEEKLY

THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION
800 EAST 14TH STREET
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94612



A MATTER OF LIFE OR DEATH

VOTE "NO" ON PROPOSITION 17



SEE ARTICLE INSIDE PAGE 2 ALSO, SEE SUPPLEMENT
OAKLAND - A BASE OF OPERATION PART XV PAGES A, B, & C

SURVIVAL TICKET
VOTE FOR
SURVIVAL

BOBBY SEALE FOR MAYOR OF OAKLAND
ELAINE BROWN FOR COUNCILWOMAN



A MATTER OF LIFE OR DEATH

VOTE "NO" ON PROPOSITION 17

Few contemporary issues confronting the Black and oppressed communities of America pose so deadly a threat to our survival, our lives, as Proposition 17, the Death Penalty Initiative which appears on the November 7th California state election ballot. Presently outlawed in California as "cruel and unusual", Proposition 17 would revive the death penalty as a form of state punishment. It would prohibit judicial review of the death penalty or death penalty sentences and would allow the reactionary California state legislature to enact mandatory death penalty laws for any crime they desired. Proposition 17 would open the doors to a

new wave of inhumanity and barbarism within a country already the most criminal and inhuman in history -- America.

In a previous article, (See The Black Panther Intercommunal News Service Vol. VIII #30 Saturday, Oct. 14, 1972), we exposed the illegal but highly effective statewide network of police, prison guards and county district attorneys who helped to force Proposition 17 onto the November 7th ballot. This blatant display of fascism, of the deadly transformation of statewide police power into an effective political machinery was founded, co-ordinated and directed under the

rule of Attorney General Evelle Younger. Again, we re-call the words of Ronald Reagan, in a directive to local death penalty advocates with the ominous overtones of the new (Hitler-like) American businessman/politician: "Your leadership for the Death Penalty Initiative is sincerely appreciated by me and my staff... I know that you are working diligently, but with the short time left I am asking that you re-double your efforts. We Must Not Fail."

The Black Panther Party urges all Black and poor people, all people everywhere who strive for justice, freedom and dignity in life to speak out against Proposition 17. Let the forces of life project their message of survival over and above the forces of destruction and death.

Historically, America has justified its use of the death penalty, both domestically and on a world-wide level, with the so-called "deterrent" theory. This twisted logic has resulted in the slaughter of millions throughout the world and the development of more and more ingenious methods of killing human beings. Yet America has failed to "deter" the continued and growing liberation struggles arising around the globe. Since 1930, (when 'accurate' statistics first began to be kept on state executions), 3,859 reported executions have taken place. Despite this, with close to 700 prisoners suffering on death rows across the country, 'crimes' punishable by death, by state execution, have not decreased.

The reasons are complex, they reflect the nature of a divided but increasingly technological society. One of the symptoms of a society which has placed its priorities on production machines over human lives, has been the increased alienation of the people living within that society. While the alienation of the upper middle class white bourgeoisie particularly has received the greatest amount of publicity, working and lower class whites have expressed their alienation in different, more violent ways.

Thus, sick men like Arthur Bremer, the man who attempted to assassinate George Wallace writes: "Really would feel better if Michl-
CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



Passage of Proposition 17 would have the effect of returning thousands of Black and poor prisoners to Death Row.

'AMERICA IS SICK-TO DEATH'

Norma Gist's experiences with the barbarism of this American wilderness are a testimony to the realities of life as seen through the eyes of her two children for whom she would (as many Black mothers would) have laid down her life. (She spent months in prison to stand trial for the alleged 'crime' of defending her son, Sol, from the brutal, racist attacks of a white school principal in Idabel, Oklahoma).

A woman of great sensitivity, she is, as any caring human being would be, outraged by the proposition on the November ballot of California to reinstitute the Death Penalty, Proposition 17.

Her words are full of love for humanity and hatred for the people who would destroy it. She says what many of us have said and will continue to say: Life should be taken only in defense of life. No man can determine the life or death of another. To do that is a crime. We are printing her feelings about the crime of punishment. We urge you to vote "NO" on Proposition 17.

Death is a Law of Nature. Some say it is an end, some a beginning, for some it is a transition. The fact is, no living person truly knows what death is. I personally would define death as "nothingness", but as I do not know for certain I cannot be sure. However, because it is a Law of Nature, it functions as do all Laws of Nature--as an inevitability. It is something that will happen at some time.

We know from observation that death is an occurrence that stops activity and the processes engaged in during life. Therefore, life is the most precious possession of the living. Life seems to love and pursue living but abhors and retreats from death.

If, then, Death is inevitable, what purpose does Murder serve? It seems an unfair and grossly unequal exchange to take away the most val-

uable possession and give in its place nothingness. It is unnecessary to pre-impose the inevitable, so Murder is unnecessary. Who among us has mastered Life and has resisted Death enough to determine infallibly when our fellowman deserves to live or when he deserves to die? What justification is there in taking a life knowingly and willfully without equal recompense? What equals Life? Perhaps, one life equals another. The urge to murder is an insane emotion. The urge to destroy and ruin without intent to reconstruct is barbaric.

make the laws for "the other fellow" or who have money enough to afford to break the laws. They sit on juries and instruct them. They love to say "guilty", because they get their kicks out of playing God, holding the power of life or death over another human being. They do not deserve the benefit of the doubt in being called "self-righteous." They call themselves just and fair; they say that all they want to see to is that the accused gets what he deserves. By their own words they condemn themselves. Because they proclaim this to be the era of Law



Due to her love for her children and her people, SISTER NORMA GIST is against those that would destroy them.

America's so-called system of Justice is being manipulated by insane people whose slogan is Law and Order. They are insane to the extent of not having enough good sense--their probable vast knowledge of psychology, sociology and criminology, notwithstanding--because they have proven to be incapable of correctly applying this knowledge to solve even the most elementary of society's contradictions, one step toward which would be to "walk a mile in the other fellow's shoes." But, overt insanity prevails. These Law and Order exponents have proven to be totally devoid of civilized human emotions, without empathy, and therefore they are devoid of conscience--which is one prime prerequisite for being a malicious, calculating premeditating murderer. America is sick--to death.

The mass killer who gets apprehended with the gun in hand is not the main one in need of psychiatric treatment. The one in need of it is the whole of society which together unrelentingly drives individuals berserk and into desperation so deep, resulting in crimes of all varieties. This whole of society is largely composed of "just regular good guys" who haven't been caught yet; many of whom

and Order in which ALL criminals will be brought to Justice. This society as a whole is insane because it refuses to accept the fact that there will be no Law there will be no Peace--without absolute Justice. No man or group of men--however callous or compassionate--can arbitrarily devise a code for humanity to improve upon the divine rights of man, which include Life, Liberty, and Self-destination. Therefore, until Man is in a position to afford accepting back what he gives out, there must be an immediate halt to legal murder--the death penalty ban must be upheld and reinforced. Society must--if necessary, be forced to--live with its monsters (if that is what it determines its lawbreakers to be) because society created its own monsters; those eerie and gruesome objects in its attic must form society's living-room centerpiece. Society must discontinue its practice of locking up its wayward and deformed children in dark closets as a method of punishment or as an excuse for not looking at them. Society has convicted itself by its own verdict. And the only requirement for wrong to prevail is that good people do Nothing.

Norma Spagner Gist

'STARS' THAT SHINE IN THE WHITE HOUSE, FALL IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY



Has JAMES BROWN "souled out"?

During any presidential election year the candidates running for office or re-election are busy seeking the support, the endorsement of those people who they feel have some influence upon large numbers of people. They hope, of course, to win votes. Seldom has any candidate had to confront the idea of Black people voting in such large numbers all across the country. Now, in 1972, each candidate knows the importance of the Black vote.

The Nixon administration, as we all

know, has done nothing at all for Black people, or any people of our underserved communities. In the four years he has been in office he has been consistent only in murdering, imprisoning and starving us. Nixon's plans never included our survival. Human life does not matter to such a man. The conditions of our Black communities everywhere clearly demonstrate this.



Nixon has not "embraced" the idea of freedom for Black people.

In gaining or buying support from the Black community, naturally any candidate would realize that we look, to some degree, to Black people in the field of entertainment for some

of our direction. Because this society is geared toward money and what it can produce, we must admit that certain Black entertainers, who selfishly realize the reality of power and money hungry men like Richard Nixon, would become dazed by the publicity and money gained by literally selling out and endorsing his re-election.

Entertainers such as James Brown, Sammy Davis Jr., Lionel Hampton, Jim Brown, Johnny Mathis and others who endorse Nixon are understandably receiving heavy criticism from the Black community. James Brown has said that he was shocked to notice that Black people were demonstrating at his shows to protest his endorsement of Nixon. Did he expect anything else? It is obvious that that the 'Soul Brother No. 1' sings and dances better than he understands the day-to-day struggle of survival of our people; the very people who make him the 'star' he is today. At a recent concert at Baltimore, Maryland Civic Center, he was heckled and put-down by about 500 brothers and sisters. The demonstration was led by Troy Brailley, a member of the Maryland House of Delegates. Some of the leaders of the Congressional Black Caucus have said that they were incensed over recent visits that some Black entertainers and athletes made to the White House. They all came out with statements praising Nixon for 'all he is doing for Black people.'

James Brown is now having to pay for advertisements defending his endorsement of Nixon. He claims he was impressed by some of the (token) appointments of Blacks the Nixon administration has made and the support he has given to sickle-cell anemia 'projects', Black colleges and drug abuse programs.

The Black community is not impressed by any of this--after so many years of abuse and denial, can the appoint of a few Black 'pawns', this limited funding for sickle-cell anemia and the few programs that gloss over the real source of drug victimization really impress any Black person; particularly when the programs are part of the campaign strategy to reelect one of Black people's most obvious enemies? Real pride in our people would make us strive to develop and organize our support around people's candidates.

We feel that the endorsement of Nixon by these Black entertainers is an endorsement of our further enslavement. If they can not serve the interests of the people they profess to love, then they should sing and dance and leave the politics of struggle to the many Black people who are fighting to survive life in America.

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE

THE BLACK PANTHER

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY
8501 EAST 14th STREET OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94621
TELEPHONE: (415) 636-1986

YEARLY DOMESTIC SUBSCRIPTION RATES: \$8.75
APPLICATION TO MAIL AT SECOND-CLASS POSTAGE RATES
PENDING IN OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA.



The court protected its own by finding Hanrahan and the 13 policemen "not guilty".

JUSTICE IS A JOKE

THE MURDERERS OF FRED HAMPTON AND MARK CLARK FOUND "NOT GUILTY"

On December 4, 1969, at 4:30 a.m., thirteen policemen under the orders of Illinois State's Attorney Edward V. Hanrahan invaded an apartment on the westside of Chicago. In that apartment was Fred Hampton, Deputy Chairman for the Illinois Chapter of the Black Panther Party.

Hanrahan's raiding party burst down the door and murdered Brother Mark Clark of the Black Panther Party, shooting him through the heart. They then went into the bedroom of Fred Hampton and shot him several times as he lay sleeping. Eight other brothers and sisters were also in the apartment, four of whom were wounded by random police fire.

The Chicago Black community in particular, along with the whole progressive world, was shocked. We demanded justice. Fred Hampton and Mark Clark were revolutionaries who had dedicated their lives to ending our oppression. We knew that this was the reason behind the raid and the subsequent murders of Fred and Mark.

To appease the outrage of the Black community the state put up a pretense of an investigation. The first of such "investigations", conducted by none other than the Chicago Police Department, concluded that Hanrahan and his gang had "acted properly".

A "Blue Ribbon" coroner's jury

found that the assassinations of Fred Hampton and Mark Clark was "justifiable homicide", and a Federal grand jury returned no indictment against Hanrahan or the raiding party.

On June 27, 1970, a special county grand jury was convened, and surprisingly, returned indictments against Hanrahan and his racist band of criminals; we held our breaths in anticipation of justice for the Black community. But, the indictments did not charge murder, but "conspiracy to obstruct justice."

During the long wait for the trial to begin, Hanrahan was nominated for re-election as State's attorney by fascist Chicago Mayor, Richard Daley and other fellow Democrats. However, slyly giving the 'appearance' of changing his mind, Mayor Daley later dumped Hanrahan from the Democratic ticket, and endorsed another white racist for State's Attorney. Hanrahan then went on to win re-nomination anyway. The Black community did not endorse Hanrahan, he won renomination because of the overwhelming number of white racist voters who endorsed him, racists who voted for Hanrahan not because they thought he was innocent of murdering Fred and Mark, But because they knew he was guilty. Hanrahan was and still remains hero to such white racists everywhere.

The trial began on July 11, 1972, and on October 25, 1972, Judge Philip Romiti handed down his decision: Hanrahan and the 13 police were innocent. Black people have seen that there is no justice for the oppressed of America, no justice at all.

As one Black man put it: "Everything Hitler did in Germany during World War II to the Jews was legal according to German Courts." After Hanrahan's acquittal, Bobby Rush of the Black Panther Party gave a press conference in Chicago, it read:

"Edward V. Hanrahan cannot and has not been exonerated in the eyes of an overwhelming majority of Black people. Rather than exoneration we see the statements and decision of Judge Philip Romiti as being a license for any policeman, anyone who can control the arms, to come into the Black community, to kill, to murder, and to main Black people and not to be held accountable for those murders. We do not understand why Hanrahan, Philip Romiti and Mayor Daley feel as though simply because Philip Romiti did in fact 'acquit' Hanrahan that the Black community would automatically abandon their liberation goals and ideas and that the Black community will flock back to Hanrahan in the November 7th election.

"Here before me we have 30,000 signatures of what we call the Black Commitment, it says:

Because I recognize how urgent it is for all Black people to rise up for our common cause, I do hereby make it known that I support the following objectives and will do all I can to bring them about.

1. The defeat of Edward V. Hanrahan in his efforts to regain office in the November election.

2. The elimination of police brutality and murder against Black people.

3. The creation of positive programs to bring to Black people the power to control our own destiny.

This is what we call the Black Commitment."

Hanrahan and his police are free; free to continue their reign of terror against us. We will not become emotional over the expected "innocent" verdict, but will work for the destruction of this racist and backwards system and all the Hanrahans in it, for the people's feelings for Fred Hampton and Mark Clark are lovelier than lovely. Their memory shall lend inspiration to our struggle.

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE

PEOPLE'S PETITION FOR THE TOTAL ABOLITION OF THE DEATH PENALTY

ALL LIFE SHOULD BE HELD SACRED, FOR THE RIGHT TO LIVE IS THE MOST BASIC OF ALL HUMAN RIGHTS. NO GOVERNMENT HAS THE RIGHT TO ARBITRARILY TAKE THE LIFE OF A HUMAN BEING. DEATH SHOULD ONLY COME WHEN DETERMINED BY THE FORCES OF NATURE, NOT BY THE LEGAL MURDER MACHINERY OF THE STATE. GOVERNMENT DOES NOT HAVE THE RIGHT TO LEGISLATE DEATH TO ANY INDIVIDUAL, OR ACT AS GOD WITH HUMAN LIVES. DEATH IS FINAL, AND LEAVES NO ROOM FOR REDRESS OF GRIEVANCES. WHEN A GOVERNMENT SHOWS NO RESPECT FOR HUMAN LIFE, CAN IT LAY ANY CLAIM TO LEGITEMACY?

THE PLANS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA TO RE-INSTITUTE CAPITAL PUNISHMENT CONSTITUTES PREMEDITATION TO LEGALLY MURDER COUNTLESS POOR AND OPPRESSED PEOPLE, FOR WHICH IT RESERVES THE DEATH PENALTY. PROPOSITION 17, A DEATH PENALTY INITIATIVE, CALLS FOR THE BAN OF THE USE OF THE GAS CHAMBER IN CALIFORNIA TO BE LIFTED. PROPOSITION 17 IS ON THE NOVEMBER 7th GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT.

REALIZING THE PLAN TO RE-INSTITUTE THIS BARBARIC ACT OF LEGAL MURDER, WE THE PEOPLE, RESIDENTS OF THE WORLD COMMUNITY, IN THE SPIRIT OF REVOLUTIONARY INTERCOMMUNALISM, DEMAND THE IMMEDIATE RECALL OF PROPOSITION 17 BY THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AND THE TOTAL ABOLITION OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENT WITHIN THE UNITED STATES AND ON A WORLD-WIDE LEVEL. ONLY IN DEFENSE OF LIFE SHOULD LIFE BE TAKEN.

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WHY VOTE IF IT WON'T COUNT?

MEASURE
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MUST
NOT
PASS



Under Measure M, there would be a run-off election if no candidate received 51% of the vote. This would rob Black people of our voting power.

Black people have always been without proper representation in government, largely due to the methods employed by the power structure to prevent us from taking part in the political process. The brutal lynchings, hooded Klansmen patrolling the polling places, poll taxes, and discriminatory literacy tests are vivid examples of the racist practices previously used to stop Blacks from voting. But those determined to keep Black and other oppressed people from exercising their right to vote are now using new, more sophisticated tools of disenfranchisement (to deprive us of the right to vote).

On November 7th, voters in Berkeley, California, will be presented with the latest tactic for repressing the Black vote in the form of Measure M, the so-called "Majority Rule/Run-off Election" amendment to the Berkeley City Charter. Charter Amendment M proposes to increase the number of voters required for election to the Berkeley City Council, the Mayor's position, and the School Board. It requires that in order to win, a candidate must receive a majority vote, which is at least 51% of the votes cast. Under Measure M, if no candidate received a 51% majority vote, there would be a second run-off election between the candidate with the highest number of votes and the candidate with the second highest.

In Berkeley, Black people compose 23.5% of the population. If Blacks vote as a bloc under the present system the Black community will be assured of having representation on the city council. If Measure M passes, Black people could not elect even one representative. Since Blacks compose only 23.5% of the city's population, they would need more than twice that number to elect even one Black council member. This run-off amendment would allow conservative white voters who may have been divided in the first election another chance to consolidate and group forces in a run-off to defeat any leading Black candidate who was too outspoken and too strongly committed to forcing the city to begin to meet the needs and desires of Black people.

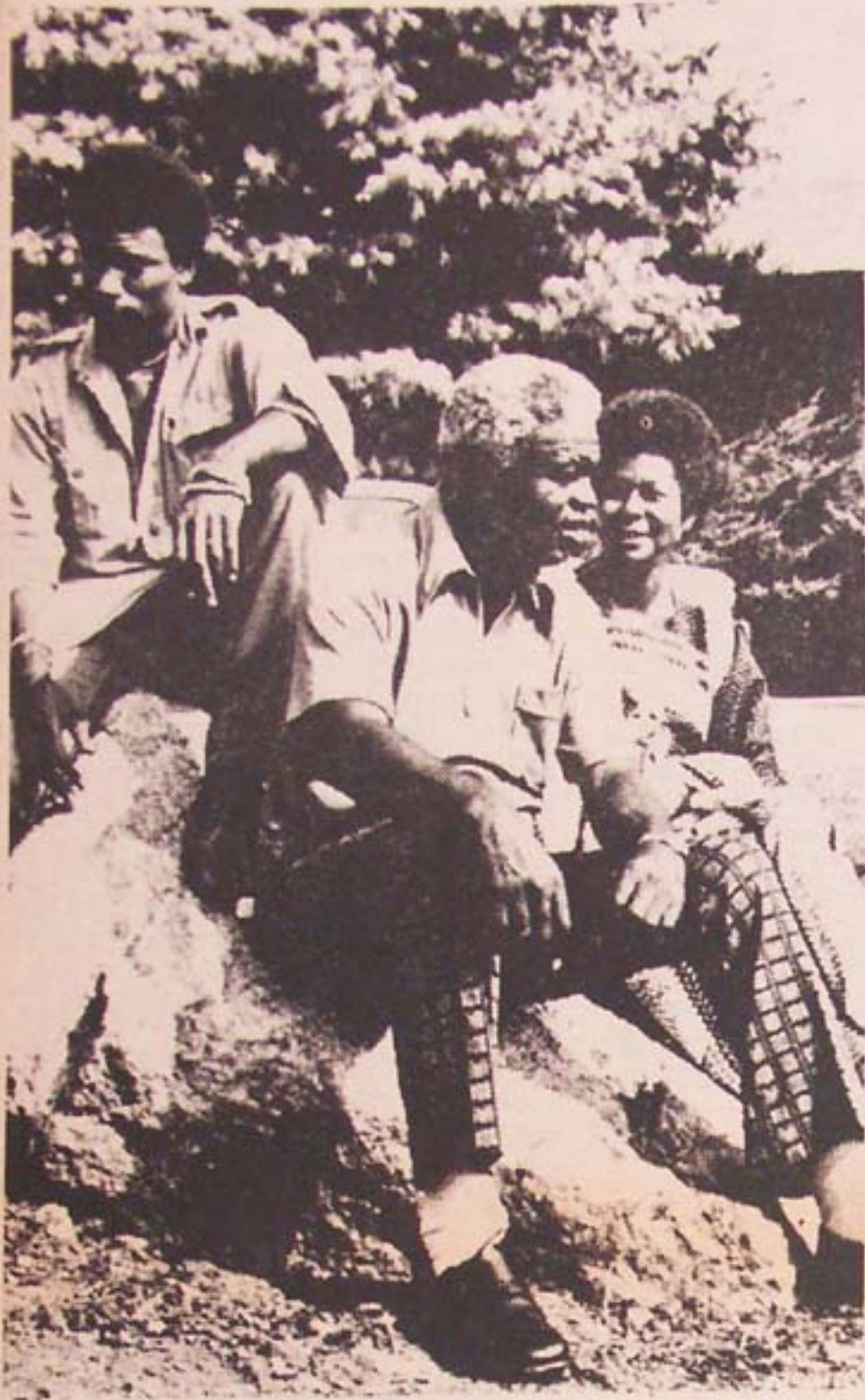
Supporters of Measure M claim that they are for "majority rule", and want to give voters a "second chance" to look at the candidates. Actually, what they want is rule by the "rich minority." They want a "second chance" to stop a Black person from being elected if he or she happened to win in the first election. Proposition M was originally proposed after the 1971 city council election, in which two Black men, D'Army Bailey, and Ira Simmons, were elected to the city council, and a Black mayor, Warren Widener, was seated. At this time Ilona Hancock, a progressive white councilwoman, was elected. All four

have endorsed and supported legislation in favor of Black and poor people, and other exploited minorities; they have been termed "radical" by the conservative whites in Berkeley. Nothing about majority rule was said when three of the four councilmen were elected with a minority vote, in the city council elections in 1969, because they were all supporters of the Berkeley power structure. Amendment M's supporters have been spending huge sums of money in an attempt to dupe the people of Berkeley into voting for it. They have even tried to convince the Black community that Measure M would not hurt our voting power; their claim is that Black candidates have received a majority of votes in the past. But, in Berkeley, conservative Councilman Wilmont Sweeney is the only Black councilman who has ever received a majority vote, primarily because he is endorsed by white voters and the wealthy businessmen. Councilman Sweeney is one of the main endorsers of M. He has even attempted to fool the Berkeley Black community into thinking that Measure M will help them. It is easy to see why he is endorsed by the city government.

In Los Angeles, in 1970, a Black candidate for mayor, Tom Bradley, led in the first election with 46% of the citywide vote (ahead of Mayor Sam Yorty, who was running for re-election and had already proved himself to be firmly against Black and poor people). With Los Angeles' run-off system, Yorty won. The rich minority elected their candidate. This has been the case in other cities in the country. Run-off elections were implemented in Mississippi because Charles Evers was running for Governor, and in Georgia Julian Bond is currently fighting a similar effort to impose run-off elections.

Although proponents of Measure M are using their wealth to spread their lies throughout the underserved community, those fighting the bill organized a protest march on Saturday, October 28, in order to educate the people of Berkeley about its effects. Measure M is just another subtle means of depriving the Black community of our voting power, a means of "putting Black people back in their place." This measure's supporters claim that it is not designed to disenfranchise Black people --but, it just happens to work out that way. Unlike Klan patrols, literacy tests, and lynchings, which historically prevented us from voting altogether; Measure M allows us to vote --it just means that our vote won't count. The Berkeley Black community must make each vote count on November 7th.

VOTE "NO" ON MEASURE M.
ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE



JACKIE ROBINSON--A man who loved baseball and found great dignity in winning, for his people.

WE REMEMBER JACKIE ROBINSON

In the early days of the Black athlete there was one man who made the constant effort to see that Black people, particularly Black baseball players received recognition in sports, in America. Just as this country has always denied those people who built the nation and made it rich so the strong arms and legs of the people who have always excelled in the natural abilities of the body been ignored or exploited--Black people.

Jackie Robinson was a man who refused to see Black people denied or exploited in the field of sports. A man who loved baseball and found great dignity in winning, for his people; he fought hard to have Black men included in major league teams. He struggled past the racist coaches and booing crowds to excel in his field.

On October 24, 1972 Jackie Robinson died of a heart attack in Stamford, Connecticut. He had been almost forgotten by his contemporaries and was relegated to legendry by young people. He died no longer a star, a great Black man. To many he was a 'Tom', to some, a lost man.

The Black Panther Party believes that he was a great Black man; that his contributions were great, his courage undeniable. His life is no less worthy than any man who makes but a few waves in the great sea of American oppression. Therefore, we extend our deepest sympathies to the family of Jackie Robinson, who have endured great suffering within the last year (their son was killed last summer in an automobile accident). We would like to say only that the contributions to the total liberation of Black and all oppressed people have been many, from all segments of the Black community, in the past and in our present...We remember Jackie Robinson.

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE

WEST OAKLAND PLANNING COMMITTEE WILL GIVE YOU \$10 TO ATTEND COMMUNITY STUDY MEETINGS TO START IN NOVEMBER

The Black Panther Party would like to inform the people of the West Oakland community that in November the West Oakland Planning Committee (W.O.P.C.) will start community study meetings. The Community Development Agencies (CDA) will set aside 300,000 dollars to be given to the people from the West Oakland community who attend these meetings. According to the West Oakland Planning Committee, any Model Cities resident can receive 10 dollars a meeting (though each person will be paid for only two meetings, or 20 dollars); one check per family.

The desire of the CDA is of course to inform only those people who are registered voters within the Model Cities areas of West Oakland. We believe that because W.O.P.C. is a community based program, that every West Oakland resident should receive these benefits. In a future issue of the Black Panther Intercommunal News Service we will print the exact date, time and location of the W.O.P.C. community study meetings.

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE

(EXACT DATE, TIME AND LOCATION TO BE PUBLISHED AT A FUTURE DATE)

A PROGRAM FOR SURVIVAL



Free Breakfast Program

Provides children a free, hot breakfast every school morning.

People's Free Food Program

Provides free food to Black and other oppressed people.

Liberation Schools

Provides free educational facilities and materials to Black and other oppressed children to promote a correct view of their role in the society.

Intercommunal Youth Institute

Provides Black and other oppressed children with a scientific method of thinking and analyzing things, basic skills for living in the society and a concrete alternative to established learning institutions.

Legal Aid Educational Program

Provides full legal assistance to those involved in legal problems, as well as legal aid classes.

Free Bussing to Prisons Program

Provides free transportation to prisons for families and friends of incarcerated men and women.

Free Commissary for Prisoners Program

Provides imprisoned men and women with the funds to purchase necessary commissary items inside the prison.

David Hilliard People's Free Shoe Program

Provides free shoes to the people made at the David Hilliard Free Shoe factory and elsewhere.

People's Free Clothing Program

Provides new, stylish and quality clothing free to the people.

People's Free Medical Research Health Clinics

Provides free medical treatment and preventative medical care for the people.

People's Sickle Cell Anemia Research Foundation

Instituted to test and establish a cure for Sickle Cell Anemia, to create better educational programs around Sickle Cell Anemia and maintain an advisory committee of doctors already researching Sickle Cell Anemia.

Intercommunal News Service

Provides news and information about the Black and other oppressed communities throughout the U.S. and the world.

Free Pest Control Program

Free household extermination of rats, roaches, ants and other disease carrying pests and rodents.

People's Free Ambulance Service

(Being Implemented)

Provides free, 24-hour speedy transportation to people in need of emergency medical care.

People's Free Dental Program

(Being Implemented)

Provides free dental check-ups and treatment for the people, as well as an educational program for dental hygiene and preventative dental care.

People's Free Optometry Program

(Being Implemented)

Provides free eye examinations, treatment and eye correctional equipment (glasses, etc.) for the people.

People's Free Plumbing and Maintenance Program

(Being Implemented)

Provides free plumbing and repair services to improve people's housing conditions.

Community Cooperative Housing Program

(Being Implemented)

Provides decent housing, cooperatively owned and managed by the resident families.

People's Free Furniture

(Being Implemented)

Provides free, decent furniture to improve our living standards.

People's Free Community Employment Program

(Being Implemented)

Provides free job-finding services to poor and oppressed people, who cannot find work.



TAXES, TAXES, TAXES



Parks and recreation facilities, schools, and the environment would all suffer if PROPOSITION 14 is allowed to pass.

During this "year of politics" many controversial issues are being aired. Many of these issues are quite complicated and are being talked about in complex terms for the purpose of confusing the people. In this article, we hope to reveal the facts about Proposition 14, the Watson Tax Initiative. This amendment, which was authored by Philip E. Watson, Los Angeles County Assessor, was defeated by California voters four years ago. It will appear again on the ballot in the upcoming November 7th election. For the benefit of the people we have attempted here to clarify the effect that Proposition 14 would have if it were approved by the voters.

Proposition 14, the so-called "Watson Initiative", is supported by all of the major oil companies, large utilities, real estate companies and other corporate interests. These backers claim that this Initiative would close tax loopholes and cut the property tax. Nothing could be further from the truth. The only groups that will benefit if Proposition 14 is approved

by the voters are those who already own most of California. This unfair tax plan would reduce the property taxes of the large banks and corporations and shift an even greater share of the tax burden to the people who are already most overburdened. If Proposition 14 passes, the sales tax for all items will be increased by 2 cents on every dollar, the liquor tax will be increased by 50 cents per gallon, the price of a pack of cigarettes will rise by 10 cents. These tax increases will not be offset by any significant reduction in the property tax and even this small reduction in the property tax will not be passed on to the majority of people who rent homes and apartments.

If this amendment becomes law, sales taxes on items usually purchased in the course of a day would be increased in some cases by as much as 40 per cent. To many people in Black and poor communities, who barely manage to survive now, this amendment would be the final blow.

The intent of Proposition 14 is quite similar to Proposition 13, the death penalty initiative, or Proposition 22, which would make boycotts by farm-workers illegal. All of these measures threaten our existence and advance the government's genocidal programs.

Philip Watson and his supporters have claimed that this measure would help tenants and people on fixed incomes. An example is that in reality the Watson plan would increase rents and further overtax the already over-taxed senior citizens. Proponents of Proposition 14 are stating that it would provide tax relief for the homeowner. This is a cruel joke. The proposed limitation of property tax rates under Watson's plan would not take effect until 1977. In addition to this, it would create a billion dollar deficit for state and local government which would mean a substantial increase in individual income taxes. The only beneficiaries of this amendment would be those who need tax relief the least - major land owning corporations, banks and the rich.

Proposition 14 would effectively decrease the amount of money local government could spend on education and would virtually destroy the possibility of equal education throughout the state. It is projected that some school districts would have their educational programs reduced by as much as 30 to 50 per cent. Welfare benefits for those who cannot obtain work because of physical or other disabilities would also be drastically cut.

In addition to creating higher taxes and consumer prices, Proposition 14 threatens the environment and the overall quality of life in California. \$151 million in funds for badly needed rapid transportation would be eliminated. Park and recreation facilities would also suffer because Proposition 14 would reduce funds available to park districts.

Proposition 14 is a miserable excuse for property tax reform. It would be damaging to schools, welfare programs, transportation systems, and pollution control programs. In the simplest terms it makes money for big corporations and landowners and puts a greater tax burden on the middle-to-low income person (poor people).

If the Proposition is passed it will become part of the State Constitution. There will be nothing (through legislation) that the people of California can do about it. We can stop it with our votes.

**VOTE "NO" PROPOSITION 14
ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE**

SUBSCRIBE TO SURVIVE

In order to enable members of the Black community to read our newspaper regularly and support the people's survival programs, in October the Black Panther Party will begin a door-to-door subscription drive for the Black Panther Intercommunal News Service in the Oakland area. Our newspaper will keep you informed of events that happen throughout the Black community and the world.

By subscribing to the Black Panther Intercommunal News Service, you will be helping the Free Food Program, Free Health Clinic, Free Shoe Program, Free Breakfast Program, and other survival programs implemented by the Black Panther Party to serve the Black community.

To subscribe for three (3) months is \$2.50; \$5.00 for six (6) months; \$8.75 for 1 year; and \$100.00 for a lifetime subscription.

When a Black Panther Party member comes to your door, he or she will present an identification card and ask you to fill out a subscription blank. If you are not able to pay immediately, payment can be made later.

Every subscriber will receive a free bumper sticker and a campaign poster of Bobby Seale (who is running for Mayor of Oakland and Elaine Brown (who is running for Oakland City Councilwoman).

To be informed and to participate in the survival of our people, buy the Black Panther Intercommunal News Service. Read about your community and the world.

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE



BLACK PANTHER INTERCOMMUNAL NEWS SERVICE

TO SUBSCRIBE MEANS THAT EVERY WEEK YOU CAN READ THE NEWS ABOUT THE SURVIVAL PROGRAMS FOR THE PEOPLE AND BECOME A PARTICIPANT IN WORKING OUT THE BEST MEANS AND WAYS OF SOLVING THE PROBLEMS OF OUR PEOPLE, OF BLACK PEOPLE AND POOR PEOPLE.

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A MATTER OF LIFE OR DEATH

VOTE "NO" ON PROPOSITION 17

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

gan had the death penalty--Do a bang-up job of getting people to notice you." Others, like the white Texas farmer who blew a total stranger in half with a shotgun and was quoted as saying, "I'm tired of living", are more suicidal but lack the nerve to end their own lives. The fact that the death penalty obviously fails to "deter" sick and warped minds like these is beyond a doubt. Less obvious, however, is the fact that the chances of being murdered are higher in states which have retained the death penalty than in those which have abolished it. While most countries around the world have abolished the death penalty, the United States is one of the few that still maintain capital punishment. Within this country itself, only nine (9) states have abolished the death penalty; the rest still reserve the "right" to execute. Recently, when the Supreme Court had

the chance to abolish the death penalty they failed to do so. Only in those cases where the choice between life imprisonment and death is at the discretion of the judge or the jury is capital punishment outlawed; it still applies in those cases carrying mandatory death sentences if the person is convicted.

The fact that the death penalty creates the climate and conditions for the continued terrorization and brutality directed against Black people can be readily established. Statistics indicate, in fact, that the death penalty has been preserved for the express purpose of maintaining the prestige of power, of superiority, through the use of Black 'examples'. Of the 455 men executed for rape in this country since 1930, 405 or nearly 90% of them have been Black men; Black people constitute 76% of all those executed for robbery; 83% of the people executed for assault by a life term pri-

soner and 100% of the people executed for simple burglary have been Black people. Since 1930, 49% of all people executed for murder have been Black. In all, of the 3,859 people executed by the state for capital 'crimes' since 1930, 2,065 or 53.5% have been Black people. 2,065 human lives, Black men and women, have been tried, convicted and murdered by the government of the United States of America; 2,065 Black people in 38 years. (There has been a stay on executions since 1967). Another way of understanding the immensity of the horror involved in these figures is to compare this to a statistic of a different sort. Between 1882-1938, a period of 57 years, there were 3,397 'recorded' vigilante lynchings of Black people in this country. If the figure for Black people 'legally' executed by the state from 1930-1967 is compared with an equivalent 57 year period, the figures are almost identical. CONTINUED ON PAGE 14



EDUCATE TO LIBERATE

The Samuel Napier Intercommunal Youth Institute is a school designed to help our children think. It is located in the Oakland Bay Area and it points out through example that other schools have provided only the most basic courses. Courses that have little relevance to the survival of poor people. We are trying to expand the concept that the whole world is the children's classroom.

The youth at Samuel Napier receive instruction in language arts, mathematics, science, health, physical education, political education and People's art. All of these courses are geared to the development of a well-rounded human being.

We need the help of all interested people in making our school run smoothly. Since its inception in 1970, its enrollment has rapidly increased. We need more instructors. Instructors with everchanging ideas to cope with the everchanging ideas of the children.

If you have teaching skills and can donate some of your time, please contact the Black Panther Party at 8501 East 14th Street, Oakland, California; or phone 562-2086. The children, our youth, are our future. Without their growth we, as a people, can not survive.

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE



PEOPLE'S PETITION

FOR IMMEDIATE PAROLE OF BROTHER DAVID HILLIARD FROM THE CALIFORNIA PRISON SYSTEM OR AN APPEAL BAIL BOND WITH A RETRIAL JURY OF HIS PEER-GROUP.

We the people, residents of the world community, in the spirit of revolutionary intercommunalism, do hereby redress our grievance and petition the courts of America and the California State Government and Parole Board: That David Hilliard be released from his prison incarceration in the California Penal System to the people of our communities on parole or an appeal bail bond.

Brother David Hilliard, political prisoner and Chief of Staff of the Black Panther Party, was in fact wrongfully convicted on false charges by a predominately white racist jury, as all members of the Oakland Black community were systematically eliminated from the jury selection process in his trial.

In light of these facts, we the undersigned, therefore petition that David Hilliard be granted his human and constitutional rights, that is, parole from prison or an appeal bail bond by the American courts pending appeal of his case before higher courts, and that his retrial jury be of his peers, a true representation of a cross section of the community.

DAVID HILLIARD VS CALIFORNIA ADULT AUTHORITY

On November 1, 1972, Brother David Hilliard went before the California Adult Authority for a parole hearing. This board can determine how David will spend the next ten years of his life. Due to the indeterminate sentences that are given by the racist California courts, this group of white men have the power to determine the destiny of thousands of lives.

The following are facts about Brother David Hilliard, whose destiny we can help determine through our support:

David Hilliard is:

Age 30; a father of four; he was born in the South; raised in West Oakland. He is presently incarcerated in Vacaville Medical Facility, Vacaville, California.

WHY?

David Hilliard was arrested on the evening of April 6, 1968, unarmed and at a considerable distance from the "shoot-out" in which Bobby Hutton was killed and several others were wounded. Despite diligent efforts on behalf of the Alameda County

District Attorney there were no witnesses produced to testify that David was involved in the shooting in any way. His fingerprints were not found on any weapon known to have been used in the "shoot-out."

IN FACT:

There is no direct evidence against him. Judge Raymond C. Staats, Jr., dismissed the charge against David Hilliard on the grounds that he had been held without reasonable or probable cause (July 30, 1968).

The State appealed the decision and David was brought to trial on order of the Court of Appeal. On June 1, 1971, his trial began with an all-white jury. In a "compromise verdict" he was found guilty on two counts of assault with a deadly weapon, lesser crimes than the ones for which he was tried. Bail was denied.

MEANWHILE:

David Hilliard has remained in prison--five months in Maximum Security (the hole) at Folsom and he is currently at the Vacaville Medical Facility.

Prior to his imprisonment David

suffered from bleeding ulcers. He was unable to convince the authorities at Folsom of the seriousness of his condition and was not given needed medical care. He collapsed in the visiting room and friends brought immediate legal, moral, and political pressure to bear which saved his life. He was removed from Folsom to Vacaville following hospitalization at Folsom, he subsequently received surgery. He is still ill.

David Hilliard had a parole hearing November 1, 1972. The probation officer who originally investigated the entire case recommended that David's sentence should not exceed one year and should be served in the County Jail. David has been in state prisons since July 14, 1971. His usefulness to his community through his unusual ability to help implement "survival programs" may well depend on the outcome of the parole hearings. His very life may depend upon this hearing's decision.

Express your concern for David Hilliard to the Adult Authority, Ferry Building, San Francisco, Ca.

FREE DAVID HILLIARD!



	NAME	ADDRESS	CITY/STATE/ZIP	COUNTRY	IF IN THE U.S.A., REG. VOTER?
1					
2					
3					

AN IMPORTANT AND COMPELLING CRITIQUE OF THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY BY ITS CHIEF THEORETICIAN

With an honesty as rare as it is persuasive, Huey P. Newton, founder of the Black Panther Party, records the internal struggles, rivalries, and contradictions within the Party—certain that only by recognizing these contradictions and building from them can the Party "clarify and advance the struggle"

TO DIE FOR THE PEOPLE

The Writings of
Huey P. Newton

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A MATTER OF LIFE OR DEATH

VOTE "NO" ON PROPOSITION 17

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

tical!

The violence generated by the execution of Black people has again, certainly spread throughout the country. This racist sentiment might best be expressed as "if the state can murder them, so can I". A number of psychologists and psychiatrists agree, "capital punishment ... stimulates the suicidal, the glory seeker and all who are shamefully attracted by the obscenity of the state's death ritual." The relationship between the alienated lower class white worker and his acts of violence against Black people become clearer when we view them in the context of the state sanctioned climate of terror. Ignorant and confused people look to the government for direction, and their government, the government of the United States, approves and directs an outlet for aggression against Black people and other people of color throughout

the world.

Viewing the country in this manner, we can begin to understand the enormity of the problem created by the death penalty; how the internal chaos within American society is spread, in the lust for new markets for American produce and power on an intercommunal level. We can see how the death penalty was applied to Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan, where the first (and only) atomic bombs were dropped; we can see how the glory seeking soldiers in Vietnam fulfill a death penalty ordered by the Pentagon and the American businessman; how the police in urban American cities, already acting on orders to "Shoot to Kill", are actually following orders deeply ingrained and embedded within the fabric of the society.

It is in this historical and social setting where we can most accurately judge Proposition 17, the Death

Penalty Initiative. Should Proposition 17 pass, the results for the Black and poor communities would be terrifying.

Under the fascist rule of Reagan and Younger, the state of California is attempting to set the tone for outright genocide. For Black and oppressed people, Proposition 17 amounts to legal, state - approved lynching, uncontrollable by judicial review. The death penalty could only add to an atmosphere where arbitrary and mis-directed violence would spiral; there is no possibility of a redress of grievances. All Black and oppressed people must unite to defeat this proposition.

There are 22 propositions on the November 7th ballot in California; this one will kill you.

VOTE "NO" ON PROPOSITION 17
ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE

BLACK PANTHER PARTY PROGRAM

MARCH 29, 1972 PLATFORM

WHAT WE WANT

1. WE WANT FREEDOM. WE WANT POWER TO DETERMINE THE DESTINY OF OUR BLACK AND OPPRESSED COMMUNITIES.

We believe that Black and oppressed people will not be free until we are able to determine our destinies in our own communities ourselves, by fully controlling all the institutions which exist in our communities.

2. WE WANT FULL EMPLOYMENT FOR OUR PEOPLE.

We believe that the federal government is responsible and obligated to give every person employment or a guaranteed income. We believe that if the American businessmen will not give full employment, then the technology and means of production should be taken from the businessmen and placed in the community so that the people of the community can organize and employ all of its people and give a high standard of living.

3. WE WANT AN END TO THE ROBBERY BY THE CAPITALIST OF OUR BLACK AND OPPRESSED COMMUNITIES.

We believe that this racist government has robbed us and now we are demanding the overdue debt of forty acres and two mules. Forty acres and two mules were promised 100 years ago as restitution for slave labor and mass murder of Black people. We will accept the payment in currency which will be distributed to our many communities. The American racist has taken part in the slaughter of over fifty million Black people. Therefore, we feel this is a modest demand that we make.

4. WE WANT DECENT HOUSING, FIT FOR THE SHELTER OF HUMAN BEINGS.

We believe that if the landlords will not give decent housing to our Black and oppressed communities, then the housing and the land should be made into cooperatives so that the people in our communities, with government aid, can build and make decent housing for the people.

5. WE WANT EDUCATION FOR OUR PEOPLE THAT EXPOSES THE TRUE NATURE OF THIS DECADENT AMERICAN SOCIETY. WE WANT EDUCATION THAT TEACHES US OUR TRUE HISTORY AND OUR ROLE IN THE PRESENT-DAY SOCIETY.

We believe in an educational system that will give to our people a knowledge of self. If you do not have knowledge of yourself and your position in the society and the world, then you will have little chance to know anything else.

6. WE WANT COMPLETELY FREE HEALTH CARE FOR ALL BLACK AND OPPRESSED PEOPLE.

We believe that the government must provide, free of charge, for the people, health facilities which will not only treat our illnesses, most of which have come about as a result of our oppression, but which will also develop preventative medical programs to guarantee our future survival. We believe that mass health education and research programs must be developed to give all Black and oppressed people access to advanced scientific and medical information, so we may provide ourselves with proper medical attention and care.

7. WE WANT AN IMMEDIATE END TO POLICE BRUTALITY AND MURDER OF BLACK PEOPLE, OTHER PEOPLE OF COLOR, ALL OPPRESSED PEOPLE INSIDE THE UNITED STATES.

We believe that the racist and fascist government of the United States uses its domestic enforcement agencies to carry out its program of oppression against Black people, other people of color and poor people

WHAT WE BELIEVE

inside the United States. We believe it is our right, therefore, to defend ourselves against such armed forces, and that all Black and oppressed people should be armed for self-defense of our homes and communities against these fascist police forces.

8. WE WANT AN IMMEDIATE END TO ALL WARS OF AGGRESSION.

We believe that the various conflicts which exist around the world stem directly from the aggressive desires of the U.S. ruling circle and government to force its domination upon the oppressed people of the world. We believe that if the U.S. government or its lackeys do not cease these aggressive wars that it is the right of the people to defend themselves by any means necessary against their aggressors.

9. WE WANT FREEDOM FOR ALL BLACK AND POOR OPPRESSED PEOPLE NOW HELD IN U.S. FEDERAL, STATE, COUNTY, CITY AND MILITARY PRISONS AND JAILS. WE WANT TRIALS BY A JURY OF PEERS FOR ALL PERSONS CHARGED WITH SO-CALLED CRIMES UNDER THE LAWS OF THIS COUNTRY.

We believe that the many Black and poor oppressed people now held in U.S. prisons and jails have not received fair and impartial trials under a racist and fascist judicial system and should be free from incarceration. We believe in the ultimate elimination of all wretched, inhuman penal institutions, because the masses of men and women imprisoned inside the United States or by the U.S. military are the victims of oppressive conditions which are the real cause of their imprisonment. We believe that when persons are brought to trial that they must be guaranteed, by the United States, juries of their peers, attorneys of their choice and freedom from imprisonment while awaiting trials.

10. WE WANT LAND, BREAD, HOUSING, EDUCATION, CLOTHING, JUSTICE, PEACE AND PEOPLE'S COMMUNITY CONTROL OF MODERN TECHNOLOGY.

When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume, among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That, to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that, whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute a new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and, accordingly, all experience hath shown that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But, when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security.



19 MARIJUANA. Removes state penalties for personal use, cultivation, transportation, or possession of marijuana by persons 18 years and older. Financial impact: None.

YES

LIND VETERANS TAX EXEMPTION. Permits Legislature to increase property tax exemption from \$5,000 to

1 BONDS TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMUNITY COLLEGE FACILITIES. (This act provides for a bond issue of one hundred sixty million dollars (\$160,000,000).)

FOR

AGAINST

21 ASSIGNMENT OF STUDENT SCHOOLS. Prohibits assignment to particular school because of race, color, or ethnicity. Repeals policy preventing racial ethnic imbalance in schools. Financial impact: None.

2 BONDS TO PROVIDE HEALTH SCIENCE FACILITIES. (This act provides for a bond issue of one hundred ninety thousand (\$190,000).)

FOR

AGAINST

22 AGRICULTURAL LABOR RELATIONS. Regulates activities of agricultural employers, employees, and labor organizations. Creates Agricultural Labor Relations Board. Financial impact: Cost increase to state of \$600,000 per year.

YES

NO

11 RIGHT OF PRIVACY. Adds right of privacy to inalienable rights of people. Financial impact: None.

YES

NO

ONE CONSERVATION. Creation of ecology plan. Elopement within establishment without permission. Approval 4-year period. Financial impact: Cost per year to state, plus costs.

YES

NO

13 WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION. Permits workmen's compensation to be waived.

14 TAXATION. Establishes property tax limitations. Requires state funding of welfare and education costs. Prescribes various state tax rates and vote requirements for and exemptions. Financial impact: Sustainable decrease in revenues of government in excess of year.

YES

NO

EMPLOYEE SALARIES. Must provide in budget for adjustments to equal prevailing salary setting boards. Five vote needed to reduce or increase. Financial impact: Indeterminable but cost increase.

YES

NO

WAY PATROL SALARIES. Must provide in budget for adjustments for Highway Patrol. Minimum rates as recommended. Two-thirds legislative vote or strike. Financial impact: Potential major cost.

YES

STRICTS. Permits Legislature to authorize school district governing body to carry on activities not in conflict with establishing such districts. Financial impact: None in absence of implementation.

YES

NO

17 DEATH PENALTY. Amends California Constitution to reinstate state death penalty statutes, subject to amendment or repeal. Provides death penalty not cruel or unusual punishment under California Constitution. Financial impact: None.

YES

NO

AND . Provides for partisan offices including grants vote to other election modification.

YES

NO

ATION FOR ANTI-POLLUTION FACILITIES. Authorizes Legislature to authorize anti-pollution facilities from state and to reimburse local for resulting revenue losses. Financial impact: None in absence of implementation.

NO

VOTE
FOR
SURVIVAL

12 DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT. Connected with disability. Extension of business. Extension of spouse. Financial impact: Local government.

FOR STRUCTURALLY WEAK BUILDINGS. Permits Legislature to authorize instead of two-thirds, vote to bond and issue for structurally weak buildings. Financial impact: No bonded debt anticipated.

YES

NO