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MPC Candidates Air Views of Board's Role

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no direct reference to the upheaval last month in which faculty spokesmen virtually asked for the resignation of President Frederick Huber because of what they said was his inability to make vital administrative decisions. But Hughes quoted a passage which stated, "Good teaching does not take place in a vacuum, but in the elusive and intangible thing called the climate of learning."

"Can it be claimed that the climate of learning at MPC is all that it should be?" Hughes asked.

Because Hughes was out of town on a business trip, his statement was read by a friend, Kenneth Ehrman.

Achievements

Lockhart pointed to achievements of the college under present and past trustees and the public's confidence in the board and the college.

Among the achievements he cited MPC's consistently strong college-transfer program, the success of MPC graduates at four-year colleges, and the growing attraction of MPC to top high school scholars.

He pointed to the strong technical vocational program which the college has developed, especially in the area of data processing where, he said, it has pioneered in the state. He also mentioned the role of the college as a cultural center for the community, citing its popular lecture, music, art exhibit and movie series.

Confidence

As evidence of public confidence in the board, Lockhart noted that in his nine years as a school trustee first in the Monterey city and high school districts and then at the college, the schools have never lost a tax or bond election. He attributed this to three factors: 1—the integrity of the boards, 2—good superintendents, and 3—frank discussion of public matters in open meetings.

Russel Hansen of Pacific Grove, agent for Carpenters Local 1323, and the fourth candidate for the board posts, said the college faces a challenge in the present unemployment situation in the nation in which 6.1 per cent of the work force is without jobs.

He said most of these are in two age groups—those between 18 and 25, and those in their 40's. He said the reason the middle aged are now out of work is that they did not complete their education 30 years ago and, now as they are displaced by automation, many of them cannot be retrained.

The young ones, he said, must have their needs met now by the colleges, or they will lose interest and drop out, only to return later as family men desperately in need of their training for jobs.

"I believe we can find a program for them that will interest them, fill their needs and keep them from dropping out of college," Hansen said.

"I do not mean that we should not continue the college transfer program or that we should lower our academic standards," he said. "But I think we must broaden the college's program to encourage young people to bring their aptitudes out into the open now so that we won't need to retrain them again in 20 or 25 years."

He urged closer contact between the college board and the people of the community to determine what courses are needed and to win full support of the public.

Improvement

Dr. Swigart, a Peninsula physician for 30 years, reviewed her many activities in civic and medical groups in past years. She said the improvement of education is "the one thing we must do if America is to continue."

She praised the faculty of MPC and mentioned the role MPC has played in giving special attention to foreign students who because of their experiences here have become excellent goodwill ambassadors for the U.S. in their home countries.

Hughes prepared statement endorsed the present master plan for the college's development, especially in its proposal for integration of the technical-vocational classes within the appropriate academic areas.

Equal Strengthening

"I feel we must pursue the equal strengthening of college preparatory courses and technical - vocational courses," he said. He explained that by "vocational" he meant "occupational training at the technical level rather than the machinist level."

Decisions to be made by the board he listed as: How to prepare for increased student enrollment, evaluation of reasons for dropouts, matching the graduate product to changing community and national needs, and deciding whether to buy more land and build more buildings, and studying the "always nagging financial problem."

Fighting in Laos

VIETIANE, Laos (UPI) Prime Minister Souvanna Phouma told newsmen today that 20 soldiers have been killed in fighting on Laos' Plaine des Jarres during the last six days.

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