

OXNARD COLLEGE

BACKGROUND:

The "Ten Year Plan" which must be submitted to the State by November 1, and the "2000 A.D. Plan" are two different things:

Dr. Sheffield considers the "Ten Year Plan" as a holding action until the "2000 A.D. Plan" is ready. (Press Courier - 10-7-73)

TEXT:

With Dr. Sheffield's 2000 A.D. Committee, Oxnard College won't have a prayer. The committee is to be made up of three representatives each from Ventura and Moorpark Colleges, with Dr. Sheffield himself as the chairman. The College representatives would be an administrator, a faculty member, and a third member chosen by the other two.

Because the administration and faculties of both Ventura and Moorpark Colleges overwhelmingly oppose an Oxnard College (just as Ventura College faculty once opposed the building of Moorpark College), there is no hope for Oxnard in the 2000 A.D. Plan Committee as presented. A third college in the District is seen as a threat to the two existing colleges.

The Administrations oppose Oxnard College because:

1. Money for their own campuses' expansion will surely be siphoned off for Oxnard;
2. A.D.A. will be down at the existing colleges, especially in Ventura. (A.D.A. is the reason that Oxnard has been allowed the sop of "Extension Courses in the Oxnard Center". Like an octopus, Ventura College extends its tentacles into Oxnard and collects the A.D.A. This won't be the case if Oxnard College is built.) In summary, if Oxnard College is built new buildings won't be built at Ventura and Moorpark because they will become unnecessary; new programs will be cut and old ones dropped for lack of enrollment. Growth will temporarily be slowed.

The Faculties of Ventura and Moorpark Colleges oppose an Oxnard College because:

1. They feel it could be a threat to their own jobs when enrollment declines at Moorpark and especially Ventura. Maybe the administration at a new Oxnard College won't hire them. (Although this did not seem to be the case when

Moorpark College opened.)

2. It would be a threat to their programs, both existing and proposed.

In other words, the opening of Oxnard College has not been delayed because of lack of money as Dr. Sheffield claims or because of no need as four of the College Board of Trustees say - IT HAS BEEN DELAYED BECAUSE THE ADMINISTRATIONS AND FACULTIES OF VENTURA AND MOORPARK COLLEGES DO NOT WANT IT TO BE BUILT.

The time has come now to put aside a selfish and parochial attitude and to look objectively at the size and type of population in the Oxnard-Port Hueneme area, to see how truly great the need is. It is time to hire a strong president for Oxnard College now--the buildings, athletic fields and roads will follow naturally under his or her leadership.

JOHN K. FLYNN, SUPERVISOR
FIFTH DISTRICT
ADDRESS TO THE DISTRICT COLLEGE BOARD
OCTOBER 16, 1973