

HCCAA centers available for huelga classes

Neighborhood stations of the local anti-poverty agency will be available to classes of Mexican-American children boycotting public schools, but they aren't expected to be used immediately.

The Mexican-American Education Council will probably not use the Harris County Community Action Association centers for at least the rest of this week, Sister Gloria Graciela Gallardo, SHG, spokeswoman for the MAEC, said Wednesday.

The HCCAA board in effect left the way open Tuesday for MAEC use of six neighborhood stations in Area 9 (Port of Houston) by taking no action on a decision of the Area 9 board favoring classes in the buildings.

"They would involve no staff members, equipment or supplies, just the physical use of the facilities," attorney Robert Webb, representing the Area 9 board, told the HCCAA board.

"They are community facil-

ities," he said. "The (area) board is elected by the community. I think they should decide. They're not violating the (HCCAA) work program, just proposing an additional use. I don't think we need to ask approval."

He said the classes would be held only at the end of each day's normal activities and would involve Office of Economic Opportunity funds only in "turning the lights on."

An earlier opinion from regional OEO in Austin barring the classes from OEO property because they were not included in HCCAA's current work program was termed a statement of general policy subject to change.

"Can they use the centers?" HCCAA board member Arthur Jones asked OEO field representative Morgan Groves.

"I don't know," Groves confessed.

"If the OEO man doesn't know, it's yours until OEO says something different. Go to it," Jones told Mario Gallegos, Area 9 board member.

Gallegos said the facilities for boycott classes were being called Educational Enrichment Centers. Sister Gloria said Wednesday the official name was Huelga (strike) Enrichment Centers, although they were also being referred to as Cultural Enrichment Centers.

Calling the boycott classes something other than "schools," as they had been, removed them from OEO's prohibition against duplicating existing facilities, such as Houston public schools, Groves said.

However, he added, if the MAEC does open its centers in the neighborhood stations and they prove to be schools rather than cultural programs, OEO could still throw them out.

Sister Gloria said the MAEC had classes with more than 3,000 students going Wednesday in 16 facilities other than HCCAA stations, including churches, private buildings and community centers.

The MAEC asked the chicano student boycott because chicanos are not recognized as a distinct and separate ethnic minority in the Houston Independent School District's integration plan.

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THE HOUSTON POST

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1970

Mexican-Americans drop part of boycott

By HENRY HOLCOMB
Post Reporter

State Rep Lauro Cruz said Saturday the weekly boycott of Houston schools by Mexican-American pupils has been halted because negotiations with school officials "are progressing rapidly."

And the Huelga (strike) Enrichment Centers, which have been operated by the Mexican-American Education Council (MAEC) for about 3,000 youths, may be closed by Friday if present progress continues, Cruz said.

"The Huelga schools will be continued," Cruz said in behalf of the council, "until the people have been satisfied that their children will receive justice and quality education."

The weekly Friday boycott, which Cruz said was attracting growing support, was halted as a "show of faith."

He said the "negative, completely negative" attitude school officials expressed two weeks ago has changed due to both "concern for the chil-



LAURO CRUZ

dren and pressure from our group."

"The school district, we believe, has shown up to this point a true interest in solving the problems. They have demonstrated a concern for our children, a concern that we have uppermost in our minds. Because the school ad-

ministration has shown good faith, we want to show our good faith," Cruz said.

He urged school officials to "go one step further" and join a federal lawsuit filed Friday by 14 Mexican-American pupils and their parents.

The lawsuit seeks recognition of the Mexican-American population as a separate minority.

Attorney Abraham Ramirez Jr, who appeared with Cruz at a news conference Saturday, said Houston has special problems of "tri-ethnic integration" while previous court action seeks only to integrate black and Anglo children.

Twenty points are included in the negotiations between the Mexican-American group and school officials.

Cruz said General Supt G. G. Garver is working on the 16 issues which are within his authority. The remaining four require school board action.

He praised Garver, saying he is "very receptive to progressive educational concepts."



Some use makeshift desks and chairs.

Huelga school

By SHEARLEAN HAMBY
Post Reporter

It looked very much like any other schoolroom except, perhaps, for the fact that there were fewer books around.

But there was a subtle difference. It was a **huelga** class. It might continue for a couple of days or for a year, because of the principle involved. So a visitor could feel both an air of dedication and a sense of impermanence.

At Resurrection Catholic School, Chicanos boycotting the Houston public **schools** have been starting their studies at 4 PM after the "regular" students were through for the day.

In the hot part of the afternoon, fifth graders were beginning their spelling lesson, fourth grade pupils were analyz-

ing the parts of speech in a simple sentence.

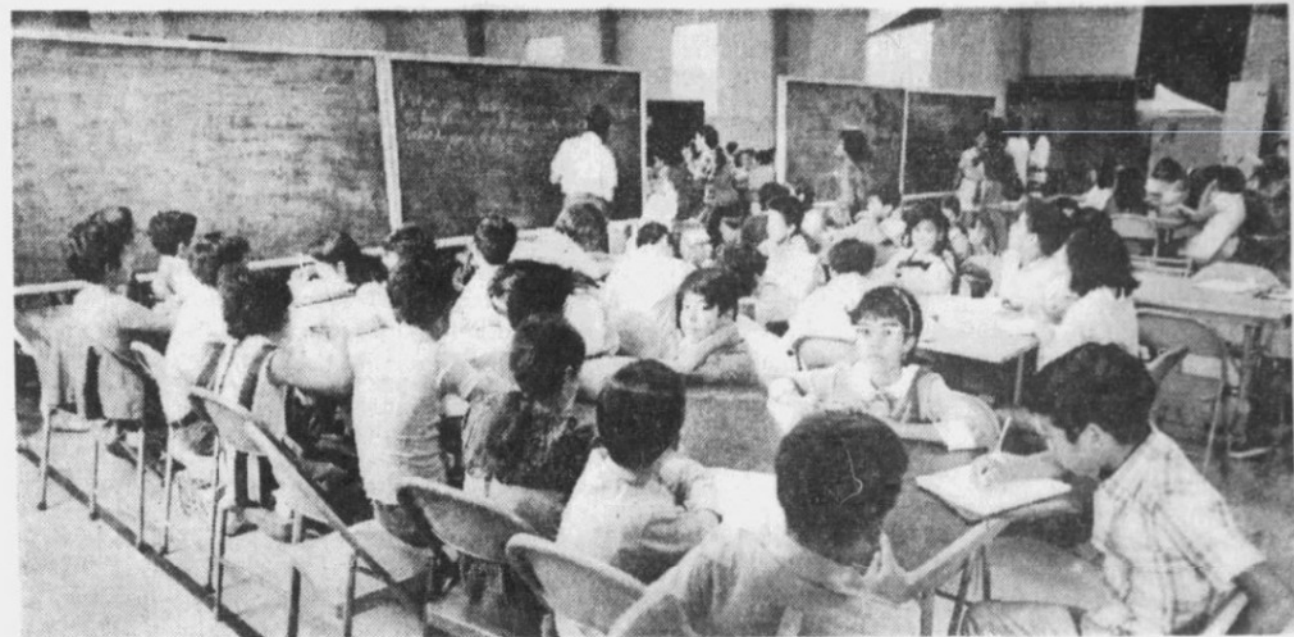
For the students in the fourth grade the most important task at hand was finishing their writing assignment and making sure that all the words were spelled correctly.

The teacher had told them to write about themselves — where they were born, where they live, what they want to be.

"Don't be ashamed if you were born in Mexico," she said. "Go ahead and write it down."

The emphasis was on composition rather than reading. The **huelga schools** opened three weeks ago with no operating budget to speak of—just a few donations. Their books—what few there are—have been given to them by parochial **schools** that are no longer operating.

Please see **Huelga/page 3**



Blackboards divide gym into classrooms.—Post photos by Jim Cox

MAEC honors 4 leaders in boycott of schools

The Mexican-American Educational Council (MAEC) honored four persons Monday who were instrumental in organizing the boycott of the Houston public schools earlier this year.

They were Mrs Carmen Bettran, the first Mexican-American to organize a protest against the Houston School District; Sister Gloria Gallardo, coordinator of the Huelga (strike) schools; Abraham Ramirez Jr, MAEC's legal advisor, and Lionel Castillo, chairman of the MAEC.

At the dinner in the Holy Name Catholic church, the MAEC announced the formation of an Hispanic School in Houston.

Dr George Lara-Braud, director of the Hispanic-American Institute in Austin, said the school will be the best thing to ever happen to the

Houston Mexican-American community.

Castillo, chairman of the board of the school, said the Hispanic International University will begin in a few months with a community college concept. He said the school will acquire a building right away, but will have a "beyond the walls" concept.

He said the school will begin to deal with problems of Mexican-American dropouts as well as high school graduates.

Castillo said the school will probably try to become an accredited college, but it would take several years to do so.

Castillo said that MAEC does not plan further boycotts of the public schools. He said the situation in the schools has improved for Mexican American since the last boycott.

Chicano Leader Says Differences With District Being Resolved

FROM PAGE 1

boycott's end, told the gathering:

"We are together. The boycott is ended. We urge Mexican-American parents to return their children to school on Monday peacefully.

"The meaningful dialogue between the Mexican-American community and its repre-

sentatives with the (school) district and the result are proof of what dialogue can do," Cruz said.

Houston School Supt. George Garver in turn praised the sincerity of the council in achieving the settlement.

Although deploring the idea of boycott, Dr. Garver pledged the school district to working "with the whole community to try to do something about any grievance, whenever possible, from any group.

"I cannot accept the good of boycotts, but I can accept that the majority of the items brought by the council were legitimate," Garver said.

Castillo said the district had agreed to the following demands by the council:

- Identification of Mexican-American students as a distinct ethnic minority for purposes of education.

- Appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court of the part of a decision by the U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals dealing with pairing. (The school board voted to appeal this ruling at its Monday night meeting.)

- Acceptance of a plan to hire additional school administrators of Mexican-American lineage.

- Protection of children who took part in the boycott.

- Protection of the children from punishment or loss of usual school privileges and benefits.

- Assurance that bilingual and other Spanish programs in the schools will continue.

- Representation on proportional basis of Mexican-Americans on school district public committees.

- Study of transportation needs of Mexican-American children.

- Development of detailed plans on pairing and grouping with parental participation before such programs are put into effect.

- Immediate effort to reduce shortage of Mexican-American teachers, counselors and other personnel.

- Development of textbook and curriculum material reflecting the cultural heritage of Mexican-Americans.

- Insistence on academic courses as well as vocational training for Mexican-American students.

- Creation of a talent search and career information center to help qualified but needy Mexican-American students.

- Issuance of regulations designed to protect personal safety of each school child in and around his school.

- Provision for Mexican-Americans under terms of the Nixon Administration's bill for emergency assistance during desegregation.

- Willingness of the district to accept technical assistance from various groups under Title 4 grants, which deal primarily with experimental programs.

- Allowing increased participation by the public and public groups in the business and financial affairs of the district.

Castillo said the council and the school district failed to agree on three council demands:

Designation of Sept. 16 and May 5, Mexican national holidays, as holidays for Houston school children; announcement by the district that it advocates election of school board members by district, instead of at large as at present; approval of extra pay for bilingual teachers who use Spanish in their daily teaching.

On the subject of pairing schools, Garver promised that before any pairing was effected, meetings would be held with parents of the children involved to allow the parents to voice their opinions and ideas on the subjects.

These meetings, Garver said, would be held in the schools involved and attendance would be restricted to the parents of the children involved.

Garver also announced appointment of a three-member committee to meet with the parents. The committee is composed of Dr. Charles R. Nelson, deputy superintendent in charge of elementary schools; George Haynes, associate superintendent in charge of human relations, and Ernesto Valdes, a member of Haynes' staff. Nelson is white; Haynes is Negro and Valdes is a Mexican-American.

Strike Schools

Castillo said the council, which organized huelga (strike) schools for Mexican-American students who took part in the boycott, would remain in existence. He also said the huelga schools would continue as tutorial and supplementary schools for Mexican-Americans.

He said the next goals of the council are working to assure compliance with terms of the agreement with the school district, legal action to secure "full protection under the law for Mexican-American school children and working for the best education for these children.

It became apparent Wednesday that the boycott was nearing its end when Garver announced that students who have remained out of school because of their parents' wishes will be readmitted without prejudice, penalty or comment.

Garver's announcement did not use the word "boycott."

His statement, however, said students who have been absent because of their parents' wishes would be readmitted without prejudice or penalty but must bring a note from their parents.

If students fail to produce such a note on the first day, they will be readmitted for that day only, Garver said. The students then must have a note on the second day.

These students, Garver said, will be able to make up their work and take part in regular school activities.

Garver also instructed principals "to refrain from any dialogue which casts any type of judgment on (the students' activities."

Plan Protested

The strike was called mainly in protest of a pairing plan, ordered by the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, which principally affects some predominantly black and predominantly Mexican-American elementary schools.

This pairing, boycott leaders maintain, is unfair to Mexican-American children, because they are designated as white for purposes of the court's integration orders.

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No Letdown After Boycott

Chicanos Plan Tutorial Classes

Mexican-Americans who boycotted Houston public schools for three weeks this fall to win recognition as an ethnic minority say they will continue their efforts to improve the educational lot of Chicano children.

Leonel Castillo, head of the Mexican-American Education Council, a coalition of Latin groups, said the council has asked for transportation for children who otherwise cannot attend school, is pressing for more Mexican-American teachers and will set up extracurricular programs for Latin children.

Seeking Funds

The council is seeking government and private funds for a special tutorial enrichment program to help Mexican-Americans advance in their regular classes and benefit from experimental educational programs, said Castillo.

He said he will fly to Washington Tuesday to consult with Armando Rodriguez, head of the Office of Mexican-American Affairs of the Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare. Castillo said he also will seek private donations for the tutorial program during his trip to Washington and Boston.

Members of the council still are talking with the school administration about possible modifications of the desegregation plan ordered by the U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals.

The boycott of Houston public schools by 3000 to 4500 Mexican-American students in September was triggered by the court order that called for implementing the equidistant zoning plan, the pairing of 25 elementary schools and the grouping of two other elementary schools.

The council claims that in the pairing, Mexican-Americans were classified as white and were ignored as an ethnic minority. Under the plan, said the council, Negroes and Mexican-Americans were paired to achieve "paper integration."

Some 12 huelga (strike) schools were set up to educate Mexican-American children during the boycott, which ended after Supt. George G. Garver and the school board recognized the Mexican-Americans as a "distinct ethnic minority" and promised to recruit more bilingual Mexican-American teachers and administrators.

Changed Zones

The board also has realigned slightly some of the school attendance zones.

Castillo said a letter was sent Friday to Garver suggesting further "realignment of zones according to school capacity, at least in the schools that are being paired or grouped."

Castillo said that of 27 schools involved in pairing or grouping, 15 have held meetings where parents air their views before representatives of the school district. Such

participation was a specific council demand during the boycott.

Although the huelga schools are now closed, council headquarters at 3610 Edison, where the schools were directed by Sister Gloria Gardella, is busy helping individual students.

"We are following up on transfer requests," said Sister Gloria, a nun attached to the Catholic Diocese Human Relations Council. "Of the 100 or so children who have not gone back to school after the strike, most simply can't because of transportation problems brought about through rezoning," she said.

Can't Afford Bus

Sister Gloria said the children cannot afford to ride Rapid Transit buses and those who can walk are faced with dangerous freeways and railroad crossings.

A solution to the transportation problem is still a council item, said Castillo.

Sister Gloria said the council is working with the Houston Teachers Assn. to send the names of qualified Mexican-American teachers to the school district's personnel office. Garver said he has the names of 30 such teachers and the personnel department is studying the qualifications of each.

Garver said that while no Mexican-American has yet been hired for a high administrative position, one such assignment appears promising.

The tutorial program will begin by the end of October, said Dr. Edward Gonzales, 27, who headed the strike schools' curriculum committee. "We will set up neighborhood programs for school children of all ages just as soon as parents' groups ask us to," he said. Gonzales, a biochemist, teaches at the University of Houston.

The program is aimed at "enrichment, not catching up," said Gonzales. "We want to offer special courses in community problems and public health along with regular academic subjects."

Small Classes

Tutorial classes will not be held in the same locations as the former strike schools, but will be smaller informal classes, said Gonzales.

During the strike, some 35 faculty members from the University of Houston and local high schools volunteered for the huelga high school alone and 65 more college upperclassmen and graduate students joined to provide special tutoring. Gonzales said the same people will be asked to join the new program, in addition to teachers from Rice and the University of St. Thomas.

"We are convinced that the district is working in good faith with us. We want to participate in the mechanics to make certain our goals become a reality," said Sister Gloria.

Chicano Leaders Call For Every Student to Boycott

FROM PAGE 1

tion plan or designate the Mexican-American children as other than white.

Truant Officers

Cruz and Ramirez, however, say the school board should "do more to get another ruling." They also maintain that truant officers and principals at Houston schools are trying to intimidate parents of Mexican-American children by telling the parents they will be forced to pay fines if their children continue to boycott school.

Dr. Robbins said state law requires children to attend accredited schools until they reach the age of 17 or face charges of truancy and fines.

Council leaders also called for additional numbers of retired teachers to join the huelga schools in helping instruct Mexican-American children.

Boycott Proposed

Another boycott has been

proposed by the North Side Civic Club, which has scheduled a meeting at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in the parking lot of Rose Garden Methodist Church, 406 Rittenhouse, to discuss plans.

Bill Giddens, of 118 Arrowdale, president of the club, said the boycott could begin Friday or Monday.

The club's position is that there is less integration today in Houston schools than existed at close of the 1969-70 school year. The club favors the freedom of choice plan, which has been held by the federal courts to be an ineffective method of achieving racial integration in the schools, over the plan that is being implemented by the Houston district.

Independence Day

Members of the Mexican-American Educational Council met Tuesday with Houston School Supt. George Garver. After that meeting, Abel Alvarez, one of those who met with Garver, said

Mexican-American students should boycott Houston schools Monday through Wednesday. The boycott would be effective then, he said, because Wednesday is the 16th of September, Mexican Independence Day.

In discussing the need for additional teachers for the huelga schools, Cruz said the council may be obliged to create a second high school to accommodate the striking students. "This is because of sympathy for our cause and because of low quality education in the Houston schools," Cruz said.

Teachers and students at the senior high strike school, called the "Huelga Enrichment Center," said they would continue there until a solution is found or until the students are forced to return to Houston schools.

The high school is held at night at Holy Name School, 1913 Cochran. It had an enrollment of more than 400 during its first session Tuesday.

The school was transferred from St. Joseph's Church to the newer, well-equipped Holy Name. The staff, comprised of retired teachers and instructors who teach during the day at other schools, has been joined by volunteers from the University of Houston faculty.

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"Most of the teachers here are not political," said Gonzales. "We are concerned about educating the students who are staying out of school."

The well-equipped Huelga high school is in contrast to elementary strike schools in neighborhood centers, church schools and a dance hall. Books and supplies are being furnished by Sister Gloria Graciela Gallardo, who is coordinating the council's educational efforts.

A neighborhood antipoverty board in the Port Houston area has declined to let strike schools use six board buildings for classes.

A Harris County Community Action Assn. executive committee spokesman, Mario Silva, said that local boards have the authority to designate who uses the buildings after regular activities are finished. He said a statement from Hamad King, of the Office of Economic Activity in Austin that use of facilities means use of funds was only a policy statement, not a directive.

UT Faculty Raps Changes In Organization

FROM PAGE 1

mer by an interim administration, acting without adequate faculty consultation, to institute structural changes which have far reaching educational consequences for the university.

"The general faculty therefore recommends referral of the questions of the reorganization of the College of Arts and Sciences and of faculty participation in that reorganization to the next meeting of the College of Arts and Sciences.

"Moreover, the general faculty recommends referral of the question of improved means of communication between faculty and administration to the faculty senate of the university."

A substitute resolution, which would have deleted the first paragraph of the Megaw resolution, was defeated on voice vote.

"All of us do not see eye to eye on the wisdom or folly of dividing Arts and Sciences," said Megaw as he proposed the resolution.

Megaw said the interim administration had disregarded the recommendations of a heavy majority of the Arts and Science faculty that the college not be divided.

"The action was taken in mid-summer during the absence of a large number of the faculty," he said. "So significant a restructuring implies widespread educational consequences."

Megaw said he felt it was the faculty's duty to respond to the summer action.

'Faculty Slighted'

"When the voice of the majority is ignored, the voice of

the interim administration, but by the system's administration and the board of regents."

Erwin Changes

"Some of the changes were suggested by (UT regent chairman) Frank Erwin," said professor Dr. James R. Wiseman.

Astronomy professor Dr. David S. Evans praised Jordan, saying that while "much seemed to be a little too coincidental and a little peculiar in the way things were managed, the administration should be given a reasonable chance."

"I am impressed by the attitude of the acting president. He seems to be entirely humane. We should not shoot the pianist when he is doing his best."

"In case you don't remember, Time Magazine and the Texas Observer say I am a piccolo player," responded Jordan.

Dr. R. A. Bell of the government department and a member of the faculty senate and university council, said former UT president Dr. Norman Hackerman, who resigned to become president of Rice University, warned the senate that matters which ought to be settled by academicians were being tested by boards of regents over the country.

"Hackerman warned us the regents will be trying to make academic decisions, whether the faculty likes it or not," Bell said.

Jordan, in calling the special meeting, urged the faculty to "seek a means to avoid loss of public confidence in higher education which has occurred in other states."

Catholics Aid Latins' School Boycott Here



AP Wirephoto

TRAGIC FIRE

Mrs. Phyllis Moody, right, is comforted by a neighbor, Beatrice Pederson, after a fire in

Worcester, Mass., Wednesday claimed the life of Mrs. Moody's 10-year-old daughter.

City, State Will Probe Private Nursing Homes

BY EDWARD WALSH
Chronicle Reporter

The city health department and the Texas Department of Public Health next week will launch an intensive investigation of patient care in Houston's 53 private nursing homes for the elderly.

The probe will be conducted by five teams, each to include a professional nursing home inspector and a registered public health nurse.

City Health Director Dr. Al-

bert G. Randall said the investigation is expected to last about five days. It will be headed by Dr. Francine Jensen, director of the chronic illness control division of the city health department.

Randall said he is not concerned that nursing homes, knowing the investigation is coming, will attempt to conceal any deficiencies.

"We will be looking primarily at the quality of patient care,

maladies ranging from bedsores to malnutrition.

More complaints were made to council Wednesday, including an allegation that one nursing home forced patients to buy drugs from the home's pharmacy at inflated prices.

After the investigation is completed, Randall said, he will make recommendations on changes in city and state

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'Huelga' Schools Have 2000 Students

A Mexican-American boycott of Houston public schools apparently gained momentum today with enrollment of about 2000 students in "huelga" (strike) schools.

A Roman Catholic nun, Sister Gloria Garciela Gallardo, assigned to the Bishop's Committee for the Spanish Speaking, is in charge of establishing the huelga schools.

Sister Gloria says she has had the help of Sister Margaret Evans, superintendent of schools for the Galveston-Houston Catholic Diocese, in her work.

About 200 persons have volunteered to teach classes, said Sister Gloria.

Their schools already have started teaching classes, she said. They are at Our Lady of St. John, 7500 Hirsch, primary grades; Magnolia Park Branch of the YWCA, 7305 Navigation, elementary grades, and at the North Side People's Center, 1501 Brooks kindergarten and first grade.

The boycott of public schools is based on Mexican-American objection to the recent federal court order which transfers thousands of them into now predominantly black schools.

"We would like to be considered as a distinct ethnic minority, not as Anglos," said their spokesman, Leonel J. Castillo, elected temporary chairman of the Mexican-American Education Council.

Sister Gloria said most classes in the huelga schools will begin Friday with registration scheduled Friday night at St. Joseph's School, 1505 Kane, for a centralized high school.

There are 32,000 Mexican-American students in the Houston school district which has a total student population of 245,000.

Sister Gloria said 2000 have been enrolled already. She said the majority of the protesting Mexican-American

parents have registered their children at three buildings in the Denver Harbor Addition.

The buildings are at 6323 Force, 1146 Gazin and 6312 Alderson.

Various donors have supplied text books, she said, and other text books will come from Catholic parochial schools that have closed.

Besides the Denver Harbor locations, students have been

(See CATHOLICS, Page 8)

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Garver Denies School Pact With ACLU

BY ELMER BERTELSEN
Chronicle Education Editor

Houston School Supt. Dr. George G. Garver has denied an American Civil Liberties Union contention it and the school district have reached an agreement concerning religious exercises in the schools.

Attorney James Calaway, chairman of the ACLU's Houston chapter, had issued a statement Wednesday saying ACLU would not file a threatened suit to prohibit organized prayer and other religious activities.

The district "has finally agreed to advise the principals and teachers of the constitutional restrictions on church-related activities," he said.

Garver replied, "We have reached no agreement with the ACLU."

He said a statement prepared by school attorney Harry Patterson was not satisfactory and he (Garver) had not signed it.

Garver said he understood he would have final word on

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Chicano Leaders Call For Every Student to Boycott

FROM PAGE 1

Mexican-American students as negative.

The council is protesting the ruling of the U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals concerning integration of the Houston schools. The council protests the failure of that court to designate Mexican-Americans as an ethnic minority distinct from whites.

In pairing white and black schools under the appellate court's integration order, the council maintains, the Houston district has selected mainly predominantly Mexican-American schools to be paired with predominantly black schools.

This in effect "uses" the Mexican-American children by designating them as white for purposes of integration, the council says.

Ramirez said representatives of the Mexican-American Educational Council met Friday and Tuesday with administrators of the Houston district.

He said they believe that School Supt. George Garver has the authority to change the ethnic classification of Mexican-American students, but refuses to do so.

Cruz said he hopes to meet on Friday with Gov. Preston Smith to see whether the governor has any suggestions about the problems of the Mexican-American students. He says he as yet has no appointment to see the governor.

Dr. Leonard Robbins, school board president, has told the council that only the U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals can alter the integration plan or designate the Mexican-American children as other than white.

Truant Officers

Cruz and Ramirez, however, say the school board should "do more to get another ruling." They also maintain that truant officers and principals at Houston schools are trying to intimidate parents of Mexican-American

children by telling the parents they will be forced to pay fines if their children continue to boycott school.

Dr. Robbins said state law requires children to attend accredited schools until they reach the age of 17 or face charges of truancy and fines.

The state law on truancy permits a fine of \$5 for the first day of truancy after a formal warning has been given the parents of the child. The fine doubles to \$10 the second day and then \$25 a day for every day thereafter.

The law would be applied by the district filing suit against the parents after the legal warning has been given. The fine could be applied by the court from the day following the warning.

Last year, the district truancy officers filed 172 cases in court. Of these, 67 were referred to the probation department by the court, 22 parents paid fines, 15 were lectured and warned, 13 were dismissed from the docket, 17 failed to appear and 38 cases were unresolved.

Council leaders also called for additional numbers of retired teachers to join the huelga schools in helping instruct Mexican-American children.

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Ramirez said the huelga schools plan to apply for accreditation with the state. On the subject of truant officers and principals, Ramirez said the council is documenting cases of intimidation of Mexican-Americans by teachers and other school officials.

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Goodness!

Church Raises \$27,000 For Kidney Transplant

Mrs. Bruce Giles of 7519 Dixie has passed all the tests and will donate a kidney to her son, Craig, 12, when he goes back into Methodist Hospital next week.

Craig was in the hospital recently for removal of his only kidney in preparation for the transplant. He is now on an artificial kidney machine.

Mrs. Giles said today the transplant operation probably will be done late next week.

A campaign begun by Park Place Baptist Church has raised \$27,000 to help the Giles family pay hospital costs and other expenses brought on by the transplant. The original goal was to raise \$25,000, the deposit required by the hospital before the operation could be performed.

Mrs. Giles said the extra money is "great since we really don't know what it is going to cost."

"We're overwhelmed by the goodness of so many people, and we're so grateful to everyone. It would be impossible to thank everyone (who donated) personally," she said.

Continued from page 1

bers of Bellaire's varsity football team.

"I think we got them all back," Coach Herman Phillips said Tuesday. "We're real happy and so are they."

Bellaire, with a capacity in excess of 3,000 students, had an opening day enrollment of 2,028.

Garver said it may still be necessary to move additional students from Sharpstown because of overcrowding. The change Tuesday did not affect the northern and southern boundaries for the two schools.

Bellaire is at 5100 Maple. Sharpstown is at Bissonnet and Bonhomme.

Mexican-American parents are being asked by the Mexican-American Education Council (MAEC) to enroll their children in huelga (strike) schools being set up in neighborhoods.

Leonel Castillo, temporary chairman of MAEC, said at least 3,500 Mexican-American students went into the second day of the strike.

"We feel the absentee rate is higher today, but whether that is due to the weather or general administration confusion or some other reason, I couldn't say."

Castillo said the strike will continue until MAEC receives favorable reaction from the school board to its primary objective of achieving recognition of the Mexican-American as an identifiable racial minority.

"This sort of reaction could have headed all this off,"

Castillo said. "I hope that's where we're headed, toward that kind of reaction from them."

Dr Leonard Robbins, board president, said, "It is not possible to negotiate a court order."

The U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals last week, in effect, adjudicated the Mexican-American as a member of the white race. Mexican-American and Negro students are involved in school pairings directed by the higher court to achieve a higher degree of desegregation in the district.

Board member George Oser said he will call a meeting of the board's desegregation committee after enrollment data has been assembled for all the schools in the district.

"The desegregation committee has no power to negotiate," Oser said.

But, he added, the committee has broad-based representation to reflect community feelings.

On other school fronts Tuesday, Garver met briefly with a delegation from Concerned Parents for Public Education (CPPE).

Bill Giddens, president of the North Houston Civic Club, is the chairman of CPPE. Giddens said CPPE is a national movement.

Commenting on the conference with Garver, Giddens said, "We told him in no uncertain terms that we were going to work in our schools for the best interest of our children.

"He (Garver) said, 'Great!'" Giddens said.

Chicanos expect HCCAA support

By **PETE WITTENBERG**
Post Reporter

The Mexican-American Education Council expects to receive a commitment from the Harris County Community Action Association for use of neighborhood stations as "huelga" schools.

Leonel Castillo, the temporary president of MAEC and director of the Community Relations Council of the Catholic Diocese of Galveston-Houston, reported the HCCAA development in the chicano boycott of public schools Monday night.

Castillo was one of several speakers to address about 1,000 persons at Saint Joseph Church, 1505 Kane. A rally which drew 700 persons and which featured State Rep Curtis Graves was held earlier in the day at Moody Park.

"I was at an emergency meeting of the HCCAA executive committee tonight, and they agreed to provide all their centers in Area 9 (Port of Houston) and Area 10 (greater Fifth Ward)," Castillo said.

"Mario Quinones (HCCAA board representative from Area 9) was talking to them about it when I left. We have HCCAA support."

Spokesmen for HCCAA were unable to be reached immediately for comment.

Other facilities which Castillo announced will be available for the start of huelga (strike) classes Sept 8 are:

- North Side People Center, 1501 Brooks.
- Saint Stephen's Catholic Church, 1901 Center.
- 5th-6th Ward Community Center, 1503 State.
- Young Women's Christian Association, Magnolia Park Branch, 7305 Navigation.

Registration at most of these locations will begin Tuesday, Castillo said.

Churches in Mexican-American areas which don't permit huelga schools on their premises will be pressured through loss of Sunday contributions, Gregory Salazar, Mexican-American Youth Organization spokesman, told the crowd.

SALAZAR URGED his listeners instead to put the contributions into the facilities which do permit huelga schools.

Castillo said the MAEC also had the support of Houston School Board member Rev D. Leon Everett and U.S. Sen Ralph Yarborough.

Graves said earlier the black man in the community stands with the Mexican-Americans.

"You are to be congratulated for coming together as a united race and telling those racists in the white community you are not white but chicano," he said.

Castillo said about 3,500 chicano students stayed away from Houston schools Monday to protest Houston schools' integration efforts which pair Mexican-American schools with Negro schools instead of with Anglo schools.

● Our Lady of Saint John, 7500 Hirsch.

● Saint Joseph Church.

Chicanos form school boycott plans

By JEFF SCOTT
Post Reporter

"Boycott!" was the rallying cry of hundreds of Mexican-Americans Sunday afternoon, as the Mexican-American Educational Council (MAEC) organized to keep chicano students of Houston's public schools at home when the newly zoned district opens its doors Monday.

"THIS IS a very serious thing—we understand that—and we are committed to go ahead with it," said MAEC chairman Leonel Castillo to thunders of applause from an audience of well over 1,000 gathered at Saint Philip of Jesus Catholic Church in the El Dorado section of northeast Houston.

MAEC organized the meeting to protest the newest Houston school integration plan, which will pair 25 schools in an effort to equalize the racial balance of enrollment.

"How many of those paired schools are Anglo?" Castillo asked the crowd.

"ZERO!" came the answer.

Castillo pointed out that nine of the schools have predominantly Mexican-American students, and 14 have predominantly black students.

"So who's being integrated?" he demanded.

The reason for boycott is that the Mexican-American population is not considered a distinct ethnic minority by the Houston School Board. Castillo said the Mexican-American Youth Organization spokesman Gregory Salazar drew cheers when he charged that the school administration is now classing Mexican children as white to effect integration with blacks without inconveniencing Anglos.

"Now, because it is convenient to them, we're white. But what about when you apply for a job? What color are you, then?"

Lorenzo Diaz, who spoke for the Northside Mexican-American residents, charged a history of discrimination against Mexican-Americans, and spoke of the new integration plan as the last straw.

"We have an integration plan that does not accomplish integration; we have a capacity plan that does not accom-

plish capacity. We can take no more—we're going to do something about it."

The crowd was addressed by spokesmen for several Mexican-American neighborhoods, who explained plans for the boycott and exhorted the crowd to participate.

Attorney Abraham Ramirez Jr., MAEC legal counsel, assured the parents that "what we're about to do is not against the law."

Tina Reyes explained the program of private schools, called Huelga Escuela (strike

school), which are being worked out to continue the education of the boycotting students.

She said many volunteer teachers have already been contacted. She urged mothers to take their children to libraries and to educate them at home, especially during the first part of this week while the MAEC schools are being organized.

A spokesman for local college MAYO groups informed the cheering crowd that col-

lege students will be available as tutors.

A passing of many hats collected approximately \$571 for the schools, as well as names and addresses of volunteer boycott workers.

The first day of the boycott will include picketing of the school administration building and several Mexican-American schools, morning and evening outdoor rallies and an attempt to pack the gallery at a 7:30 PM school board meeting Monday night.

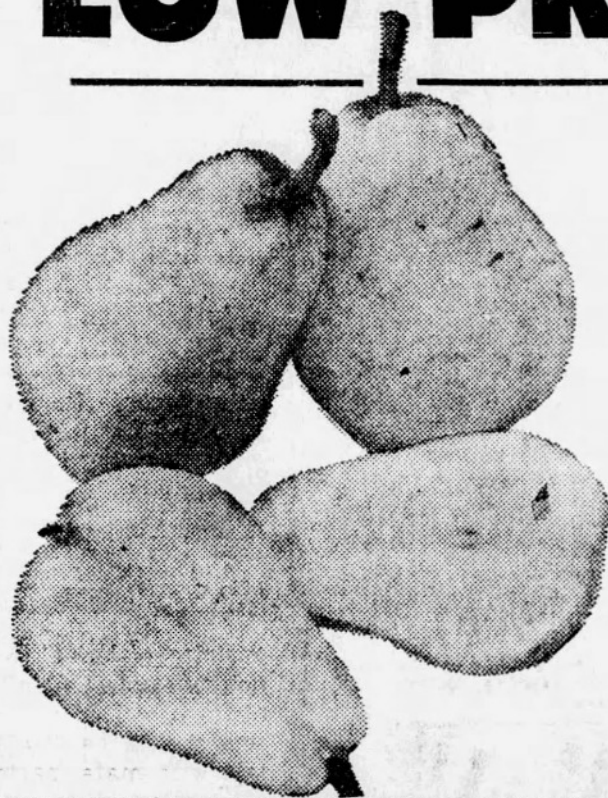
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Page 2/A

THE HOUSTON POST

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1970

'Huelga' students can spell 'boycott'

Continued from page 1

master's degree and several years of teaching experience, was appointed "principal" of the strike school by officials of the Mexican-American Education Council (MAEC).

Mrs Jones, who just moved to Houston from Austin, said by next Tuesday the MAEC hopes to have certified teachers working with the children. There are no textbooks, only the lined tablets the children bring with them.

"Next week we will have a definite schedule," she said. "We need textbooks and supplies. We are trying hard to work with the language problem. Mainly we work in English so we can qualify as a private school.

"We are trying to give the kids the education they need and we're making it as rigorous as possible."

The volunteer teachers wrote addition and subtraction problems on the board, letting their students copy them to work on at home. A spelling test is scheduled for next week.

The traditional George Washington picture and the large A-B-C chart were not on the walls.

There was instead a long quotation from Cesar Chavez, MAYO symbols and a large piece of white cardboard on

which was lettered in red: "Venceremos!" (we shall overcome).

Mrs Yolanda Birdwell, a MAYO leader, was optimistic about the first day of strike school. She said the community was prepared to maintain the strike schools until the school board yielded to their demands.

"I cannot say what the demands will be at this time," she said, holding a leaf rake she had used outside the building. "They will be presented very soon, I'm sure."

The strike school was one of seven that opened Friday, including one at Juan Marcos Presbyterian Church, 3600 Fulton.

It was there that Mrs Josephine Perez, a high school graduate and mother of a second grade girl, said 250 students showed up for classes. She taught the third grade.

"A majority of them (her third graders) don't know how to multiply yet," Mrs Perez said. "I think I had one that could. The rest could just add and subtract.

Sandwiches, fruit and drinks were served the children who did not bring their lunches. They had recess and everything went without too many disciplinary problems.

Boycotters Warned Of Truancy Laws

BY MIMI CROSSLEY

Chronicle Reporter

Houston school board president Dr. Leonard R. Robbins today reminded boycotting Mexican-American students under 17 they must attend a state-accredited school to avoid being classified as truant and subject to fines.

Robbins said the Mexican-American Educational Council must either send the children to Houston schools or apply for accreditation for the 14 strike schools set up during the boycott.

Only the U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals can change the school zoning designed to integrate the schools and only the courts can classify Mexican-Americans other than white, said Robbins.

The council claims the zoning rule fails to desegregate because it does not recognize Mexican-Americans as an ethnic group distinct from whites. It wants the school board to make this designation.

Teachers and students at the senior high strike school, called the "Huelga Enrichment Center," said they would continue there until a solution is found or until the students are forced to return to Houston schools.

The high school is held at night at Holy Name School,

1913 Cochran. It had an enrollment of more than 400 during its first session Tuesday.

The school was transferred from St. Joseph's Church to the newer, well-equipped Holy Name. The staff, comprised of retired teachers and instructors who teach during the day at other schools, has been joined by volunteers

(See **BOYCOTTERS**, Page 16)

Senator Calls For Purge Of Radical Profs

Washington (AP) — The Senate's third-ranking Democrat said today the nation's colleges and universities should purge radical professors and students and then adopt policies to keep them out.

Sen. Robert C. Byrd, D-W.Va., said in a statement to the President's Commission on Campus Unrest it is time college administrators "return to a policy of making our institutions of higher learning once again representative of mainstream America."

Latins Say They May Offer 20-Step Plan for Integration

FROM PAGE 1

American children," Garver said.

"This is the first time we have got official word from the administration recognizing the Mexican-Americans as an ethnic minority. I'm sure we would be glad to meet with the officials," Ramirez said.

At a press conference Wednesday, Ramirez and state Rep. Lauro Cruz revealed plans of the Mexican-American Legal Defense Fund in San Antonio to file a motion in federal court that would include the 20 steps.

Mario Obledo, general counsel for the defense fund, said later the motion does not include any 20 steps or any other definite rezoning plan.

He said it is only a motion asking that the defense fund be included as an intervenor in the integration suit now before U.S. Dist. Judge Ben. C. Connally.

Leonel Castillo, president of the local education council, said he could not divulge the proposed 20 steps because other Mexican-American leaders have not approved all of them.

Cruz said he planned to ask Gov. Preston Smith today for a statement saying the Mexican-Americans should be considered a separate ethnic group.

The education council also called for a general one-day boycott of the Houston schools Friday as a gesture of sympathy for the estimated 3500 boycotting Mexican-American students.

A substantial number of these students are attending Huelga (strike) schools organized by the education council.

The Rev. Leon Everett II, school board member, said Wednesday he supports the Mexican-American effort toward ethnic identification but refused to endorse the boycott.

"They are to be commended for their belated thrust," Everett said. "While I am glad that they have awakened, I would have to question why they slept so long."

"On the matter of the Huelga strike schools, I have grave misgivings and serious reservations," Everett said.

"It seems to me that to hold youngsters out of public schools when they belong to a group with a much too high dropout rate can only further impair those youngsters educationally," he added.

He suggested that older Mexican Americans handle the protests and let children attend public school classes.

Newest member of the district's Human Relations Commission, Ernesto Valdes, is a Mexican-American from El Paso. He has only now taken his duties since being named to the commission July 21.

Valdes is a former staff member of the Harris County Community Action Assn., holds a B.A. degree from Trinity University in San Antonio and has taught in both the El Paso district and Edgewood district in San Antonio.

The education council is protesting the ruling of the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of

Student Loan Plan to Get Full Funding

Washington (UPI) — The Nixon administration has decided to spend the entire \$243 million Congress appropriated for low cost loans to needy college students.

Last week the Office of Education announced it would use only \$176.9 million of the funds contained in a bill that was passed by Congress over the veto of President Nixon. The \$176.9 million was the amount Nixon requested.

Sen. Ralph Yarborough, D-Texas, and other congressional leaders protested that thousands of students would be prevented from going to school this fall by failure to use the full amount.

Appeals which ordered pairing of some elementary schools.

The pairing the council claims, involves predominantly black schools with predominantly Mexican-American schools, thus maintaining segregation.

Ramirez said he believes that the school board really could do something to get the court to designate Mexican-Americans as a separate minority group.

He and Cruz accused truancy officers and principals at Houston schools of trying to intimidate parents of Mexican-American children by telling the parents they will be forced to pay fines if their children continue to boycott schools.

Dr. Leonard Robbins, school board president, said state law requires children to attend accredited schools until they reach 17, or face charges of truancy and fines.

State law permits a fine of \$5 for the first day of truancy after the parents have received a formal warning. The fine doubles to \$10 the second day and then \$25 a day for every day thereafter.

The law would be applied by the District suing the parents after the legal warning. The fine could be applied by the court from the day following the warning.

Another boycott has been proposed by the North Side Civic Club, which has scheduled a meeting for 7:30 tonight in the parking lot of Rose Garden Methodist Church, 406 Rittenhouse.

Quality of Nursing Homes Is Blasted, Defended

FROM PAGE 1

Smith told council she worked at the Golden Age home one day and observed "loose handling of drugs." Mrs. Smith and her sister, Mrs. Ida Mae Dentler, 4734 Anderson Rd., both retired nursing home operators, made the initial charges that touched off the investigation.

Although names of the complainants to the state in May were blocked out in the reports presented by Miss Welsh, they apparently were Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Dentler.

The charges against the Golden Age homes, Miss Welsh said, "are false and simply ridiculous. They have

the homes is comparable with prices in retail drug stores.

'Gross Negligence'

Mrs. Smith accused Miss Welsh of "gross negligence and violation of medicare and medicaid provisions by hiring me or any other person without first checking our background and training."

Although affluent patients at Golden Age Manor homes may be satisfied, she said, many patients are left without nursing care and live in filthy conditions.

Mrs. Dentler accused unnamed nursing homes of convincing elderly patients to turn over their power of attorney to the nursing homes, which used the power to gain control of the patients' money

Strike schools criticized

The Rev Leon Everett II, a member of the Houston School Board, issued a statement Wednesday supporting the position of Mexican-Americans in the school controversy, but expressing "grave misgivings" about their boycott.

The statement reads:

"I support the Mexican-American effort toward ethnic identification. This is as it should be and they are to be commended for their belated thrust.

"I would have to blame them in part, however, for the uncomfortable situation in which they find themselves presently.

"THROUGH THE YEARS, they have been classified as white and unfortunately they believed it. Then, they woke up one day to discover that they had been taken for a ride while being told they were white and being short-changed in the process.

"While I am glad that they have awakened, I would have to question why they slept so long.

"On the matter of the huelga strike schools, I have grave misgivings and serious reservations.

"It seems to me that to hold youngsters out of public schools when they belong to a group with a much too high dropout rate can only further impair those youngsters educationally.

"PROTESTS are as American as ice cream cones and red soda water, but why not let the older Mexican-Americans who are beyond public school age do the picketing and protesting and keep the youngsters in public schools?

Mexican-American Boycott May End, Says Castillo

BY ELMER BERTELSEN

Chronicle Education Editor

End of the Mexican-American boycott of Houston schools by the end of the week loomed larger today after a boycott leader met with Houston School Supt. George Garver.

Leonel Castillo, chairman of the Mexican-American Education Council, which called the boycott just before school opened Aug. 31, said he hoped to have an announcement on the boycott late today.

He said his group, which he said has empowered him to end the boycott, is on the threshold of a settlement of its differences with the Houston school district.

After meeting with Garver, Castillo conferred with Abe Ramirez, attorney for the Mexican-American council.

"There is a strong possibility that the boycott will be called by the end of the week," Castillo said. He added, however, that a few Mexican-American neighborhoods involved, specifically the Denver-Harbor area, have not agreed to end the strike. Their reluctance, he said, will not influence his decision. He estimated that about 100 of the 3500 boycotting students live in these neighborhoods.

Castillo would not reveal terms of the settlement with the district.

The strike was called in protest of a pairing plan, ordered by the U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals, that principally affects predominantly black and predominantly Mexican-American schools.

This pairing, leaders of the boycott maintain, is unfair to Mexican-American children, because they are designated as white for purposes of satisfying the integration orders of the federal appellate court.

The Mexican-American council has been conducting Huelga (strike) schools for a substantial number of the Mexican-American children

participating in the boycott.

Last week, parents of 14 Mexican-American students filed suit to intervene in the Houston school district integration case, which is still before the federal courts. They maintained that the current school desegregation plan pairing the schools does not achieve integration as required by law, because, among other things, it does not designate Mexican-American as an ethnic group.

At its Monday night meeting, the Houston school board unanimously voted to appeal the pairing provisions of the order of the U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals.

It was at this same meeting, however, that a group of Mexican-Americans, chiefly members of the Mexican-American Youth Organization (MAYO), violently disrupted the meeting. In the melee that ensued, board president Dr. Leonard Robbins was struck.

In another attempt at resolving issues dividing the leaders of the boycott and the school district, three community relations specialists from the U.S. Department of Justice today met with a representative of the Mexican-American council.

One of the three specialists, Pedro Vaca, was briefly arrested Monday night when Mexican-Americans disrupted the meeting.

Houston police detectives L. H. Martin and J. D. Lee, who took Vaca into custody, released him after Vaca showed them his identification papers. No charge was filed against Vaca.

U.S. Atty. Anthony J. P. Farris, who arranged today's meeting, said he had received no information concerning Vaca's activities at the school board meeting.

Martin and Lee said that Vaca appeared to be taking part in the demonstration at the meeting. Farris said he

had heard nothing from Houston Police Chief Herman Short or from the FBI concerning this alleged participation in the disturbance.

The two other specialists are Manuel Velasco and Robert Palmer.

Garver said until Monday night's meeting, he had not seen Vaca since before the boycott by Mexican-American students began.

Garver added, however, that he has been in almost daily communication since the boycott with Palmer. He said he and Palmer "exchange information" concerning the Mexican-American problem in general and the boycott in particular.

Bombings Mark Anniversary Of Peron Ouster

Buenos Aires (UPI)—Argentine terrorists today commemorated the 15th anniversary of the overthrow of former dictator Juan Domingo Peron by bombing the homes of prominent leaders, business establishments, a newspaper and the British embassy residence.

Police said a total of 16 bombs exploded in various parts of the city. They mentioned no victims and did not calculate the damage.

One bomb exploded in the Finance Ministry across the street from the Casa Rosada government house. Another went off on the third floor of the newspaper La Nacion that is occupied by the Associated Press.

Police reported fires followed bomb explosions at the Banco del Rio de la Plata and in two points on Avenida Santa Fe, a fashionable northside residential district.