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B. R. Baker, new Berkeley Police Chief

BERKELEY'S NEW POLICE CHIEF

B. R. Baker, Berkeley's new Police Chief since May 1, is a tall, lanky, homely man. He seems kind, and a little shy. If he performs as well as he comes on in conversation, Berkeley has a generally good man.

As Michael Jones said, "I've been watching Chief Baker for a long time. He's an intelligent man."

We were present at a meeting last week, on Wednesday, of the Citizens Committee on Public Safety, an official city committee which is the closest thing Berkeley has to a police review board.

Captain Baker, then acting-chief, addressed the group. The primary point of his talk, which was stressed repeatedly, was the need for accelerated minority recruitment on the police force.

"Our school-aid program and our police trainee program offer hope for the future, but they are too slow," he said.

"Frankly we are at a loss. We don't know how to recruit more Negroes for the force. I hope the Committee on Public Safety can help us.

"Why don't young Negroes want to be policemen? Is it working conditions? Peer attitudes? Police Department attitudes? Pay?

"One of the things it might be, is when Negroes look at the Police Department, they don't see Negroes in supervisory or command ranks. Naturally they have legitimate questions about advancement. This has been a hard problem. It takes years to train a policeman. We should have started twenty years ago."

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MODEL CITIES - from CHAOS to CONSENSUS

Monday night's gathering of 100 people at the Grove Recreation Center (which may or may not have been a meeting of the Model Cities Neighborhood Council) ended after three raucous hours without selecting committees or choosing officers, and unable to vote on whether it had the right to move on any matter at all.

The meeting foundered on a question which has been tying up politically-oriented blacks for several centuries: Who gets to vote?

Although the sticking point appeared to be a procedural issue, it offered only slight camouflage for the substantive issue: Who controls the Model Cities pro-

gram? And control of the city's Model Cities effort is nothing to be sneered at: the planning grant which has been set aside by the federal government for possible Berkeley use is \$126,000. Any working funds granted after that would presumably amount to quite a bit more.

On one side of Monday's issue was Wilmont Sweeney, recently re-elected black city councilman, and probably the black politician closest to the Berkeley centers of power. Sweeney was one of three city councilmen appointed by the Council two weeks ago to keep an eye on the Model Cities program. (Ron Dellums and John

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STUDENTS FORM CORPORATION

Early this month, Dan Siegel was elected president of the Associated Students of the University of California. He takes office in July. A law student at Boalt Law School, Dan has been student advocate for the past year. He is expected to continue the same general policies the student government has had under the leadership of Charlie Palmer and Doug Turner.

In order to guarantee independence from the chancellor, the ASUC is in the process of forming an independent non-profit corporation to be called Berkeley Students Inc. The board of directors of this corporation will consist of the four ASUC executive officers, six members of the student senate, and two faculty mem-

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