

# Rafferty Hit in Credential, Sit-In Case

## Berkeley School Board Votes to Support Teachers

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**BERKELEY** — Public school officials here Saturday sharply criticized a committee headed by Max Rafferty, state superintendent of public instruction, for being reluctant to grant teaching credentials to two participants in the University of California sit-ins of December, 1964.

The two, sixth-grade teacher Elizabeth Mary Gravalos, 22, and high school mathematics teacher Richard Wright Broadhead, 23, were convicted of trespassing and resisting arrest during the Free Speech Movement sit-in at Sproul Hall on the UC campus.

### Began in September

They have been teaching in Berkeley schools since September but have been ordered to appear before Rafferty's committee in Sacramento Jan. 18 for a hearing on their application for provisional credentials. The Berkeley Board of Education voted unanimously to support them.

They must have provisional state credentials to continue teaching after Feb. 2 when a temporary county permit expires.

The Berkeley officials have written the credentials committee asserting that Miss Gravalos and Broadhead show "real promise" as teachers and that their participation in the sit-ins has nothing to do with their ability to teach.

Rafferty told The Times that four other participants in the sit-ins already have appeared before the credentials committee, which has considered each case as an individual problem. Two applicants received credentials and two were turned down, he said.

### 'Gray Area' Cited

The dispute arises because of a "gray area" as to what constitutes grounds for challenging the granting of teaching credentials.

Under the committee's policy, applicants arrested on morals charges are automatically disqualified. Traffic violations are ignored, but the committee has to make a decision on what weight to give other offenses and which cases to hear.

Technically, its decisions are recommendations. If they are appealed, a hearing officer is appointed. Final determination is made by the State Board of Education.

### June Graduates

Miss Gravalos and Broadhead decided to enter teaching after being graduated from the university last June. An Intern program enabled them to begin teaching at once while making up their education course requirements after school and in the summer.

Rafferty said the committee asked Miss Gravalos and Broadhead to appear "so we can ask about the rationale of the act (participating in the sit-in), the possibility of its occurring in the future, the motivation which led up to commission of an illegal act and circumstances surrounding it."

But, Dr. Neil V. Sullivan, Please Turn to Pg. 25, Col. 1

# Rafferty Committee Hit Over Credentials

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Berkeley superintendent of schools, wrote to the committee at the school board's direction:

"... Unless there is information of a serious nature to which we have not had access, we feel strongly that participation in the Sproul Hall sit-ins should not preclude their receiving full teaching credentials."

### Two Especially Indignant

Two Berkeley board members, the Rev. Laurence P. Byers and John J. Miller, were particularly indignant.

"At stake here is not only freedom of speech, freedom of conscientious protest and freedom of assembly but, and more crucially, the fact that educational capacity and promise in these teachers is apparently overlooked," said the Rev. Mr. Byers. "Must teachers agree with each other and with a state credential committee on the matter of public debate, social action, educational administration and politi-

cal opinion before they can be employed as teachers?"

Broadhead and Miss Gravalos have accepted an offer of the California Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO, to provide a lawyer for them at the hearing.

### Says Right Defended

Broadhead told The Times he feels participants in the sit-in were defending a constitutional right to have freedom of expression on campus.

Last fall Broadhead was active in three marches sponsored by the Vietnam Day Committee to protest American involvement in Vietnam.

The State Education Code specifies that the superintendent of public instruction shall head the credentialing committee. He is authorized to appoint four other members from among his staff. Rafferty's chief deputy, Everett T. Calvert, often presides in the superintendent's absence.

The committee has been under attack recently because Rafferty ordered a review of the credentials of English teacher Geri Turner Davis of San Diego. The review is based on complaints that a play, "A Cat called Jesus," authored by Mrs. Davis, contains obscene language.

### Grounds in Question

Rafferty and Calvert have declined to say whether they personally feel the Sproul Hall violations should be sufficient grounds for denying teaching credentials.

"We have to look into each one and see why the person was involved, whether he walked in with his eyes open and if there is evidence of rehabilitation," said Rafferty.

Asked if he thought the Sproul Hall demonstrators should be in different category from other violators of laws, Rafferty replied:

"If the Legislature changed the law and called this demonstration legal, then it wouldn't come before us."