

NICE PEOPLE

The Senate internal security subcommittee has released the transcript of hearings on certain activities of the so-called new left, involving one William F. Pepper, Mrs. Lucy Montgomery of 1000 Lake Shore drive, Chicago, and the Black Panthers.

John R. Norpel, research director of the subcommittee, stated as background for the inquiry that the National Conference for New Politics, held at the Palmer House in Chicago on the Labor day weekend in 1967, was the first attempted consolidation of revolutionaries who identify themselves with the new left. Pepper was executive director and Mrs. Montgomery was one of the organizers of the conference. In March, 1968, Norpel noted, the New York Times reported details of a meeting to plan strategy for the disruption of the Democratic convention in August. Pepper attended the meeting.

The first witnesses were William Edward Grogan, a detective in the intelligence unit of the Yonkers, N. Y., police department, and Sgt. John F. McCormick, who has the same assignment in the New Rochelle, N. Y., police department. Both have investigated Pepper extensively because of his activities in Westchester county.

Grogan testified that Pepper has made false statements about his educational qualifications in many applications and that he obtained a draft deferment by falsely representing himself as a law student at Howard university. Grogan also said Pepper's record includes "a criminal complaint made against Mr. Pepper for carnal abuse of . . . two young male children."

Pepper, the detective continued, opened the Glenrock Community school [for "above-average" boys] in Glendale, near Ossining, N. Y., and Mrs. Montgomery was one of the incorporators. The contract for the purchase of the property called for a total payment of \$94,500, including a down payment of \$20,000, of which Mrs. Montgomery put up \$15,000. Another incorporator was Marie Tenner, a leader of the revolutionary Students for a Democratic Society. Still another incorporator was Pepper's father, Francis W. Pepper, who has a record of "several arrests for intoxication and disorderly conduct."

Grogan testified that Pepper and most of his faculty members have engaged in anti-Viet Nam and anti-draft demonstrations. Sgt. McCormick testified that schools in New Rochelle have been disrupted by the S. D. S. and a group called Black Radicals Overard (B. R. O.). In April last year 15 members of the B. R. O. were arrested after an assault on a police officer, and their court hearing was disrupted by 75 B. R. O. and Black Panther members. The New Rochelle police chief, Edward F. McCaffrey, was charged with assault by a member of the New York law firm headed by William Kunstler, counsel for the defense in the Chicago riot conspiracy trial.

Sgt. McCormick said a preliminary investigation, which the FBI is continuing, indicated that funds for revolutionary activities in Westchester county were coming from Red China thru the Tammam mission at the United Nations. We wonder how long Mrs. Montgomery thinks she will stay alive if the system that made her rich is ever destroyed by these revolutionaries.

William F Pepper - Background Investigation

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Thu, Aug 8, 2019