

Discuss Death in School

Mommy Crying—Kids Say

By MARY CRAWFORD

The assassination of Senator Robert Kennedy was discussed during the "news period" in most of the public schools here today.

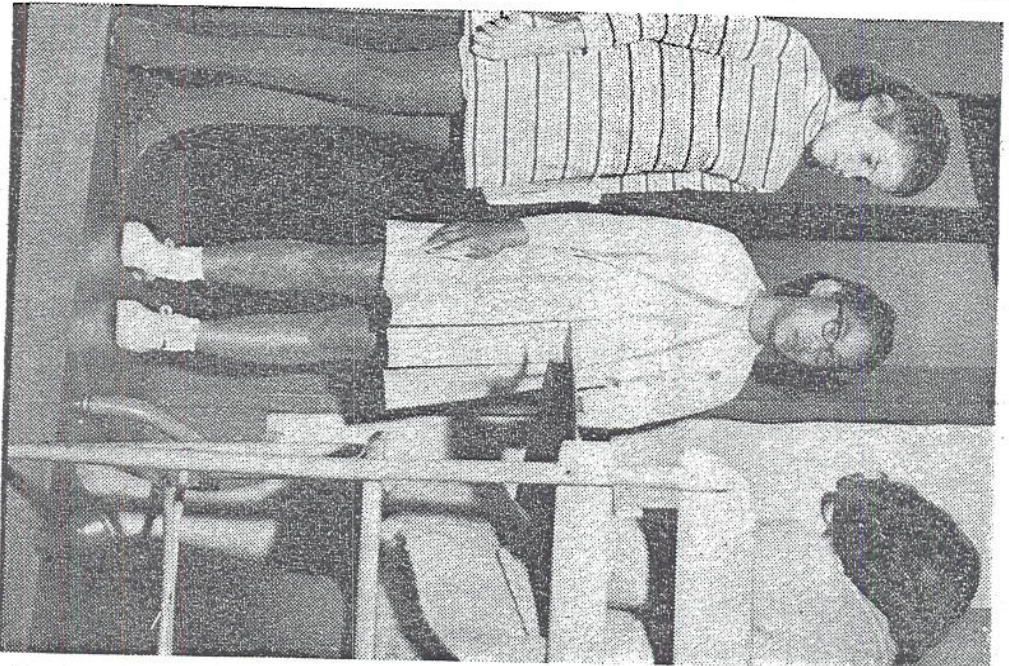
"I was kind of shocked at first when I saw the headline," ANTHONY Shortis, 11, told fellow members of his sixth grade class at Grant School.

He is editor of the school newspaper, "Grant School Spirit," and is a serious young man wearing horn rimmed glasses.

"The first thing that came to my mind was Martin Luther King, and then John Kennedy.

"I woke up (yesterday) wanting to see who won the California primary. It was so decisive. And we heard (on TV) that he (Kennedy) has been operated. I found out that he did win the California primary, and the next thing we knew was that Kennedy was dead.

"What caused it was that Kennedy said he would defend Israel and the suspect was an Arab fighter and he



was upset and probably deranged.

"We had a Negro friend and we asked her last week if she was going to vote for Kennedy and she said, 'No, because he would be assassinated if he became President.'

"And now the Negroes are still waiting for a leader.

"I just heard about the law they're about to pass in Con-



ANTHONY SHERRIS
Thought of King

gress but it should be stricter. They should have psychological (sic) tests because a deranged person should not be allowed to walk around with a gun in his pocket, like the man who killed Mr. King, and Sirhan Sirhan and possibly Mr. Oswald."

David Feller, a classmate, said, "Well if guns are outlawed, well it would be like switchblades. They were outlawed and they smuggled switchblade knives across the border at Mexico."

Kathy Berman, who is 10 and a fifth grader, walked out into the hall after news period! She said, "My teacher said when he (Kennedy) was shot yesterday, it was very sad, and that he died early this morning. He was a wonderful man. He did so much and he deserved so much, and he didn't deserve what happened to him.

"We would have liked to have him for President.

"It's awful. It's like Dr. Martin Luther King. It's really awful, like we lose a good man if he's a leader. Good man if he's a leader. We have been watching TV

since 2 o'clock. Well, my mommy has. She was so upset, but I was asleep."

Hisa Handa, 11, her classmate, said, "Mrs. Frances Re, our teacher, was talking about how it was terrible, about the way it (the assassination) happened, and she said we should be extra quiet today because of what happened. She said they should stop the violence. I thought that it was terrible to have been so many murders lately. It's kind of hard to describe what can be done about murders."

In the high first grade there was a hand pencilled note on the bulletin board saying:

Wednesday. Another very sad thing has happened. A man shot Bobby (sic).

Karen Hord, another first grader, said, "My dad said 'Kennedy is dead' and my mommy started to cry. That's all."

Ann Eisenhower, a classmate of Karen, said, "You should feel sorry for the suspect because he must be crazy."

FOR MANY STUDENTS, A DAY OF SORROW
Kathy Berman and Hisa Handa of Grant school