

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Laughing Himself Sick

Editor—The Chronicle's back and we're glad. Oh, not because of the constant drivel written by the idiot McCabe, nor the cornpone style of old wit used by Caen. No, we're glad for things like Terrence O'Flaherty's column on "Where the Blame Lies" — or you too can be a criminal if you dare to leave your car unlocked. That The Chronicle would print this sense is even amazing!

But we're happy. We too are sick to death of this hocus pocus sociological approach to criminal control. Indeed, to have the police department extolling me not to help a good (?) boy go bad!

Imagine my feelings when told I too was at fault for the Detroit rioting and lots and lots of looting!! No one needs comedy today; just follow the antics of the liberal clique and its double standard approach to morals and you'll laugh yourself sick.

WM. C. HELLER.

San Francisco.

'Finish the Job'

Editor—Much has been said of victories won in private polls and elections by the so-called doves in regard to our policy in Vietnam. But as far as I am able to figure they have never amounted to anything like a majority of the votes cast.

While Senator McCarthy received a larger number of votes than anticipated in New Hampshire this can hardly be called a rejection of our position since Nixon, who seems to be in favor of a successful prosecution of the war also received a large number of votes. In fact, the combined total of Johnson and Nixon ballots is far in excess of the total of all so-called peace candidates. Then, too, President Johnson's name did not appear on the ballot and all those voting had to write in his name which is almost always a fatal handicap.

While almost everyone (myself included) would like to see the war in Vietnam concluded and our troops brought home, most of us

feel that we are there because we belong there.

The policy of isolation and disregard for aggression toward weak neighbors was pretty well discredited after World War I and it seems a shame to find it alive again with a cloak of senatorial respectability. The words of Lodge, Borah and Johnson and others are now being echoed by Fulbright, McCarthy, Kennedy, et al. and it is the same old tune brought up to date.

When the fortunes of war temporarily are turned against us the clamor becomes louder, but when have quitters and appeasers ever won a lasting victory? We should have learned our lesson from Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy but it seems to have passed over the heads of ultra left wing radio commentators and newspaper columnists who cry for peace at any price.

As a life-long Democrat who deplored our rejection of the League of Nations and the appeasement of the dictators I hate to see history repeat itself. A veteran myself, I now have my own hostage on the edge of the DMZ who, I am sure will be glad to come home when his term of duty expires, but he is there because his country needs him there. Draft dodgers, unlawful violent demonstrators and the like are certainly no help. They should be thankful that others are willing to do their fighting for them.

Since a peace table without a victory seems impossible let us get on with the job, and a little less noise, please, from the quitters.

H. C. JORGENSEN.

Willits.

A Healthy Diversity

Editor—Now is the time for us to let our representatives know that we support them in voting for open housing legislation. . . .

It will be better to have people of minority races scattered throughout the community rather than bottled up and seething in their own ghetto. This will not only reduce the likelihood of riots in the cities, but contribute to a

healthy diversity which will make life more interesting for us all.

DOROTHY M. HORTON.

Santa Clara.

'Send Civilians'

Editor — As I understand it, out of 525,000 combat soldiers now in Vietnam only 400,000 are in real danger of being seen by the Viet Cong. The 125,000 are clericals and labor non-combatants who are in uniform but would never be able to meet the Viet Cong in action

Why not hire civilian clerical and labor workers to replace the 125,000 noncombatants so that General Westmoreland will not need to ask for more troops

GEORGE R. PENA.

San Francisco.

'Stuck With It'

Editor—It is my impression that American servicemen who desert and receive asylum in foreign countries have, in fact, renounced their citizenship.

Why, then, are they permitted back into our country? They made their choice and they should be stuck with it.

G. MILLER.

San Francisco.

Politics--1968

Editor—According to news stories, some of the polls say Rockefeller is more likely to win than Nixon. None of the polls have asked me. If it is Nixon against Johnson, I will vote for Nixon. If it is Rockefeller against Johnson, I will vote for Johnson. But since your news is slanted for Rockefeller, you won't have the nerve to print this.

EARL D. OLIVER.

San Carlos.

Vietnam Commission

Editor—Any reason for not sending the President's National Advisory Commission on Civil (Foreign?) Disorders to assess the situation in Vietnam?

EDWARD F. O'DAY JR.

Sausalito.

San Francisco Chronicle
THE VOICE OF THE WEST

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Monday, March 18, 1968

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Election

Editor - When we cursed the darkness McCarthy lit a torch. Now Kennedy wants to volunteer as torch bearer. Forget it. McCarthy doesn't need Kennedy Power, he has People Power. And my vote.

MARGARET E. HAGENS

San Francisco

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Editor - Jesse Unruh has been quoted as saying he did not believe Senator McCarthy has the "personal charm" to win the election against President Johnson. And there have been many references in newspapers to Senator McCarthy's lack of "forcefulness."

Have we not had enough of "personal charm" as a factor in winning the election for governor in California? And have we not had more than enough of "forcefulness" in the character of our present national leader?

Personal charm can mask a lack of real ability, and forcefulness can mask "pig headedness" and unwillingness to admit error.

What we need now is brain power and courage, and it seems to me that Senator McCarthy has both. I do not admire Mr. Rockefeller and Senator Kennedy for hanging back and finding out which way the wind was blowing before jumping into the fray.

MRS. L. S. MITCHELL

Sacramento

Support Culture

Editor - Mrs. John Sigel's letter March 13 relating to her discontinuance of donations to various cultural enterprises troubled me greatly, not because of concern over the loss of her donation, but that her short-sighted attitude should rub off on others. It is indeed unfortunate that Mrs. Sigel feels she cannot ensure the employment of musicians in their profession, and that she cannot awaken young minds to cultural beauty all because of the society page reporting of a certain handful

who, yes, do "use" cultural activities for social reasons. . .

Perhaps Mrs. Sigel feels that money for cultural enterprises will be gladly and freely given by the public, including the beautiful people, and, therefore, more time could be given to necessary civic enterprises. If Mrs. Sigel feels this way, obviously she has never tried to solicit even \$25 toward a maintenance fund of an orchestra. No easy task. But try to get the public including the beautiful people, to a party where they even have to buy their drinks — that's an easy task.

I agree passionately with Mrs. Sigel that something must be done about the grave social injustices existing today in our cities. I know these are civic responsibilities. But I know that these dreadful, frightful and unhappy situations are going to continue as long as the greater part of my tax dollar goes for the war in Vietnam. But this war must end and then my tax dollar might go toward those things that have been too long neglected.

However, my tax dollar will not go toward the cultural needs of my community for our government does not subsidize symphony orchestras, opera companies, theaters and museums. But someone and some groups must. Why? Because without culture, which is truly the sum total of the ways of living by groups of people transmitted from one generation to another, there can never be anything worthwhile of a civic nature. When we present our own culture along with other cultures, then an understanding of all people can take place, and by cultural understanding we just might have lasting peace throughout the world.

MRS. GEORGE F. KRATZ

Oakland

'A Business Victory'

Editor — The Chronicle carried the news that The Lark of the Southern-Pacific had been discontinued by a 3-2 vote of the Public Utilities Commission. In view of all the propaganda and poor service

by the SP this was to be expected, of course, in spite of the courageous efforts of the minority members of the PUC. Shades of Colis P. Huntington and the Octopus. Once again, the Governor, in spite of his pious platitudes has won a victory for business against the consumers of California. I hope he is satisfied but, in view of the statement that the SP is going to ask to discontinue its only train to Chicago — the City of San Francisco, I imagine he will not be until all passenger train travel has been dropped.

Is it not about time to ask that the U.S. Government own and operate the railroads in the interests of all of the American people instead of just the freight shippers?

GEORGE E. OUTLAND

San Francisco

'Ruined'

Editor—Word of the plans and variance requests of the International Market Center for the development of the northern waterfront has just caught up with us and has certainly ruined our vacation. This is the most variance to be requested in the 22 years we have owned property on Telegraph Hill immediately above the proposed center.

In those 22 years we have not had a single period of security. There has been a constant procession of entrepreneurs trying to exploit the hill and its environs and therefore ruin it as a residential area unique in the entire country.

GERTRUDE MURPHY.

Mexico City.

Drive-in Baseball

Editor—Why not build a downtown stadium in the shape of a spiral garage with the playing field in the center? The fans could drive to the different levels and the wind problem would be kept to a minimum.

GEORGE BAGLIETTO.

San Francisco.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mudflat Advertising

Editor — If the reticent colors and modest dimensions of the East Bay mudflat sculptures distract motorists,

a. the clarion calls of the billboards must distract them even more, or

b. motorists pay very little attention to billboards. This being demonstrated, we suggest that the crews removing the sculptures remove the billboards as well, or that the sculptures be left alone.

THOMAS, ARIEL PARKINSON.
Berkeley.

A Little Late

Editor — To my way of thinking, it is a little late for Senator Robert Kennedy's conscience to force him into the presidential race. At this point, it would be more seemly for him to give his wholehearted support to Senator Eugene McCarthy, a man who has shown his mettle in New Hampshire.

ROBERT W. MANN.
Pacifica.

Write a Letter

Editor — Whether you're a dove or a hawk, the realization must have come to you by now that our country is being destroyed by the drain on its resources both material and human in a futile and misused extension of its original good intent.

Appeals of every kind to the President seem to fall on deaf ears, and the few representatives we have in Congress who differ with the Administration seem to lack the power to reach or influence their colleagues. Perhaps for the voters — for those of us who care — there is a way to make Congress listen and act:

Write a short note to your Senators and Representative. Ask them to start debate and/or action for bringing an immediate political settlement of the Vietnam undeclared war before election time is on the country. Your read-

ers can send copies of their letters to as many friends as they care to, preferably those in different states.

This may cost an hour's time and the price of postage. Compared to death and taxes what a small price this is.

PAULINE, ARTHUR BAKALAR.
San Francisco.

Quittin' Time

Editor — In St. Patrick's Day language: The Johnson Administration set out to prove aggression doesn't pay. Sure it has so proved an' should be quittin' it now.

DON STEVENS.
Mill Valley.

What Willie Forgot

Editor — About Willie Mays' rebuttal to Jackie Robinson — Mays should have kept quiet. I thought he had learned something after all these years, but after reading the articles on his press conference I now know that he just did not know what Jackie was talking about.

He has forgotten that when he was playing with the Black Barons (a former Negro baseball league) how he and the other players had to eat on the bus, and they couldn't use rest rooms in some of the states, so they took to the woods. He has also forgotten (if he ever knew) that the Black children have very few heroes to look up to. He chooses to ignore the fact that he could accomplish much in the improvement of that area if he would only do his part. Instead, he is so busy worrying about moving into a "bigger and fancier house" that he is completely out of touch with the Black people.

Willie was empty headed when my husband played against him in the Negro League twenty years ago, and he is empty headed now. Proof of this is his statement about sending his son to a mixed school someday so that he may understand the Black people (his own people). He has really fallen down on the job of raising his son, be-

cause someday the boy will have to face the fact that he is not white but a Black child.

Ask Mr. Mays to ask himself why doesn't he go to the ghetto schools and donate a little of his time and effort to give them encouragement. Each and every one of us can do a little something to help our Black children in this time or "burn, baby, burn."

MRS. CHRISTINE ROBERTS.
San Francisco.

The Swallows

Editor—If you have ever wondered, and who hasn't, why the swallows come and leave every year at practically the same time, get out your Bible and read Jeremiah, Chapter 8, verse 7.

E. HILLER.
San Francisco.

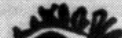
Why Teachers Strike

Editor—I was on the picket line at our school during the teachers strike, and it wasn't easy for me to see our youngsters get out of hand and slash the tires of a TV truck. But then it hasn't been easy for me to see our youngsters get out of hand and slash tires and slug teachers and start fires and destroy property and feelings and you name it—even when all of our teachers have reported to school and there has been no strike.

It does the California Teachers Association dishonor to imply that striking teachers provoke unlawful behavior among the clientele of our urban high schools. Some of my friends at school, members of the CTA, have expressed shame and embarrassment at the ad in the Chronicle March 6 because good teachers know better.

Stagnation, immobilization, creeping paralysis in the classroom or fearful watchdogging. What a way to raise a generation! Those of us who want to reach and to teach struck. We struck for the kids, for the teachers, and for the administrators whose hands are also tied because their jobs have become impossible too.

FLORENCE C. LEWIS.
San Francisco.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'They Missed It'

Editor — On behalf of the San Francisco Federation of Teachers, I would like to congratulate you on your delightful tongue in cheek editorial of March 15 — "The Teachers' Poll." I regret to report, however, that some of your less careful readers missed the satirical point and took you literally.

Recall that the editorial said that in a "fair and accurate" poll 44 per cent of the teachers chose to be represented by the Federation. And so, the Federation should join a Negotiating Council where they are entitled to two seats out of nine, or 22 per cent of the membership.

It is unfortunate that all of your readers were not able to enjoy this obvious contradiction. This is precisely the reason, of course, that we of the Federation have chosen to negotiate outside the Council. The Council's membership is not determined by the vote of the teachers.

JAMES E. BALLARD,
President,

Federation of Teachers, Local 61,
San Francisco.

'No Need for a Park'

Editor — On Friday the House subcommittee on National Parks and Recreation, chaired by Rep. Roy A. Taylor, will conduct hearings on a proposal to establish Biscayne National Monument just south of Miami, Florida.

The 4000 acres involved are valued at \$80 to \$100 million. If this proposal is approved, the Federal government will have to condemn the property and buy it from the hundreds of private citizens who presently own it.

This huge expenditure would undoubtedly have a seriously adverse effect on efforts to obtain development funds for the John Muir National Historic Site, the Point Reyes National Seashore and the Whiskeytown-Shasta-Trinity National Recreation Area.

This is particularly unfortunate because a national monument is

neither needed nor wanted at the proposed site in southern Biscayne bay. This site is less than 12 miles from the Everglades National Park, third largest in the nation; within 4 miles of Pennekamp Ocean Reef Park; less than 5 miles from a 2800 acre public beach area; and within 14 miles of Key Largo State Park's 2200 oceanfront acres. The proposed monument could at best only duplicate already existing facilities which are themselves only fractionally developed.

Miami Beach hotel and financial interests, however, have given the proposal their all-out support, in order to block development of competing waterfront tourist facilities. Their political influence in Congress is strong and extensive.

Now is the time for citizens to write members of the subcommittee if we are to prevent the dissipation of conservation funds for political purposes rather than for worthwhile and urgently needed projects such as the John Muir Historic Site, the Point Reyes seashore and the Whiskeytown recreation area.

WILLIAM E. GREENE, JR.,
President,
Chamber of Commerce,
Islandia, Florida.

Coral Gables.

War, Gold

Editor — Thank you for your editorial "The Mysterious Gold Madness," March 18, in which you state that the principal reason for the gold crisis is the Vietnam war. Although exact calculations do not seem available, there is every reason to believe that the termination of the war alone, without any other measure, would restore equilibrium to our balance of payments and thus end the gold drain.

But the war is not only exhausting our reserves of gold and foreign currency but also something more important, the will of the American people to bear responsibility for international affairs.

The endless continuation of a war which is obviously unwinnable

in the only sense that matters, in the political sense, creates a feeling of frustration which leads to the desire to withdraw from the outside world. Therefore, not those who seek a "wider path to peace," but those who insist on continuing this war in spite of its cruelty and futility are preparing the soil for a new harvest of isolationism.

CARL LANDAUER.

Berkeley.

• • •
Editor — Apparently there are not enough natural calamities in this world but what man has to add to them. It looks as if World War III is in the making . . .

It has been reported that we have sent a nuclear expert to Vietnam and that we have stored some nuclear weapons there, even though the Pentagon has denied this . . .

One scientist has stated that in the event of a nuclear war only about 90 million Americans would be killed in the first few days. Only? He failed to state that those remaining would also die within a few months or years from leukemia or other diseases induced through exposure to nuclear radiation which in a major war would be distributed all over the earth. What a beautiful picture of humanity's future.

OTTO BEHRNS.

Oakland.

Hawks and Doves

Editor — I would like to comment on the unfair classification of so-called hawks and doves. Can any person be entirely either for or against war? Each side may have a good reason for feeling the way it does.

I think it is wrong to unfairly classify persons into dove or hawk categories. At least once in a while each side must admit agreeing with the other side's logic . . .

MARILYN ROOT,
Student,
Giannini Jr. High.

San Francisco.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Commitments

Editor — Lyndon Johnson and Dean Rusk keep repeating that we have to keep our commitment to Diem and Ky and Thieu. What were those commitments? Who made them? When?

Johnson also made a commitment to the American people. In September, 1964, he publicly promised us, with the entire country as witnesses "We don't want our American boys to do the fighting for Asian boys. We don't want to get involved and get tied down in a land war in Asia."

Johnson broke his commitment to America. He is keeping his commitment to Ky and Thieu, two brutal grafters from the nether world. . . .

JAMES WINSTON

Sacramento.

'He Doesn't Know'

Editor—Dr. Max Rafferty has recently declared that only an "act of God" could prevent him from running against Tom Kuchel. I think Rafferty is unduly alarmed. I doubt that God is even aware Max is running for office.

JOE F. DOUGHERTY.

San Francisco.

The Young Vote

Editor — Bobby Kennedy's picture with the students indicates he is wonderful with children. But I am sure that we adults are not yet ready to vote for a baby sitter with a little boy's name to be our President. Heaven forbid, and the children — fortunately — are too young to put him in office.

EMMY DENNIS

San Francisco.

Editor — It is said that for every right there is a corresponding responsibility. If that is true, it would seem that the converse should be true. For every responsibility there should be a corresponding right.

The 18 year old of today is better informed than the 30 year old of yesterday. His responsibilities

are heavy. There's none greater than placing his life on the altar for his country.

If he is to be called upon to sacrifice the precious years of youth, to shoulder a gun, to kill and to be killed, he should be given the right to vote. Give him that right and perhaps we'll have a better world. It couldn't be much worse.

JOHN GRANTHAM

Kenwood.

Out of Reach

Editor — A brand new zoo for the privileged few? . . . It's been done in other cities. I saw the well manicured, beautifully kept Portland Zoo last summer. But I thought of the thousands of kids who would never set eyes on these marvels — the cleanest monkeys, whitest polar bears and funniest penguins I ever saw. For the want of \$5 ghetto families could once again send their kids back to the streets — one more experience out of reach for them.

What does it take to make people listen? Anyone can have the biggest and the best, for a price. But this time the price is too high. Our people hear about the long hot summer, but once again they turn a deaf ear to the pleas and light one more fuse. Then they will sit and wonder what caused the explosion.

BARBARA MIKOLAVICH

S. San Francisco.

'No New Taxes Now'

Editor — "No taxation without representation" was once an effective rallying cry. Is it not all the more appropriate now?

The chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, with the clear sympathy of an overwhelming majority of his colleagues, implores the Secretary of State to secure the Senate's advice and consent for the Administration's policies. Over one-third of the Congress signed a statement asking a review of our Vietnam policies.

But the President pushes on, apparently unswerved by all criticism or any questions . . . Today he asks the nation to commit itself

to "austerity" to permit a total effort to "win" that war in Vietnam.

There is one important means of opposition which critics and opponents of the war should not neglect. Congress should refuse to raise one additional penny of taxes to finance policies which it has not authorized and which it and the American people are coming increasingly to disapprove.

Refusal to raise taxes now is the only truly sound economic policy open to us. For an increase in taxes, far from meeting our problems of inflation, balance of payments and urban crisis, will only lead to aggravation of these problems by facilitating further escalation of this disastrous war.

An increase in taxes may well be the most efficient means of finding the resources to expand the war. But at this time there should be no new taxes without constitutional agreement on the policies for which they are to be levied.

ROBERT EISNER,

Professor of Economics,
Northwestern University.

Evanston, Illinois.

A Blooming Victory

Editor — We wish to thank you and your reporter Maitland Zane for your help in our fight with the Southern Pacific over the ghastly barricade in Aptos.

We have obtained permission from the Public Utilities Commission to remove the posts and plant lovely flowers along the track. We have selected Scotch Broom in 5 gallon cans to symbolize our wish to sweep away the friendly (?) SP and Mrs. Toney, who was arrested in the cause of freedom for property owners, chose to plant bleeding heart . . .

Our organization was founded in 1905 and re-activated in 1962 when our town was threatened by a cement batching plant. We defeated those people, too. A town divided like this cannot stand so we must defeat the SP now.

LUCILE ALDRICH,
ELMA TONEY,
Head Ladies,
Aptos Ladies

Tuesday Evening Society.

Aptos.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Hard Times

Editor — If President Johnson wants austerity, let him tax all corporate profits that derive from war and preparation for war . . .

CLARE MILLIKAN.

Berkeley.



Editor — In order to meet the burgeoning expenses of government, we have been exhorted to undergo austerity—rising taxes, private economies. To set the right attitude for these hardships by good example, should not the gentlemen at the political helm give us heart by cutting their own salaries first?

FLORENCE A. LEONARD.

San Francisco.



Editor — President Johnson's plan to tighten our belts and become an "austere" nation in order to burn and destroy Vietnam is too much to swallow.

We have the choice of building up our own decaying cities or destroying those of the Vietnamese . . . Our economy, affluent as it is, will not sustain both.

Which choice is the most sensible and humane?

HARRY A. HOBBS.

Brentwood.

It's a Dog's World

Editor — Last Wednesday's sad story about the unleashed dogs in Berkeley gave me my morning laugh. There was no mention of the problem here, which is overrun with dogs that prefer sidewalks and lawns to the gutter . . .

DOROTHY ADAMS.

San Francisco.

Second Thoughts

Editor — As a commuter from San Mateo County, I must protest Mayor Alioto's proposed commuter tax. Besides purchasing 90 per

cent of my personal belongings in San Francisco, I spend many evenings here dining and enjoying shows . . .

If this tax goes through, I will think twice before spending one more cent in your fair city.

NORMAN B. KELLER.

San Francisco.

'Join Our Club'

Editor — I hope that many of your readers will want to join my new KPG Club (Kennedy for Postmaster General). It has become the time-honored practice to reserve this position for heavy contributors to successful campaigns. While Mr. Kennedy's support arrived somewhat late, we in the McCarthy campaign feel that it will be helpful. In view of his previous experience at the Cabinet level, he should be a particularly good Postmaster General.

URBAN WHITAKER.

San Bruno.

Warning

Editor— You reported that California Democratic Chairman Charles Warren warned against splitting the Democratic vote with a three-way race between Senators McCarthy and Kennedy and President Johnson. Assemblyman Warren feared the Republicans would be the victors because of this.

It's obvious the majority of voters here oppose Johnson's war and spendthrift policies. If Chairman Warren is really interested in preserving the Democratic party and, more important, our Nation, he will try to convince President Johnson not to seek re-election.

JOHN SAEMANN.

Oakland

Editorial Paradox

Editor — This letter relates to your editorial of March 20 stating that the unhappy British financial picture should have some meaning for President Johnson, mem-

bers of Congress and the American people. This is a paradox because you have consistently advocated that the Administration spend and spend for practically any major problem to solve civil rights, rioting, etc., right down the line.

Now you advocate the cessation of the war in Vietnam. But like all the advocates of this policy, you have no realistic solution for the Vietnam problem. Hanoi won't negotiate, withdrawal would be catastrophic, not only for the Vietnamese, but for the whole of East Asia and a triumph for the Communist cause.

I do not expect this to be published, as you have failed to publish other criticisms of your editorial policy which I have submitted. Along with the right of freedom of the press, you are also expressing your right to suppress criticism of your editorials.

ROBERT C. HALL.

Marysville.

It's Anti-Communist

Editor — Britain's Prime Minister Harold Wilson has again called for the downfall of Ian Smith. This time it's over Rhodesian intentions of executing black nationalist terrorists. Wilson explained that a blood bath could result if the executions are carried out.

This is strange reasoning in view of the turmoil and bloodshed resulting from the British policy of turning colonies like Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia over to the very black nationalists now making trouble in Rhodesia. Adding insult to injury, Britain is now barring its own citizens from entering England even though they are being forced to leave from these same ex-colonies.

Mr. Wilson could eliminate this hypocrisy by pulling his ships out of North Vietnam and sending them back to peaceful, anti-Communist Rhodesia.

TOM TULLSEN,

Palo Alto.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Communion

Editor—I note with a thumping heart of delighted anticipation the propositions to create bicycle paths — here and in Marin. And The Chronicle's forthright editorial approval.

May I add my plea. Biking is great (I've got a 10-speed job with a horsepower limited only by my legs, and fueling requirements that take anything from milk to solid proteins) but I'm scared to ride the vehicle on open highways with cars whizzing by.

If bicycle paths were created it would let me expand my personality, my lungs, my leg muscles, and at the same time commune with the natural beauties of our environment.

Robin Kinkead.

San Francisco.

'Let Them Fight'

Editor—I do not understand the Federal government. My brother is in the Army and all my family wants him to come back. I know that a lot of families also want their sons, brothers and fathers to come home. Some will be wounded and some will be dead. But that doesn't matter to the Federal government. If men are needed, why don't they in the Government go fight?

DORALEE ANAYA,
6th Grade,

Golden Gate Elementary.
Oakland.

Revolt of the Commuter

Editor—It is utterly absurd to state, as does your editorial of March 22 that a "substantial part" of the commuters' income is spent in San Francisco. Any commuter who spends a substantial part of his salary on lunches and the wife's birthday gift will soon be too fat to get through the door of the commuter train and will have difficulty meeting the mortgage payments on his suburban split level.

Remember too, that these people very nearly succeeded in tear-

ing up a corner of Golden Gate Park in order to cut a few minutes off their daily commute time, and many of them pollute our air by driving their singly occupied automobiles into the city.

M. M. BECK.

San Francisco.

Editor— . . . There was a famous tea party in Boston because of taxation without representation. If the commuter boycotts, you might as well dump the spirits overboard. We'll do our drinking elsewhere.

WILLIAM M. LILE.

Mill Valley.

Editor—I am outraged at Mayor Alioto's "club" statement concerning the proposed commuter tax.

I am already a member of the "San Mateo County Club," the "State of California Club," and the "United States of America Club." I don't really think I want to join Mr. Alioto's "City of San Francisco Commuter Club." . . .

GEORGE C. PAGANT, JR.

Millbrae.

'A Gross Error'

Editor—In behalf of the Greater Bay Area Chapter of the Action Committee on American-Arab Relations, I implore you to draw the attention of your readers to a gross error that was made on page two of last Friday's Chronicle. The UPI telephoto, referring to Israel's invasion of Jordan, placed Jerusalem within Israel, when in actuality Jerusalem, Jordan, should be placed in that area occupied by Israel.

Concerning the 13-hour, 15,000 troops aggressive invasion of Jordan March 21: Is this inhumane and immoral act a step toward peace? Is Israel bombing refugee camps, leveling homes, continually expanding its borders and exiling hundreds of thousands of Palestinians from their homes, in the interest of peace? What happened to President Johnson's commitment

to maintain the territorial integrity in the Middle East?

We implore the American people of all faiths to read all that they could to get a better understanding — nay, some understanding — of the other side of the coin.

TERRY THOMAS,
President.

San Francisco.

Save the Zephyr

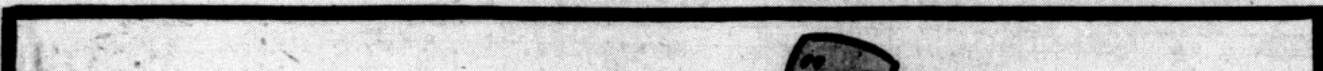
Editor—During this week and part of next, from 9:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. hearings are being held in San Francisco regarding Western Pacific's petition to discontinue its only passenger service, the California Zephyr.

Today and tomorrow the Interstate Commerce Commission is hearing the railroad's testimony. Then on Friday, and next Monday and Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. until noon, testimony against discontinuance will be presented by the National Association of Railroad Passengers. All interested persons who wish to speak in favor of the service are urged to attend. Hearings are open to the public on all days in Room 19428, Federal Office Building, 450 Golden Gate avenue.

The California Zephyr Movement encourages the attendance of all persons who realize the greatly underrated value of travel by this train between San Francisco and Chicago. We believe that passenger losses stem from lack of advertising. By contrast, the Canadian National enjoys a flourishing passenger trade as the result of widespread advertising by that railroad. . . .

We want to help fill the advertising gap that has created the threatened discontinuance of this service. We plan, as a first step, to publish a newsletter to let people know that the extra features and services that distinguish this train still prevail. . . . We ask for the support of anyone who can help promote the rediscovery the California Zephyr deserves.

KEVIN C. MAHONEY,
California Zephyr Movement.
San Francisco.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'Cite the Changes'

Editor — Several questions have been raised regarding the International Market Center to be built at the base of Telegraph Hill.

For many weeks now, San Franciscans have received reports of various revisions, but we have no definite news of what these reported changes are . . . All plans should be carefully reviewed and clearly defined. The investors themselves should have every assurance that financial and economic feasibility studies, as well as traffic studies, are both complete and satisfactory. Neither they nor San Francisco can afford a mistake of such vast proportions.

A completely new and accurate model should be made, even though it shows only the frame construction and access and egress points for traffic flow and the latest extent of covered streets . . .

MRS. HANS KLUSMANN.
San Francisco

Boom

Editor—Persons who don't dig sonic booms at 5 a.m. might consider uniting within the Citizens League Against the Sonic Boom, 19 Appleton street, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 02138. No dues. Just write.

W. L. FELSEN.
Stinson Beach.

'Physical Morons'

Editor—Your distorted comments in your "Athletic Tyranny" editorial sounded as if a subversive power was trying to undermine our country's physical fitness program. I was utterly shocked and appalled at your reasoning on Senate Bill 1. Your connotation that physical education is a "tyrannical mandated subject" is out of proportion, and that it is a waste of time of students and teachers, is conjecture.

Gentlemen, the "powerful Physical Education" lobby's interest is primarily for the health and vigor of the California youth and not for their personal interests . . .

Today's material prosperity has

physically deteriorated our modern youth until a partial state of muscular atrophy is prevalent in the majority of teen-agers . . . Senate Bill 1, if acted on favorably by the Assembly, will reduce our California youth to physical morons. . . .

BERNARD WOLF,
Physical Education Dept.
Lowell High School.

An Idea

Editor — I have a tip for your readers, and it is this: If you wish your views to be known at this time, write a Letter to the Editor. Each letter published is perused by three times the number of the papers circulation. It will inspire some of these readers to also write a letter. If not published, it will have been read by the staff and alert them to "good-news" items for the Freedom side. Patriots on the staff, however dormant, are trying to save "freedom of the press," a vital part of over-all freedom. Every conceivable action should be taken to save our Republic, and writing letters to the editor favorable to freedom is something one person can do.

H. L. HUNT.
Dallas, Texas.

The writer is a Texas oilman, reputed to be the richest man in the world. One of his pastimes is writing letters to the editor.

—Editor.

It's Tragic

Editor—This is the year for us to take back our government. Since 1932 the Democrats have controlled the Nation with the exception of the Eisenhower years.

Billions of dollars in taxes have been confiscated from our earnings to support Socialist and collectivist schemes which are a dismal failure. White America is being blamed for unrest in the ghetto. How has this happened? We have no control of those billions once a tax is levied.

Congress has lost its power. The Constitution has been bypassed. Bureaus, agencies, boards and commissions control business and commerce. Uncle Sam is the fin-

ancier. How the bureaucratic empire has flourished.

A few of us have escaped this indoctrination and have held to the concepts of right and wrong even though we have been discredited in this endeavor. We hold that the money to build this great collectivist empire has come from our labor and taxes. And the impact on our daily lives has been tragic.

MRS. HENDRICKSON.
San Bruno.

Ornithology Lesson

Editor—Your staff ornithologist is blind as a bat. His little baggy-eyed dove is actually a low-skulking vulture (genus *Opportunus Sneakus*). What has been incorrectly identified as the Wallace Vulture is in fact a kind of venomous snake addicted to abrasive rhetoric and high places. As for the nondescript Rocky, anybody can see it's a wounded Pouty-Mouthed Coax me.

NAOMI POSTREL.
Palo Alto.

Editor—Bastian's great cartoon of March 21 asked what breed of bird Rocky was in our strange political aviary. Now we know—a chicken.

MIKE CALVERT.
San Francisco.

\$34 a Head?

Editor — As a taxpayer, I welcome the somewhat unusual demonstration of the effectiveness of what commonly is classified as research and development. The sudden, and apparently painless, death of 6000 sheep is a striking tribute to Army ingenuity and humanity at the Dugway Proving Ground.

I hope some enterprising reporter will dig out information on the amount of payment per head, which no doubt the ranchers will receive. If it's more than the \$34 the Army pays for accidental deaths in Vietnam, we can attribute it to domestic inflation.

LINCOLN FAIRLEY.
San Francisco.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

KMPX--What It's All About

Editor — The tribe of people who brought the new music to San Francisco on KMPX are on strike because the management has repeatedly interfered with the artistic freedom of those who have made this radio station a unique and beautiful experiment. When KMPX was on the brink of collapse eleven months ago, management gave Tom Donahue a no-risk chance to try his own thing. It caught on immediately and Donahue built a staff. Advertising volume increased to about ten times what it was in the station's old format, foreign language broadcasting.

Now management has seen fit to relieve Donahue as program director, fire others who created the concept of KMPX and hire replacements who have no familiarity with what we have been doing. The object is to replace each bearded and long-haired artist with a short-haired, clean-shaved functionary.

Although KMPX has been financially successful for some time, most of the salaries are far below the average in radio, in some cases below the subsistence level.

We ask only to be allowed to continue our work as we have done so well in the past. We have proven ourselves and we resent being replaced one by one. We also ask for reasonable wage increases to a decent level of income, consistent with the volume of advertising we have secured.

Management's answer to our strike has been to hire scab disc jockeys out of radio schools. Professionals have, with one exception, refused to cross the picket line. We have talked to these young people rather than try to restrain them. So far, 19 strike-breakers have decided to quit after hearing our grievances. But more keep coming to keep the station on the air, while the idea is on the street with the people who created it.

The support that has come from

all segments of the community has been overwhelming. We have received thousands of dollars from the benefits the artists have played for us. Many musical groups have demanded that the station not play their records during the strike. The advertisers, who have suspended their schedules for the duration, gave us a benefit dinner as a demonstration of their support. Volunteers have brought food and good cheer to the picket line (50 Green street) and offers of work to our strike headquarters (986-1597 or 989-6396). Both the daily newspapers and the underground press have provided thorough exposition of the issues at stake.

Much of the music we play was born in San Francisco and it is fitting that KMPX was the first radio station in the country devoted exclusively to playing it. KMPX's affiliate station, KPPC in the Los Angeles area, was the second such station and now a half-dozen stations across the country are following our lead. The staff of KPPC has joined us in the strike and the benefits and outpouring of public sympathy in Los Angeles have been as gratifying as in the Bay Area.

We have received several offers of help or affiliation with established unions but have so far been successful with the informal union we founded, the Amalgamated American Federation of International FM Workers of the World. This organization represents all departments of KMPX and KPPC, announcers, engineers, salesmen, bookkeepers and clerical workers.

We love these stations, not as a collection of tubes and turntables, but as the living idea of a loving group of people. We love our work and we are confident we will win this strike and will be back on the FM dial soon with the music of our time. As Sandy Darlington wrote in the San Francisco Express-Times: "This is folk music and we are the folk."

WHITNEY HARRIS.

San Francisco.

Planning for Tahoe

Editor — Governor Reagan's statement to the press regarding the recent action on the Tahoe Regional Agency bill is of great concern to our organization, inasmuch as his characterization of the action as "partisan and petty" would appear to be directed at organizations opposing adoption of the entire Nevada formula.

Since the organization I represent is one of those that opposes adoption of the Nevada formula, I feel impelled to state unequivocally that our position in no way reflects any motive which is either "partisan" or "petty."

Essential in our reasoning was the decision that the dual majority requirement holds the seed of divisiveness more than likely resulting in long-term delay and frustration.

We believe it is essential that the Regional Agency have a degree of authority regarding highway projects in the area. The Nevada law allows no such authority.

We find it completely unrealistic to suggest that the main purpose must be to complete the bi-state compact even in weak condition with a view to strengthening it later. Once approved in weak form the Regional Agency would be frozen for so many years that for all practical purposes it would be frozen permanently.

It seems to us unrealistic also to claim that failure to complete the compact now leaves Tahoe with no protection. The California law, already in effect, creates a regional agency encompassing counties and a city within the Tahoe area on our side of the bi-state lines, and excellent progress already is evident.

We can get on with planning and protection under our own regional agency, while continuing to negotiate for an agreement with Nevada which could be acceptable to both states.

MRS. RALPH A. REYNOLDS,
President,
Calif. Roadside Council.

San Francisco.

