

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

War on Trees

Editor — The House version of the Redwood National Park bill is another pathetic example of government inability to deal effectively with our environment.

If we can spend millions of dollars a day fighting an unjust war 12,000 miles away, why can't we provide ourselves with an ecologically adequate park? How in this democracy can a few hundred temporary lumbermen thwart the people's desire and need for a meaningful park? Government for the people? An unattained ideal.

DAVID DUNETTE.

Stockton

Chronicle of Doom

Editor — With the Democratic regimen in the driver's seat for 27 of the last 35 years, submerging us in red ink and in red blood let's take a look at just a few of their machinations.

I ask who:

Allowed the Pearl Harbor debacle despite our knowledge of the Japanese code?

Kowtowed to the Russians by granting them priority of entry into Berlin, halting our advance on Prague, permitting the partition of Poland, permitting occupation of Eastern Europe, allowing occupation of North Korea, the Kuriles and half of Sakhalin?

Denied help to Chang Kai-shek in his battles against Mao Tse-tung?

Put extreme pressure on the Netherlands to relinquish their Indonesian empire and then about-faced and helped France retain Indo-China?

First committed troops to combat in Vietnam?

Interfered in the domestic affairs of the Dominican Republic?

Made a fizzle of the Bay of Pigs?

Has slung billions of dollars of foreign aid all over this planet with little restraint; operated on a deficit budget for 27 years; raised the

National Debt to \$350 billion and has expended billions on domestic projects, many of which have yet to prove their worth?

Has favored labor, the greatest monopoly in the country, and has admonished business in the highly inflationary wage-price spiral?

Has pared the value of the dollar, depleted our gold supply, caused the imbalance of payments, and has driven us to the imminent deflation of our dollar?

Has initiated the many defense pacts which commit us to aid many puerile and irresponsible countries?

Is causing this great republic to lose face?

Tolerates the questionable decisions of our Supreme Court which bends over backward to favor the Communist and the criminal?

Has dragged this country into the worst political, military, economic and more mess than it has ever experienced?

There are many more questions. I think the presidential election of 1968 should be postponed until such time as the party and its megalomaniacal ideologies take immediate and drastic action to put their messy house in order before they pull out and pass the buck.

It is quite puzzling to me how the eminent Democratic party came to choose the mule as its party symbol: The mule, hybrid and sterile as it is, and sired by the ass!

RICHARD L. KAPSA.

Los Altos.

Clean Air Now

Editor — Sylvia Porter's June 12 column "What You Can Do About Air Pollution," makes several good statements about how ordinary citizens can act to get cleaner air faster. Along this line, we hasten to inform citizens of the Bay Area that a very active and steadily growing citizens' group is already at work in the ways she mentions.

Although based in Palo Alto,

the five-month-old Committee for Clean Air Now has members from each of the six counties in the Bay Area Air Pollution Control District. It issues informational and educational bulletins, speaks at meetings and hearings concerned with both stationary sources as well as with the monumental problem of motor vehicle pollution.

Dues are \$5 per year per family. The Committee's address is Box 111-61, Palo Alto 94306.

SARAH FELDNER,
Chairman.

Palo Alto.

Ghetto Center

Editor — We'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for your story June 24, "Ghetto Center's Challenge, Struggling for Community," which told of the activities of our center. It made a broader public aware of these activities.

We have received many calls through your office asking for more details. So that we may receive the calls directly, we are, the U.S.V.A. Community Center, 795 12th Street, West Oakland, Telephone: 451-8748.

L. LEONARD MOORE,
Director.

Oakland.

More Fill

Editor — Here we go again.

The morning paper outlined an entirely new ambitious plan for a gigantic bay fill, from the airport to Menlo Park, some 27 miles.

Beneath all this tinsel and sham, there is but one outstanding motive and that is for some more greedy developers to make more and more money.

If permission is granted to this group, then the East Bay, the Marin and the Vallejo shores, and the South bay will all demand equal rights, and then where has our beautiful bay gone?

SCOTT MORRISON

San Mateo

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Monday, July 1, 1968



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'Call Them Back'

Editor—Hearty congratulations on your editorial "Senate Move for a Troop Cutback" June 27.

Certainly it is high time that Americans are advised of our present commitment of 220,000 troops in Germany . . . This may be a staggering blow to a lot of your readers, sharing the burden of this enormous tax on our resources, abroad. Some of us who recall action in the Meuse-Argonne offensive, World War I, today may be asking: Why?

When are some members of our Congress going to awaken to the degree that they will think —and act! in terms of Americans —and America! —First?

LLOYD H. MacMORRAN

Oakland

Use of Firearms

Editor — A short time ago you published a letter from Dr. Leo Wagner who told of his growing up with and using guns, and who is now in favor of strong gun control legislation.

His letter reminded me that I too have led a life with guns, and in view of the events of the past few weeks and current agitation for strong anti-gun legislation, I'd like to tell of my "life with guns."

Like Dr. Wagner, at ten or so I was given a Daisy air rifle along with responsible parental instructions as to what I could shoot and what I could not. I learned at this point (my first practical lessons in conservation) that there was no open season on: song birds, neighbors' children, windows or street lights.

In my early teens I obtained my first .22 rifle as well as my first shotgun. I learned to hunt with them and as a result have a greater understanding of and interest in wildlife which shares this world with us.

Dr. Wagner's lament that there is too much Wyatt Earp and not enough Thoreau in our children's lives is most valid. However, I be-

lieve the toy manufacturers, television producers, and various other entertainment promoters should be chastened, not necessarily gun owners, one of which (myself) agrees with the Doctor on this point.

Wyatt Earp type myths generally are untrue anyway. The frontier was not that terrible place where neighbor shot neighbor at the drop of an adjective, where six guns were carried under every housewife's apron, or where murder was an everyday accepted way of life.

In point of fact, most of Nineteenth Century America where gun laws were non-existent and almost every family owned at least one gun was far less dangerous for the individual, generally speaking, than our present environment, so full of hate, distrust and violence for its own sake.

To damn American gun owners for the assassinations of President Kennedy, Dr. Martin Luther King, and Senator Robert Kennedy is truly irresponsible. As evidence mounts, it appears more and more that politically motivated conspirators set up and executed all of the crimes and I don't think those involved would have been influenced much by any gun abolition laws.

Guns are not the cause for the racial disorders confronting our urban areas. Restrictive or prohibitive gun laws would not disarm the Black Panthers or the militant right-wing activists. Such laws would probably disarm both Dr. Wagner and myself, but frankly, I'm not planning to shoot anyone, and I'll bet the good Doctor is not out gunning for anyone, so what would such legislation do but leave Dr. Wagner and myself unarmed while the nutty fringes black and white count their bullets and snap their bolts waiting for the big day.

Take a minute to imagine that the present trend of democratic collapse continues to the extent that civil government no longer can guarantee the maintenance of law and order. Some sort of martial order would be the result. If this should happen, would it not be

better that a populace, armed with unregistered weapons existed throughout the land to remind the ruling junta that democratic government must be restored? This was not possible in Greece last year.

As for the second amendment, if we think about the people who drafted that amendment we can at least surmise what they had in mind. They, I'm sure, were remembering a British rule of force which was overthrown, basically by rag tag colonists using guns normally stored behind the kitchen door. The militia in that day was not always well ordered, but with a little imagination and a lot of pride no doubt the drafters of the Second Amendment would think of it that way.

It is possible that the Doctor and I might have to reach behind our respective kitchen doors some day if the Minutemen, or the Panthers, or some U.S. Army colonels ever attempt to take over this land of ours.

KARL G. BROSING

Redwood City.

Funds for Liberty

Editor — To accept Lamar Hunt's offer to build a liberty torch on Alcatraz would be a travesty and an insult to our democratic and cosmopolitan city. If the Hunts are interested in liberty let them spend their money on justice for minority groups in Texas.

SHIRLEY DYE

San Francisco

Rage

Editor — A large number of the shootings in this country are a direct result of the availability of guns. Many "law abiding" citizens become murderers because a gun is at hand; the momentary rage ends with death instead of a thrown vase.

Robert Kennedy's death testifies that even political murder doesn't require a conspiracy. It requires only that an angered youth borrow his brother's gun.

RONALD GRIFFITHS

San Francisco.

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Tuesday, July 2, 1968

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Real Issues

Editor — Every day that our front pages are filled with clamor for gun controls is a day that attention is diverted from the big issues.

With time running out, we have, for example, a war going on that is destroying our economy. We have an election coming up in a little more than four months, and so far three of our most likely (or unlikely) candidates have given us nothing but meaningless doubletalk on what they would do about the war. Please, can't we get off this aimless diversionary trash long enough to seek solutions to the problems that our leaders would like to sweep under the rug?

M. J. VERCOE

Monterey

'Lame Duck'

Editor — Messrs. Nixon, Reagan and Murphy call themselves conservatives. They oppose "as a matter of principle" the filling by President Johnson of vacancies on the Supreme Court. He is, they say, a "lame duck" who should leave Supreme Court appointments to the new President and the new Senate.

Their position gives the lie on three points to their claim to be conservatives. First, the law of the land says only that it is the duty of the President to appoint judges of the Supreme Court with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Constitution does not say that Presidents lose their power as they near the end of a term. Second, The Federalist, the authoritative source for what the Founding Fathers had in mind when they wrote the Constitution, clearly states that the national courts were to be as far removed from the direct pressure of public opinion as would be compatible with a republican form of government. Thus, for example, the Founding Fathers did not provide for national judges to be elected. Finally, long-time tradition plainly shows that past Presidents of both parties filled

Supreme Court vacancies as they occurred, regardless of whether or not they came in a presidential election year. To name only two Presidents of impeccable conservative credentials, William Howard Taft appointed Mahlon Pitney to the Supreme Court in the election year of 1912, and in his "lame duck" year of 1932, Herbert Hoover appointed Benjamin Cardozo.

On this issue, as on others, Messrs. Nixon, Reagan and Murphy reveal themselves not as conservatives but as populists — they think that the will of the people is the sole definer of the good and the just. In disregard of the plain language of the Constitution, of the reasoning of the Federalist, and of long tradition, these men assert that the Supreme Court should follow the election returns. They urge a course that radically departs from the long established understanding of the need to keep the national courts as insulated as possible from the heat of partisan politics.

FAUNEIL J. RINN

San Jose

Those 'Who Do'

Editor — While I might heave a sigh of relief along with Charles McCabe if Edward Kennedy retired from public life, I cannot agree with Mr. McCabe's superstitious belief that the Kennedy family has become a kind of "hoodoo" in American life.

I would change the word "hoodoo" to "who do" and say that those "who do" the most leave themselves open for the most to happen to, both good and bad. Those of "who don't do" may live to be a hundred but there are fates worse than an assassin's bullet. There's knowing, if nothing worse, that you never looked any further than your own well being.

John Kennedy and Robert Kennedy may not have lived a full life in terms of years, but they knew the fullness of life perhaps better than the rest of us; that life is a precious thing which must measure up to its full potential; that

only when we hold sacred the well being of the rest of mankind can our lives have meaning.

Where would we be today if every American who had a dream for this country had retired from public life?

If Edward Kennedy is one of those "who do" for America, God save us from his retirement.

ANN MORRIS

Lafayette

Share It All

Editor — Thanks should go to the suburban communities that shared their police forces with the residents of Richmond. The sharing principle is a good one, and I suggest that these communities share some other things as well:

1. Educational opportunities— by sharing the high tax base of many of their school districts;
2. Housing opportunities— by breaking up patterns of discrimination in the sale, rental and financing of homes;
3. Job opportunities — by providing programs for the hardcore unemployed in new suburban industries;
4. Political power — by urging their representatives in Congress and the State Legislature to work for more effective anti-poverty programs.

Rioting and looting in one community endangers every community — but poverty, slums, unemployment and political alienation are every bit as dangerous. A community that feels it must be its brother's keeper must do more than help keep the lid on.

WILLIAM R. PETROCELLI

San Francisco

'They're His Talks'

Editor — Why shouldn't Eugene McCarthy go to Paris this summer? They're his peace talks, aren't they?

MARY ANN SALO

Comptche, Calif.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'Now, Tax Business'

Editor—Now that we householders have received our assessment notices from the Assessor, let our Board of Supervisors proceed with appropriate dispatch to levy the business tax as voted by us San Franciscans. . .

The need for a more equitable property tax structure affecting the city householder is most evident.

JOHN SCUDDER,

San Francisco.

Original Sin

Editor—Good news. God has revealed the true meaning of original sin. Exclusive ownership of land is original sin, and man commits original sin when he slices up his Mother Earth's "sweet flowing breast" in order to buy and sell the pieces.

Exclusive ownership of land is original sin, and "no trespassing" signs are the cause of war, racial strife and marital unhappiness. Those who doubt the truth of this revelation can test it easily: Put a Morning Star in the window of your home to indicate that it stands on land access to which is denied no one and watch what happens.

The first person the land calls will be Elijah bringing peace to your heart. Domestic life will improve rapidly, sex will become the healing ecstasy it "spoized" to be, and you will start living in the Kingdom of God. Try it and see. After all, what can you lose?

LOU GOTTLIEB,

Morning Star Ranch

Occidental.

Our Ugly Bay

Editor—Scott Morrison (Letters, July 1) cries about bay fill and asks "Where has our beautiful bay gone?"

I feel compelled to state that swamps, mud flats, burning rubbish, trash-strewn streams and an-

cient, poorly constructed buildings are far from being included in my concept of beauty.

I think Mr. Morrison might be better informed if he were to consider the fact that architects and engineers are by choice, education and state-granted obligation in a position to provide designed-in beauty for their projects. Our environment and that of other life forms can certainly be constructed in a manner that will help assure our evolutionary progress.

As one who has searched for and provided basic data for other technologists, I can state that much of the natural beauty is paid for in unhealthy, unhappy, and, in some cases, violence-approving people. Possibly Mr. Morrison finds this easier to live with than "tinsel," "sham," and "money."

FREDERICK D. HANSEN

Lakeport.

Money on the Line

Editor—City Planning Director Allan B. Jacobs' serious charges, published in *The Chronicle* June 28, that property insurance is generally unavailable in parts of San Francisco are simply not true. . . . He condemns an industry that, as much or more than any other group, has put its money on the line to protect and encourage the betterment of deteriorating areas in the nation's cities.

It is true, of course, that insurance companies, having incurred losses of some \$150 million from civil disorders during 1967 and so far in 1968 (with insignificant premium collected in advance) are not eager to insure properties in center-city areas that might be particularly subject to fire and looting. The fact is, however, that they continue to do so. It is the job of insurance agents and brokers to find insurance for their clients, even if they have to shop around. Their success can be measured by the following:

1. In one year in San Francisco, only 58 owners of residential

property have taken advantage of a voluntary insurance inspection plan which can make certain that no property is turned down for fire and extended coverage insurance without an inspection by the Pacific Fire Rating Bureau and a written explanation as to why a certain risk might be rejected. The effect is almost to guarantee such insurance for any insurable residential property.

2. Not a single written complaint by any merchant that he could not obtain fire and extended coverage on his business has been turned over to representatives of the insurance industry, even though neighborhood merchant leaders knew special attention would be given such a complaint. In a meeting in the Insurance Department a year and a half ago, merchant association leaders were provided a special form for such complaints by the American Insurance Association and the Insurance Brokers Association of California. None of these forms has been received by either insurance group.

Meantime, while others make general complaints, the insurance industry is almost completely alone in Washington supporting legislation which is vital to prevent further deterioration of parts of our cities. This legislation, based on recommendations of a special panel of the Kerner Commission, provides a system whereby any merchant or homeowner would be guaranteed basic insurance coverage on insurable property, as well as reduce the exposure of insurance companies to losses from civil disorders.

In short, the insurance industry is still doing its part in protecting our cities, even though the market may be tight for certain risks. And it is leading the support for legislation that will make long term insurance protection readily available.

MYLES SMITH,

Regional Director,

Insurance Information Institute.

San Francisco.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Killer Instinct?

Editor—Before everyone jumps on the bandwagon in condemning movies and television for portraying violence, toy guns for children, and cheap novels fraught with sadism, I wish they would consider what I believe to be a reasonable hypothesis. If there does exist a subconscious "killer instinct" in man as proposed by author Robert Ardrey (and others) in his book "African Genesis" and if the above-mentioned forms of entertainment are suddenly removed from our culture, the resulting effect of this could be disastrous. The situation then is one in which there are aggressive, violent drives present, but no longer any innocuous means through which they may find an outlet.

Perhaps these drives can be more constructively channeled than at present, but wouldn't it be more prudent to first discover how this can be done before censoring the existing channels?

JEFFREY A. THIGPEN

Stanford

Trouble on Telegraph

Editor—Last Saturday night the Berkeley police managed to add new dimensions to the often misused charge of "police brutality." That evening my husband and I took a couple visiting us from out of state on a tour of the Berkeley campus. We have no intention of participating in any demonstration. As we walked quietly toward Telegraph avenue on Durant street, a crowd gathered and police shot tear gas canisters into our midst. The police evidently wished the crowd to disperse, and we sought to comply, desiring both to cooperate and to avoid the tear gas.

The police made dispersal rather difficult, however. They stood at every exit, swinging nightsticks at anything that moved. Our eyes streaming with tears, we ran this cruel, illegal and unnecessary gantlet. In doing so, we were struck several times, despite our protests, and were lucky to get through with only minor injuries.

The area where we walked Saturday night was not under curfew nor were any audible orders to disperse given. If the police were in good faith performing their legitimate task of clearing the street, why did they box in the crowd and force it to leave through a maze of brandished nightsticks applied to everyone without regard to their resistance or cooperation? As a lawyer, I am unaware of any authority granted to the police to inflict random corporal punishment upon innocent citizens whom they supposedly serve. Last Saturday night the Berkeley police were no more a force for "law and order" than the most flagrant of the demonstrators.

SHARON WALTER BLASGEN
Oakland

Beach Scene

Editor—My husband & I took our family to Muir Beach one recent Saturday and found admission to the beach to be \$1 per car. We paid, parked and unloaded our picnic belongings and proceeded to the beach.

To our astonishment there were several men walking and sunbathing in the nude! We thought our eyes were deceiving us but they were not. We found a secluded spot and enjoyed the other attractions of the seashore.

We remarked of this incident to the young teen-agers collecting money as we departed. They have apparently been brainwashed by the nudes and unaware of laws against acts of this nature and told us that the beach is privately owned.

NAME WITHHELD.

Berkeley

Editor—I found the press coverage of the Berkeley situation these last several days utterly fantastic and hysterical. The facts seem to be that a perfectly normal event — for Berkeley — a basically harmless rally, that would have attracted no further attention if it were ignored — was met with contingency plans by the police,

who presumably were prepared for a major uprising.

Then, the incidents provoked by this action — and there is no shortage of emotional people in the world today — are used as justification for this absurd overreaction, presumably to cover up the initial mistake by the authorities.

The tragedy is, that Berkeley has been one of the most tolerant and beautiful places on earth — maybe lots of talk, but no really nasty action.

The political activists have their rights too — they are as much a part of the Berkeley scene as the hippies in San Francisco. I recall that Mayor Alioto and the press met a similar confrontation on Haight street last spring with much more sense — after a similar blustering overreaction.

ROBERT HERMANN

Berkeley.

Editor—The phenomenon of mass demonstration in a society that is as morally divided by issues like Vietnam and racial inequality as the United States is, is natural; however, we sacrifice our democratic values in attempting to stifle open demonstration and destroy a positive means where frustrated segments of the society can vent their grievances.

Before we are so quick to put down the demonstrators of Berkeley, might we examine a couple points looming in our most recent political tradition? The assassinations of men who had images that gave hope to the racially oppressed have shaken most of the public. Public consensus seems to be largely ignored by the convention delegates who select presidential nominees; the choice between Johnson-Goldwater in 1964 and Humphrey-Nixon in November is hardly consistent with the aspiration and expectation of most citizens in this country.

It seems we may be witnessing the effects of the decline of government by consent rather than the rise of anarchy.

LAWRENCE LAZORE.

San Francisco.

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Friday, July 5, 1968

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'A Disaster to San Francisco'

Following is a Letter to the Editor from Karl Kortum, director of the San Francisco Maritime Museum, taking issue with the proposed International Market Center at the foot of Telegraph Hill. The letter will be concluded in this space tomorrow.—Editor

Editor—Regarding the International Market Center, the five-block-long three-block-wide "megastructure" currently proposed as an awkward companion for Telegraph Hill:

It was stated in your newspaper last week that pressure by our organization P.O.W. (Protect Our Waterfront) "already has succeeded in causing the plans to be modified extensively into what Planning Director Allan B. Jacobs has referred to as 'a good plan.'"

This is a myth manufactured by the public relations department of the Market Center. It is intended to conceal the fact that this is not "a good plan" (as Mr. Jacobs says), but a bad plan.

The truth is that the International Market Center has got worse all spring instead of better.

It has got better in small ways. It has got worse in big ways.

Two eight-story buildings now stand next to the Embarcadero where earlier in the year there was one.

Our city planning director and the expensive public relations staff hired by the developers have simply chosen to emphasize small improvements and to ignore the large deterioration.

This deterioration amounts to a disaster to San Francisco and for the administration of our energetic and admirable mayor. On the other hand, the mayor has no one to blame but himself if he cannot extract the truth from his planning director.

The Market Center, as now modified, is damaging to San Francisco in the same large, harsh way that the Embarcadero Freeway is damaging

Despite the much heralded

"modifications" to the plans since the end of January, here is the result:

1. Telegraph Hill will be completely obscured for block after block as we drive along the Embarcadero, except for one fleeting glimpse over the top of a building on what used to be Greenwich street.

2. Views of the piers and ships will be blotted out from all except the top part of Telegraph Hill.

3. The building is still going to be constructed of concrete slabs. The architect has admitted that this "cheap" construction is necessary in order to keep the rents low for the acres of sofas with which it will be filled.

4. The frosting on this cake (and how much money the developers will put into it) gets more and more nebulous—I refer to the rooftop landscaping. The president of the International Market Center says on television that the developers will spend up to \$10 million for landscaping, although they "do not have to." However, the financial prospectus that they sent to an Eastern lending agency says that a maximum of \$1.8 million will be spent.

We should remember that these green hair pieces attached to the cement roof are ALL that San Francisco gets in return for our streets.

5. In regard to our streets: the administration intends to sell them to the developers who want to build the Market Center for \$4.82 a square foot, but before the ink is dry on this contract, the streets are worth \$30 a square foot to the developers for lending purposes. The City has just bought back a section of street from Wells Fargo Bank a few blocks from the Market Center for \$65 a square foot.

What this amounts to is that in a time of tax anguish, the city is handing the developers, already

some of the richest people in town, a \$5 million gift.

6. To continue to gull the people of San Francisco by telling them that the wind-swept roof of this eight-story building is going to be a great new public park is sophistry and deceit.

The wind-swept roof of the Golden Gateway (an area by the same architects) ONE STORY high, expensively landscaped, has been all but totally rejected by the public. No one goes there.

7. The Market Center is now planned to sit on an endless, monotonous garage covering almost 17 acres. This garage will not be underground; it will be at street level.

This garage (a nullification for the pedestrian in the area—there will be no more Street Fairs like Synanon's a week ago) replaces the pleasant variety of cobblestone streets and clipper ship warehouses which, deteriorated, presently stand there.

The City Planning Commission in other cities—even in hard-boiled, high-real-estate value New York—are preserving such areas and such buildings. They are put to new use (like Ghirardelli Square and the Cannery here) reflecting pride in the city's past and also the new competition between cities for the tourist trade. (The tourist industry in San Francisco brought in \$234 million last year, but still lags behind Southern California.)

In contrast to what more clever cities are doing, our City Planning Department is urging not only the filling of the streets with buildings, but the destruction of the Seawall Warehouse. It is in the way of the Market Center. This building is the only sizeable and significant link that we have with the Gold Rush. The Gold Rush was the world-shaking event that created San Francisco—"never since the Crusades was such a movement known."

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Monday, July 8, 1968



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

An Eight Story 'Chinese Wall'

The following concludes Karl Kortum's Letter to the Editor in opposition to the proposed International Market Center.—Editor

The politics in behalf of the International Market Center are such that it is impossible even to get a Gold Rush building, the Seawall Warehouse, designated as an historic monument.

8. To conceal the deadly monotony of the nearly 17-acre, street-level garage, some frosting has been recently added to the sides of the cake. This takes the form of a short row of shops on ONE side of ONE of the 8 blocks affected. In keeping with the shifting nature of the developers' plans, these shops may or may not be built, and if they are built they may or may not stay in business.

9. Despite these last-minute attempts to draw in a few more RETAIL shops, this is still overwhelmingly a WHOLESALE project, dedicated to the secrecy that has to prevail between wholesaler and the merchant buying from him. The exclusion of the public is a necessary evil.

The floor area of the project is, according to the architect, 3.1 million feet. The shop and restaurant areas to which the public will be admitted, according to the architect, are 200,000 feet. That means that after we yield up the streets where we presently have full access, it will be "Keep Out" to the public in all but 6 per cent of the Market Center.

You may or may not be able to exceed the 6 per cent if, for some reason, you want to go up on the roof, depending on the hours that the roof is open (and whether the wind is blowing) and whether the elevators are running or whether there are elevators or whether you have to climb stairs—never have so few guarantees and so few hard facts won so much at the public trough. The slurp sound is all but

unheard behind the thunderous jargon out of our Planning Department.

10. The plan calls for building between 20 per cent and 30 per cent of the project on what are now public streets.

What does San Francisco get in return?

Jobs? An enlightened development of the area would produce just as many, maybe more.

Taxes? The same applies. More money can be made from people than from chairs. The tourist, in one projection, is expected to bring \$460 million annually into this city by 1975.

No. What San Francisco will get in return for allowing the "fourth largest building in the world" to be jammed between Telegraph Hill and the Embarcadero is the guffaws of city planners throughout the nation for bad use of a great waterfront.

Lewis Mumford, the foremost expert on cities in the Nation, says that the International Market Center is a mistake. Here is his statement:

"Apart from the Bay itself, San Francisco's most precious asset is its hills; and any building up of the waterfront area that hides either the hills or the Bay should be prohibited by zoning; eight story buildings have no place in this low area and the sort of zoning that permits them is worthless. Certainly a megastructure of any kind, even if it were only one story high, would be a misuse of the facilities that the waterfront offers.

"All over the country more and more groups are opposing both public authorities and business interests in their efforts to substitute a characterless void, homogenized and tasteless, but profitable, for the living and growing city."

Worse will be the harvest of bitterness here at home when the eight-story "Chinese wall" starts to rise beside the Embarcadero and San Francisco realizes that it will not see Telegraph Hill any more.

That will be the beginning . . . however, there will be no end. Not when San Francisco gets its first hard look and realizes that it has given up the finest site in the city not for a palace, but for a cheaply constructed warehouse.

The hate and special passion that San Franciscans now direct against the Embarcadero Freeway will have a new focus.

It isn't worth it.

If you agree, write to Mayor Alioto. He is the chief supporter of the project at City Hall.

KARL KORTUM.

San Francisco.

Life in a Void

Editor—Much is made these days about America's young "dropping out" and forfeiting their role in this democracy. "They don't work, they don't vote, they slander our politicians, they desecrate our flag . . ."

Anyone who really thinks he has a voice in government can get quite an education from the events of the past few weeks. The man who is loved by no one other than party chiefs and the loser who refused to admit it have the nominations sewed up. Does it really matter if Richard Nixon or Hubert Humphrey is the next President? Should anyone be surprised if thousands of people are waking up every day to the utter nonsense of our politics and joining hands with those of us already in the void?

DAVID BERG.

San Francisco.

San Francisco Chronicle
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Tuesday, July 9, 1968



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Berkeley Postmortems

Editor—In a discussion of Berkeley's latest difficulties, Royce Brier makes the proper observation in his column of July 2 that "as for a 'change' of society, this can be done by a vote of the people, but not by Mr. Camejo's edicts."

This statement has an ironic ring to the 80 per cent or more of the Democratic voters who have voted in the primaries for a change of policy. What should these people do as they stand by and watch their wishes, so carefully expressed through prescribed constitutional channels, be so cynically flouted?

The people were not exercised about their right to hold an assembly on Telegraph avenue. What we did want is to stop the war in Vietnam. There can now be no doubt of this. And if the current efforts of the political potentates to prevent Senator McCarthy's nomination are successful, what happened in Berkeley may look like small stuff indeed.

JAMES FORSYTH

Hayward

Editor—From the news here and the paper and so on I was under the impression that the people at Berkeley were holding a harmless though illegal demonstration which was incidentally blocking traffic.

Given the above situation the police then over-reacted to the situation which was akin to any other summer gathering of students: panty raid, political speeches, or whatever . . .

I was surprised to see your editorial supporting the police actions which seem to me to be a historical first, an abuse of the police powers which led to riot and destruction that would not have resulted otherwise.

R. C. GIBSON.

San Francisco

Editor—As an "over 30" citizen of Berkeley, I deplore your front-page editorial of July 1. In

contrast with some of your past efforts, you do not even attempt to comprehend the aspirations of those youths you dismiss as a "hoodlum mob."

RICK WISE.

Berkeley.

Editor—Your editorial of July 2 regarding the events in Berkeley shows both a profound ignorance of what actually happened and a very marked bias.

DAVID NAWI.

Berkeley.

Redwood Park

Editor—I doubt very much that any "big tanned guy in the Sretson shaped into a Wyoming roll . . . standing on the grass at Stinson Beach" ever delivered, in the course of ordinary conversation, such a speech as Charles McCabe purportedly quotes in his Monday column.

But if there ever was such a guy, and if he really did say that "most of the redwoods in California are perfectly safe from both the salvationists (i.e. the Sierra Club) and the predators (i.e. the loggers); they belong to the Federal government which ain't about to give 'em to anyone" that guy was either a damned fool or damned liar.

What are the facts?

The original redwood stands in California covered approximately two million acres. Present ownership of these lands is as follows:

Federal Government: some 16,000 acres, including Muir Woods National Monument (some 500 acres), Northern Redwoods Purchase Unit (about 15,000 acres, a third of which has been logged), a few scattered stands in the Six Rivers National Forest totalling less than 1000 acres, and a few redwoods on the BLM lands, of no statistical significance.

California State Parks: 26 park units contain 110,128 acres of redwood lands, of which 50,715 acres is virgin timber.

Private Lands: The balance of

the two million acres, including an estimated 170,000 acres of virgin redwoods still unlogged.

McCabe's column could not have appeared at a worse time. The House of Representatives is expected to vote this week on establishment of a Redwood National Park, and many of his readers who might have urged their Congressmen to support a decent park may have been gulled by him out of doing so.

The House Interior Committee has reported a bill which would set up an abortion of a park of only 28,000 acres — less than the timber interests themselves had talked of offering. As a very minimum, the House should accept the Senate-approved plan for a 64,000-acre park, with the inclusion of the slope forests of Redwood Creek, the Lost Man and Little Lost Man Creek stands, as the best remnants than can and must be saved.

Any Chronicle reader who favors the establishment of a Redwood National Park worthy of the name should write his Congressman today in support of the Senate plan.

FRANCOIS LEYDET.

Belvedere.

Mr. Leydet is author of "The Last Redwoods" published by the Sierra Club.—Editor.

A Celebration

Editor—I am celebrating my Independence Day by packing my bag for my trip to California and by sending you this letter saying I am proud of the fact that I am going to vote for George Wallace for President.

DAVID T. SIMS.

Dallas, Texas.

'Contemptible'

Editor—Anything more contemptible than the "Recall Reagan" movement has not come to my notice in a lifetime of reading newspapers.

LILLIAN R. MORRIS.

Felton.

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THE VOICE OF THE WEST

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Wednesday, July 10, 1968

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Giant Step

Editor: Why do you take over the lead of the show we are taking to the world stage in this country?

If the U.S. ever be ready to take the really necessary giant step we will work with it. I don't by the way, before some of our cable channels have closed.

JANNA FLOREN

Los Angeles

Troops in Europe

Editor: I am convinced that the troops sent out by the American forces in Europe as demanded by General Marshall and Spilka had and therefore disagree with general Marshall's 17. General Marshall had to be aware

that the American troops in Germany are the most as many as needed to insure a settlement in the Soviet.

Therefore, I would like a number of experienced people of them of very experienced people of the number of people who are present in the military expertise in the Soviet. Spilka's victory succeeded. I think of the people who are needed in the area that formed and of the total future of the number of American foreign troops.

Among the former to be sure were a few better. I think every body was obsessed with a political project of international. I was aware of the present Soviet government and the interest in very others in Western Europe and there is also the reduction of Soviet and that strategy that is being carried out under with a change in policy regarding

For years from the principal argument of the German Communists has been that nothing in the world can prevent the evacuation of all American forces from Europe within one or two decades and that therefore Germany's only protection against future Soviet moves is a tie with her future de France. The conscience which these people would like their own interests to show is the need for the complete independence of Ger-

many in French leadership in leading to a United France and Anglo-American orientation. Every credible reduction of American forces in Germany supports these Communist tendencies. We might bring them off. We are certainly not obliged to enter into a prestige competition with de Gaulle in Germany or elsewhere if it were not for the insubstantial character of the idea that a Free United Europe could defend itself and for the fact that ultimately we would be called upon to fund the bill for the mortgage of this false dream.

American foreign policy must now make the difficult transition from the kind of globalism that it has known the United States in one of selective commitments. It is the most possible manner in the world. The psychological factors of those justifications which we have discovered the most in our immediate vicinity and where the American interests are indeed at stake.

JANNA FLOREN

Berkeley

No Wonder

Editor: Congress has just appropriated more than \$5 billion extra for the war in Vietnam and at the same time refused money for food storage for the poor here at home. If the only money we are having riots and protests in our country?

ELIZABETH N. WELLS

Watson

'Happy Birthday, U.S.'

Editor: Soviet Communist party chief Brezhnev chose the eve of the birthday of the United States to heap abuses on this country and called it many names. He predicted that the America of working people (by which he really meant of the Communists) will inevitably come.

This is another propaganda attack on the United States aimed to give aid to the rioting elements of this country and to fan more unrest to convince their own people

that the American society is no ever worse than theirs in order to justify them and to destroy the confidence of Americans in their own system.

As a nationalized citizen who has chosen this country of the free will and who had the experience of living in a society that is the that of the Soviet Red China. I wish to observe my fellow Americans that our society is infinitely superior to theirs and that Brezhnev's remarks are more than

ELIZABETH N. WELLS

Berkeley

No Smoking

Editor: Assuming that the No Smoking signs really do not make more difference than the health of the tobacco industry, I would like to see the U.S. cigarette industry to have some of the same signs.

Tobacco is legal in this country and probably will remain so. But because it is legal it might not be made. Those who smoke it will see how the industry has managed to be so successful. So even though the sign says "No Smoking" that the tobacco industry should be allowed radio and TV time to subvert more of our youth with a habit more to its benefit or efforts.

WALTER BRINTON, JR.
Los Angeles

Water Problem

Editor: Something must be done now about the State's water problem.

Doctors for the State must stop building and developing without advance planning for adequate water. The attitude seems to be one of developing and expanding first and then reaching farther and farther away for water. This must be stopped. It is not fair to the rest of the State or the entire Western United States.

The best development is one possible solution. However, it appears that our chances for such a plant in Southern California are almost gone. We need the plant.

GEORGE & SALLY WILF
Mountain View



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Bad Camping

Editor — Camping our way across the country to San Francisco city was climaxed by our disappointment in California campsites. In general, sites were primitive and limited and expensive compared with other States.

You need some active help on your state parks commission.

FLOYD J. AMUNDSON
Golden Valley, Minn.

A Frightening Bargain

Editor — I am mildly saddened by the thought that either Hubert Humphrey or Richard Nixon will probably be the next President of the United States. But what really frightens the pants off me is the possibility that one of these two men might have to make, in order to win the election, a "bargain" with George Wallace of Alabama.

If either the Democratic or Republican nominee were forced, in the event that the final choice for President goes into the House of Representatives, to accommodate Wallace and his dangerous, reactionary, backlash philosophies in order to win, America would take a great leap backward.

I feel it is the duty of both major parties to reach an agreement before the election, whereby they would vow to support, in the event that the election must be settled by the House, the candidate who receives the greatest number of popular votes on November 5.

This accord would effectively remove the need for the two candidates to bargain with Wallace, and would insure a more progressive government, in which continued movement might exist toward true equality and opportunity for all Americans.

RICHARD G. STOLL, JR.
Palo Alto

Eyesore

Editor — The unsightly condition of the Bay must be brought to the attention of more people. The once beautiful and picturesque

Bay has been transformed into an eyesore by filling, industrial pollution, and litter. The conditions are due to the irresponsible carelessness of the residents of most Bay Area communities.

These conditions need not have occurred and must be corrected immediately. Strict control must be put on the regulation of waste disposal at both city dumps and by industry. There are other means of disposing of waste besides filling the Bay. High fines must be imposed on persons who find it necessary to use the Bay and its shore as their garbage cans.

ROBERT HUNG,
MARK LEIBOWITZ

Berkeley

'Irrational'

Editor—I wonder if something has occurred to anyone else besides me the attempt to recall Governor Reagan appears very much to be the liberal version of "Impeach Earl Warren." Neither seems to be very rational.

DUANE C. HINDERS,

Palo Alto

Note From Tennessee

Editor — Mesmerized by propaganda that the South discriminates, Southern Negroes, mostly poor, have flooded to the cities of the North and East. Whites have fled to the suburbs to give their new neighbors elbow room. Now the propaganda is that the Negroes must be prepared, financially and culturally, to follow.

The assumption, by the welfare sociologists, that whites can personally improve their lot and that Negroes cannot is insulting to the Negro, and is a view not held by Southerners.

It is true that the uneducated poor, colored and white, cannot move to swank suburbs, adjacent to large cities but they could move to even better suburbs, farther out. If Government assistance is needed, better to furnish it to families living on the land, where gardens

can be tended and cows, chickens and food animals be raised.

This is a free country, of course, and no one should suggest that those in poverty ridden slums be forced to move, but it would be interesting to see the response to a government "back to the land" movement for those whose natural culture is related to the soil.

The man of the land, though poor, has dignity and some degree of independence. This is freedom and the climate where men of vision and leadership are born.

ROBERT C. BAKER

Eads, Tennessee

Will He Resign?

Editor — As a parent with children in California schools and as a teacher in a San Jose area high school and as a voter the following question has continually nagged at the back of my mind: when does the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Max Rafferty, plan to resign his State office?

I ask this question because I cannot understand how the man can continue to hold an office of trust which is supposed to be a non-political one and at the same time seek actively a political office. The time to have resigned was when Mr. Rafferty announced his candidacy for the office of Senator, but since he has not resigned as yet, I feel he should vacate the office of Superintendent at once to allow the office to be filled by an educator interested in educational matters and not someone concerned solely with the attainment of a political office.

What is to happen in November should Mr. Rafferty be unsuccessful in his bid for the Senate seat? Will he quietly return to his Sacramento office and continue as if he had not spoken out as a partisan political figure?

The scene depicted is offensive to me and cannot be tolerated much longer. The fate of California education has rested in his inept hands for too long.

HERMAN OSORIO

San Jose



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The North Waterfront Project

Editor — Thirty years ago I caught my first glimpse of San Francisco when I sailed into the harbor as a young merchant seaman. I saw a beautiful and exciting city, one which was later to become my permanent home and place of business.

But I also saw rotting and dilapidated buildings disfiguring what was to me the potentially vital North Waterfront area — and a dream began to formulate. After moving here I started to plan and work to find a way to restore this waterfront area to its former vigor.

In 1962 I began making commitments with property owners in the area for options on their lands and buildings. I was received with gratitude and enthusiasm by owners who, in most cases, felt they were saddled with properties from which they could never make a return. Hence the area's increasing dilapidation and obsolescence.

With my associates, I was able to gather enough land options to see that my dream was a working proposition. We had achieved a unique and magnificent assemblage of land. Such an assemblage called for a use worthy of the site — a use which would realize the site's beauty as well as being a benefit to its surroundings and the rest of San Francisco, the Bay Area, and indeed all of California and the West.

We investigated many plans and worked on them with four different prominent architectural firms. Piecemeal development was unthinkable; group parceling of the area failed the challenge, even as did the large hotel, apartment, and office building complex we at one time extensively researched and planned. We found none of these equal to the aesthetic and economic challenge inherent in the property. Urban planning had reached the stage where it was clear the cities of the future must develop areas in some large coordinated parcels, which then become prime generators of business and activity, not only to their neighboring areas, but to the city as a whole.

When Henry Adams, armed with studies he had initiated with Arthur D. Little and the Stanford Research Institute, made his proposal for an international market and trading center based on the most futuristic of marketing concepts, but harking back to the multi-activity of the bustling traditional market-place of the past, we began to realize that perhaps here was our answer.

We, too, undertook extensive research, traveling to all the market centers in the country and studying them closely. San Francisco's own merchandise mart, suffering from the difficulties of three different owner-operators, all out-of-towners, over the past four years, could offer us no guidance. But Dallas, Montreal, Los Angeles, Chicago, New York were all responding to the imperatives of marketing of the future. But none, we felt, could match what we could offer if our plans became reality. San Francisco could once again achieve her former pre-eminence as a trading center of the world.

We then approached one of the most distinguished architectural

and planning firms in the country, Wurster, Bernardi and Emmons, Inc., winners of close to 50 awards and honors including, in 1966, the highest award their peers, the American Institute of Architects, can give to a firm.

They, together with Lawrence Halprin and Associates as landscape architects, joined us in formulating and developing the designs and plans we presented to the public last January.

Since that time we have worked diligently with citizens groups and with the City Planning Department to modify our plans to their, and their Bolles Committee's recommendations. These were embodied in Planning Commission Resolution No. 6215 which spelled out specific design terms of reference. We believe that any reasonable person will agree that we have met the City's requirements and recommendations, which were passed unanimously by the Commission.

Our proposed \$100 million project, a total market complex, will include a home furnishings center, a decorative, commercial and institutional furnishings center, an international trade center, an apparel center and major hotel, together with numerous restaurants, boutiques, shops, exhibition halls and roof-top gardens. It will have more retail space than Ghirardelli Square and the Cannery combined. Approximately 1,889,000 square feet or 51 per cent of the project (excluding the totally public parking area for over 2000 cars) will be open and accessible to public and visitor use.

The eight-block area has been carefully integrated into the Telegraph Hill-waterfront section, complementing the scale, texture and quality of the Hill and reflecting a stepping down from Telegraph Hill to the water.

The project is broken into six buildings connected by landscaped terraces. Each building shows a specific difference of character, using varying set-backs, an extensive variety in window treatment, a range of warm and earthy umber tones in the pigment as well as differences in exterior texture materials.

There have been unknown criticisms of our proposed economical construction using concrete. During the last 10 years concrete has become the most flexible and dynamic of modern materials. New techniques have provided variety in forms, finishes and textures. This has been widely recognized by architects and designers alike.

The landscaping of roof areas so as to be a visual extension of the public areas of Telegraph Hill with suitable planting, walks, stairs or ramps, pools, fountains, public activity areas, and other amenities is guaranteed by posting of a bond to the city. We offer a plan hitherto unknown in San Francisco in size and range wherein the roof-tops will be used to their fullest potential.

Stairways, ramps and elevators located throughout the project will provide public access from street

level to the roof gardens. The whole roof-top plan, the great halls, and in fact the entire project, is dependent on street vacations being asked of the city.

It has been said that there will be no more street fairs like Synanon's. But William Crawford, director of Synanon Foundation Inc., said last week, "Leonard Cahn and his fellow businessmen have offered Synanon the Center's landscaped roof-top for next year's Synanon Street Scerie. This is a most generous offer, which we appreciate and are considering."

As well as meeting the design terms for "view-corridors from Telegraph Hill to the waterfront and Bay and the reverse," we will, in the roof gardens, provide new views for the public from vantage points at present inaccessible.

We can demonstrate with photographs how little existing views would be affected by the project, which in many cases will improve the outlook for Telegraph Hill residents.

From extensive traffic and parking studies carried out by Wilbur Smith & Associates and S. E. Onorato, Inc., there will be no street traffic or parking problems. Facilities and traffic flow for trucking needs have been carefully planned and can be controlled as to time and flux by its single management.

We reject recent suggestions to move the project to a different location. As the governor of the Western Division of the National Home Furnishings Representatives Association said recently, "This ambitious, enlightened plan can only be successfully achieved in this magnificent location. Other locations would drastically limit the success of the project, reduce the faith of industry leaders, and raise serious questions as to its viability. The location itself is an intrinsic part of this exciting plan."

To close I quote the National President of the American Institute of Architects, George E. Kasabaum: "The San Francisco International Market Center project looks like a very positive addition to San Francisco. This city has always appealed to me because of its magnificent setting and its human scale, and the architects are to be congratulated for creating a project that must be large to be feasible, but also a project that carries on this city's tradition by respecting both the site, and the scale of the individual. Good planning and good architecture on the appropriate site are a difficult combination to beat."

"In all the other important cities of this country, today's architects, and all others who are responsible for directing the changes in our urban areas have a serious problem of reaching the appropriate balance between what should be saved to preserve continuity, and what must be replaced to ensure vitality.

"The architects are to be congratulated on making a dynamic contribution to a dynamic city."

LEONARD CAHN

Executive Vice President

North Waterfront

Associates Inc.

San Francisco

Abe Mellinkoff's Morning

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Monday, July 15, 1968