

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Charge of the Brown Bag Brigade

Editor — I am one of the commuters your city wants to tax, just an ordinary citizen going to and fro for 35 lousy years. During that lengthy period, all I ever did in San Francisco (aside from working at my job) was to walk on the sidewalks and spend money in downtown stores, restaurants, and saloons. So how do you figure I owe you?

Even if I should happen to require the services of city personnel by dropping dead on the sidewalk, you'd be doing yourself a favor, not me.

D W ELDRIDGE

Occidental

Editor — I say let's take business out of San Francisco. I'd like to ask every commuter to boycott the stores and the restaurants in the city, and let's hit 'em where it hurts the most — in the pocketbook.

R P MILLER

San Rafael

Editor — If Mr. Alioto's tax takes only \$50 yearly from my pocket I can guarantee ten times that amount will be diverted away from San Francisco stores. If 186,000 commuters could avoid spending only \$500 each in San Francisco, it would amount to \$93 million in lost sales to San Francisco merchants. Would this concern Mr. Alioto?

RALPH W BURKE

Sunnyvale

Editor — The commuter tax is long overdue. People have found it far too easy to move away from community problems rather than share the responsibility for solving them.

Far too many businessmen belong to powerful local lobbies such as the Chamber of Commerce and Merchants' Associations which continually defeat programs for social reform and yet wouldn't think of raising their own families

under these conditions. People should live where they work. Maybe the commuter tax isn't so much the answer as a metropolitan government, but it is a start . . .

PATRICIA A. GOTHIER

Hayward

Editor — . . . Since this truly seems to be taxation without representation it will be obviously **more to my advantage** to begin bringing my lunch to work . . . I will no longer purchase clothes, gasoline, cosmetics or photography supplies on my lunch hour . . . For me alone the net loss to San Francisco will be at least \$825 a year . . .

CELIA N LYND

Berkeley

Editor — First we have to pay taxes for the privilege of owning our own home. Now we are asked to pay for the privilege of working in San Francisco.

It is estimated that each commuter spends \$1000 a year in San Francisco. Perhaps if the commuters were to boycott the city businesses Mayor Alioto would feel the impact of their contributions.

SHIRLEY STEEN

Moraga

Editor — Despite Mayor Alioto's effusive defense of his commuter's tax, he can't quite make it jibe with San Francisco's aura of a luxurious past. Somehow it bears that tinge of sadness about an elegant lady, suddenly bankrupt, trying to maintain her dignity and pride.

BONNIE MILLER

Oakland

Editor — . . . This tax will help San Francisco, keep it a better place to live for some and a better place to work for many

I do not feel we are asking

much, just some help in paying the enormous cost in having these people come into the city daily and work. I feel that it is time San Franciscans stop paying the entire fare for these people. Let them pay some of their own way . . .

ROGER SHACKETT

San Francisco

## Going, Going . . . ?

Editor — The Bay Conservation and Development Commission's recently released report is the result of three years of intensive study dedicated to preserving San Francisco Bay in some worthwhile dimension (About one third of the bay has already been filled.)

The reaction of those claiming to own submerged or tidelands who see BCDC's recommendations only as a threat to their anticipated profits is a disheartening, even despairing, commentary on these supposedly enlightened times.

To name a few, Leslie Salt Co., Westbay Associates (Rockefeller, Crocker Bank and Ideal Cement), Santa Fe Railroad, Bethlehem Steel, The Port of Oakland, Oakland Airport, and the municipalities of Emeryville, Albany, Corte Madera and, of all places, Mill Valley, that heartland of conservation, all condition their approval of BCDC on their plans for filling the bay not being restricted.

If the narrow interest, not to say greed, of the fill proponents is allowed to prevail the once great and beautiful San Francisco Bay will be reduced to a ship channel, an irrigation drain, and a stagnant backwater.

The Bay is beyond all measure our most valuable single asset. It is the irreplaceable heritage of all. It must not be sold as common real estate for the speculative profit of the few.

MRS. HAL McINTYRE

San Rafael

**San Francisco Chronicle**  
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Friday, August 16, 1968

THE MAN WHO

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Boycott

Editor—The August 1 cable to Houari Boumediene, President of Algeria, signed by the Executive Board of the AFL-CIO Maritime Committee, says that "The Board will take all available steps against the Algerian government, including the picketing of Algerian ships, and the boycotting of all Algerian products," unless the hijacked El Al plane "and/or its occupants are released immediately."

The cable calls the hijacking of the plane as a reprehensible act of piracy in violation of international law and humanitarian considerations. It is reported that the context of the cable was also endorsed by the International Transport Workers Federation.

Should not the Maritime Committee and the ITF, both affiliates of the AFL-CIO, exert their influence similarly against ships of all nations currently sending war materiel to North Vietnam? Would not such action make short order of the Vietnam war?

RHELPS PHELPS.

Jersey City, New Jersey.

## Help for BART

Editor—You carried a front page story August 13 by Jerry Burns reporting the adoption by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors of new taxes on business firms and commuters.

The story noted that before the measure was adopted the board pulled out a number of exemptions which had been written in by its Finance Committee for trucks, railroads, newspapers, radio and television stations, rental cars and automobile clubs. Supervisor Leo McCarthy was reported as pointing out that the auto clubs have "impeded construction of the Bay Area Rapid Transit System" by opposing BART financing efforts in Sacramento.

Your readers should know that the California State Automobile Association did not take part in any of the deliberations by the

Board of Supervisors or its Finance Committee concerning this new tax.

In regard to impeding the financing of BART we would like to point out that during the 1968 session of the Legislature, the Association supported Senate Bill 934 which would have permitted use of a portion of the sales tax to finance the BART deficit. . . . We had previously suggested several other alternative methods of financing the BART deficit. . . . We raised no objections when this amount was increased to \$180 million. Bay Bridge users are already committed to finance approximately 20 per cent of the entire cost of constructing BART. . . .

Executive Vice President.

NEAL GARRISON

San Francisco

## A Catholic's Dissent

Editor—As a Roman Catholic who has strongly dissented against the Pope's Encyclical, I feel I must reply to Mrs. Mock's letter of August 12.

There is absolutely no reason in all of Catholic tradition for assuming that the current papal encyclical or any past pronouncements on birth control are immutable and to further assume that this is "an age-old teaching of Christ" is a totally unfounded presumption. The current uproar in the church is, in fact, based on the idea that a change in the official teaching on birth control would be consistent with the Catholic idea of development of doctrine.

I am also deeply disturbed by Mrs. Mock's lack of understanding of the population problem. No matter how low birth rates are, unless they equal the death rates (or are lower than the death rates), population size will increase. While the imbalance of this ratio has not yet led to a crisis in the United States, such a crisis has been reached in Asia and South America. The data are overwhelming on this point and cannot be lightly disregarded as "the bogey of population explosion." We are

faced with world-wide famine in the very near future and no known agricultural techniques will provide enough food. This is especially true underdeveloped countries every 20 to 35 years.

DR. DENNIS R. PARNELL,

Dept. of Biological Sciences,  
Calif. State College.

Hayward.

## Baby Roulette

Editor—I see birth control as taking the Russian Roulette out of marriage. For there is more to it all than religious pronouncements and "sacredness of life."

People forget that parenthood is a lifetime job, like teacher, doctor, lawyer, etc., and as such demands the same consideration in fitness for the work.

Not all married people are meant to be or even want to be parents. With birth control they need not bring unwanted children into being to add to man's problems. We can thus have loving parents and more happy children, and maybe a happier world.

MRS. ROSABELLE HOWARD

San Francisco.

## Bring in the 'Buyer'

Editor—I have observed numerous arrests for prostitution over the past six months yet have failed to read of the male part of the duo arrested.

I think if Mayor Alioto and Chief Cahill really wish to get to the heart of things they will have to start bringing in the buyer along with the so-called bought.

MRS. ELAINE GARRETT

San Francisco.

## Why Bother?

Editor—Why do conventions spend so much time in carpentering a platform? When a party gets into power it pays not the slightest attention to this artificial wooden scaffold.

S. G. MORLEY

Berkeley.

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Mon., Aug. 19, 1968

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Extinction

Editor—Were the Cabinet proposals suggested by Eugene McCarthy (The Chronicle, August 16) not actually frightening, they would be laughable. A government composed of such individuals probably would have the foresight of an ostrich, the spine of an amoeba, the sincerity of a weasel, and hence, soon would be as extinct as a dodo.

THOMAS M. EDWARDS.  
San Francisco.

## Commute Tax

Editor—The taxpayers of San Francisco foot the bills for streets, lights, police protection, fire protection, emergency ambulance and doctor service to mention a few, so that the business houses of San Francisco can properly function, giving profitable employment to non-residents.

There is no reason for them not helping the taxpayers of San Francisco with at least a one per cent tax . . .

WALTER M. BEAM.  
San Francisco.

Editor . . . Instead of opposing the proposed commute tax, Marin residents should use it as a precedent for the following logical fund raising devices:

A county carpetbagger tax—one per cent of all savings deposits and loans, to be levied on Marin branches of banks headquartered in San Francisco;

Marin county drummer's license—three per cent of the county gross of all sales organizations headquartered in San Francisco and soliciting business in Marin;

A 10-cents per car county road, park and litter tax, to be collected from drivers of all autos registered in San Francisco entering Marin, so that the city dweller seeking fresh air may carry his "fair share" of county expenses;

A county attrition tax—10 per cent of all brokerage fees and premiums collected in the county by

San Francisco investment, title, real estate and insurance firms;

A Marin propaganda tax—one-cent per copy tax on issues of the self-alleged "Voice of the West" crossing into Marin county, to be collected by the Golden Gate Bridge Directors, such revenue to be used by the county to resist efforts to steal the bridge in order to finance transit systems aimed at expediting lambs to the shearing.

JAMES R. BURTON.  
San Rafael.

## A Time for Force

Editor—Now that the governments of Nigeria and Biafra have shown themselves unwilling or unable to work out a plan to permit relief to be brought to the hundreds of thousands of black people starving in Biafra, I believe that common humanity requires that the United States resort to such force as may be required to bring the necessities of life to those people.

Respect for the sovereignty of nations is an important principle. But these two governments, by their willingness to sacrifice the lives of so many people for whose welfare both claim responsibility, have lost the right to control the destinies of these starving subjects.

Our first move should be to approach the Russians about a joint operation, but should they refuse we should proceed on our own. Time does not permit going through the United Nations.

ALAN S. MAREMONT.  
San Francisco.

## Good Deed

Editor—Recently we visited your city, and in taking a recommended bus-cable car tour I carelessly left behind my pocketbook during one change. On a Sunday afternoon in a large city we were leaving the next day I had little hope of recovery. Nevertheless I did call the Muni office . . .

That same Sunday night I was called and told my purse had been

found. Not so much as a postage stamp had been removed.

I would like to publicly thank Mr. DeVore, the driver on the 22 run, who turned in my purse, and Mr. Bob Marsh, the dispatcher who remembered and went to extra trouble to call us before we left. We have spoken widely of them here in response to questions put to us about the inhabitants of the Haight-Ashbury, by friends who know we spent our holiday in San Francisco. The hippies are not really San Francisco, of course, but their prominence can over-emphasize their importance—until an incident like this happens and puts things back in perspective.

These gentlemen are your real representatives, and a credit to "everybody's favorite city."

MARCIA M. STILLE.  
Lakeland, Florida.

## The Real Failure

Editor — Willie Green can't stop laughing at the hippies for asking for welfare help. (Letters, August 14). He thought they could live on love and flower petals alone. Mr. Green betrays the bitter sarcasm of threatened America: he must laugh and condemn those things which do not coalesce within the limits of his personal values . . . And, while condemning hippies for supposedly forcing their way of life on him, Mr. Green admits that he has nothing against giving charity provided he has the right to impose his way of life on the recipients.

He concludes that the hippie movement has failed. That is not the issue. What is important is the failure of the Mr. Greens of America to realize that there are different ways of life and different types of people in this country—and that this country was founded to allow the greatest number of people the greatest amount of choice in the way they live their lives.

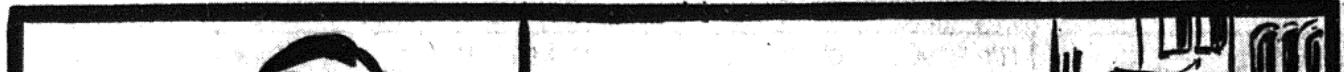
JOHN UNGARETTI.  
San Francisco.

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Tuesday, August 20, 1968



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## A Bunch of Cornballs

Editor — In times like this, when nations around the globe look to the United States for leadership, the three-ring circus atmosphere of the nominating conventions should be eliminated. The candidates for the most important, most powerful position on earth should not appear on TV as so many back-slapping, dancing singing cornballs. Also, most of us care little for personal introductions to their entire families. We're not voting for the whole tribe.

GEORGE MALSBARY

Berkeley

## Sandwiches for Joe

Editor — In all the current blather about boycotting San Francisco shops, stores, restaurants, etc., because of the proposed commuter tax, I have yet to hear of anyone threatening to quit his job or refusing to work in San Francisco.

FRANK C. MARTIN

San Francisco

Editor — How long could San Francisco function minus the services of the commuters and where and how would Mayor Alioto house all of us if we moved to San Francisco?

And another thing I do not go home and toll by my pool. I don't have one. I also dislike martinis intensely.

D. J. SINCLAIR

San Mateo

Editor — Between property taxes, surcharges, state tax, federal tax, F.I.C.A. and sales tax, I'm surprised that looking at the sunset or breathing air isn't taxable too. Maybe we can propose that next year.

V. KALBRUNNER

Concord

Editor — With the already enormous taxes I grudgingly pay,

I am no more eager than anyone else to add still another. However, I do feel strongly that it is only just that I contribute toward the costs of running the city where I work even though I do not live there. The presence of daytime bodies requires many added services which are costing the residents a disproportionate amount to support. I think it only fair that I should aid directly in paying for the street-sweepers and meter-maids whose jobs are made more necessary by the activities of thousands of daytime commuter-workers.

RUTH P. FLESHMAN

Mill Valley

## Fan Mail

Editor — Greetings, and thank you for a wonderful newspaper in all departments.

Today I write in praise of Lester Kinsolving, your religious reporter. He is truly ecumenical in spirit. His religious news is inspiring and easy to read each week.

JOSEPH I. WILSON

San Francisco

## Humanitarian Hubert

Editor — Too many people too young to know better or too old or forgetful to remember are unaware that many of the positive social, economic, and humanitarian government functions or institutions that are taken for granted were first conceived, supported, promoted, fought for, or expanded by Hubert H. Humphrey, day in and day out, over the last 25 years. There is no man in public life today who has done more — over the long hard pull, rather than in the short flashy burst — for the underprivileged and minorities, for extending the horizons of democracy to all facets of our national life, and for keeping our nation strong in the face of those elements that would tear it down.

The current treatment of Hubert Humphrey by those whose words speak so much more loudly than their deeds (e.g., Arthur

Schlesinger, Jr.) or whose opportunism has diffused their recollection (e.g., J. K. Galbraith) can only lead to Democratic disunity and the election of Richard Nixon and a G.O.P. Congress in November. Is this what those who claim to espouse the liberal cause really want?

L. H. GOLDICH

Palo Alto

## Anguish

Editor — Our local paper has published a story about your troubles with BART that has caused me more anguish than the nomination of Nixon and Whats-hisname.

You were dedicated and determined when you kept the cable cars in and the freeways out, so it cannot be too much of a hardship to dig up a grubby \$144 million to complete the job and thus preserve the beauty of the most fascinating city in the world. I would like to send a small contribution to help with the construction or to be used to plant eucalyptus trees and native flowers in that unsightly excavation I read about.

I have been fortunate to have seen quite a few of the renowned sites of the world but none can compare with the charm and loveliness of San Francisco. My credentials regarding this statement are impeccable because I am middle class, middle aged, and most of all, set in my ways. In fact, I wish I lived in your city.

LOIS K. KLUEGEL

Mahtomedi, Minnesota

## J. L. W.

Editor — Horrahs for "J. L. W." who frequently (but not frequently enough) does your film reviews.

Obviously, no one could begin to review most present-day Hollywood films without a terrific sense of humor. "J. L. W." has it — and also a joyful combination of intelligence, perceptivity, and intrepidity.

JANE N. HARVEY

San Francisco

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Wednesday, August 21, 1968



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Dirt

Editor: I have never seen a better airport than the San Francisco International Airport and I am delighted for your beautiful city.

Parking garages are covered with litter. The shrubs and ground cover around the garages and the (S.M.I.) are looked like they haven't been cleaned for a year.

Expect your city cars should be clean.

DELVINDE F. AM. IN

Marquette Heights

## Commuter Flop

Editor: We have the national etc. etc. the burden of the cost of extra traffic officers and vehicles, installation of traffic lights and signs, repairing of streets cracked and rutted by heavy traffic and maintenance of gas pumps at 12.00. Serrano and St. Mary's Serrano think they enjoy it then hand down it they don't like the car. wonder you let them get into it then you want to know and see what kind of wages they earn.

San Francisco is the magnet that is responsible for the existence of such places as Sausalito and Mill Valley and Folsom City, so they have etc. If the residents of these towns had wanted to live in any old city, why they would be living in the suburbs of Eugene or Madras.

J. C. EDWIN JR.

San Francisco

Editor: While it is commendable for a business the new business tax based on gross receipts is in some. The tax contained should be enough to drive workers and business from this fair city especially those in my own neighborhood. I live in and work in San Francisco as a matter of course.

That these two taxes will offer any relief to homeowners is presently false. Had there been a genuine need for additional taxes which there would not be if there were any effort at economy in the city government these taxes could

have been raised by an additional city sales tax that would have been paid by residents and commuters alike, and a business tax based on the square footage of each establishment.

These two taxes will require business and the city to hire so many new people to administer the programs that all benefits from the taxes will be spent on salaries for these new employees. A new tax will have to be invented to subsidize this new monster.

T. C. REACHEE

San Francisco

Editor: As a "foreign" wife living abroad in my husband's country for five years, I extolled the virtues of the American standard of living to the extent that we are now living here.

Consequently, we are experiencing the U.S. standard of Federal income tax, state income tax, social security, state income tax and California automobile tax on our car of state purchased car.

Since we are soon to become commuters, facing a high property tax an additional commuter tax just might be the ultimate living standard that will make me happy to become an expatriate once again.

LADIA K. ALIBI / ALIBI

San Francisco

## A Game of Dominos

Editor: The coming theory in Southeast Asia was projected as the compelling reason for our trading with Vietnam.

Now it's Thailand with up to 50,000 U.S. soldiers and advisers, most of them engaged in staging and sending flights into Vietnam. There are projecting the corrupt military oligarchy by training and carrying out anti-guerrilla warfare as a rising movement develops in response to our protective and their homegrown armies.

There is also our reckless game of percent going on in Cambodia.

Thus we have set up a self

perpetuating single handed game of dominos in Southeast Asia.

MATHILDA SELIGER

San Francisco

## Shock

Editor: After hearing so much about a Marshall Plan for cities for a more beautiful America and for free planning, it came as a shock to me to see how the built areas are the beautiful little piece of Van Ness avenue to pieces.

Why not make Van Ness avenue into a tree-lined Parisian boulevard? The same goes for the Embarcadero. Much could be done to make our city greener.

DELL STIMAN

San Francisco

## Stargazer

Editor: Quibbling over the amount of energy calculated and being of the difference assumed can only be a steller envelope one step higher on the scale than a yellow.

If quibblers would be required with their astronomical parts they would be seen to wonder myriad yellows which contain myriad stars of colors.

The stability of the galaxies as observable from earth comprise our own "galaxies" under unfortunate choice of words, and there is no reason to assume that this is the ultimate "pre-hygiene" of star fields.

TRACY W. FINE ESQ.

San Francisco

## 'I Hope He's Wrong'

Editor: I sincerely hope that Charles McCabe is proven as wrong in his diatribe against the Republican party as he was several years ago when his target was Will McCovey. This was in his edited days on The Chronicle when he was a sports commentator, not a political analyst.

MRS. JOYCE STEINER

Woodside

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Thursday, August 22, 1968

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## 'It's Their Nature'

Editor—Despite all the wails and threats, the brown baggers know as well as we do that they will continue to buy just as many clothes, just as many symphony tickets, just as many dinners and drink just as many lunches as they always have in our town. The nature of the suburbanite will make it so.

ROBERT O'DAY.

San Francisco

• • •  
Editor—As an attorney I have some reservations as to the legality of the recently passed commuter tax law. However, that is an issue for the courts to decide. As a commuter, I am in favor of commuters paying a fair share of the expenses San Francisco incurs on our behalf.

Taxes are the price of civilization. Count one commuter willing to pay for it.

R. T. McNAMAR

San Francisco

## The Story of Boots

Editor—I was surprised, but happy, to read your story August 13 about "The Tramp Poet of Oklahoma," Welborn Hope.

I met Welborn Hope, (better known in those days as Boots) in 1929. We became very good friends over the years, but I last saw him in 1948 and during the past 20 years I have thought of him many times and wondered what became of my good friend.

Boots and I never had anything in common as far as poetry was concerned, but he was a very kind and interesting person to talk with, and I enjoyed his company very much.

Welborn's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Hope, were very nice people, too. His father operated a drug store in Ada, Oklahoma for many years, and that is where I met Welborn and his parents. He lived with his parents until their death in the 1940s. That is when

my good friend became "The Tramp Poet of Oklahoma" and has operated as such, since then.

You did a very good job of describing Welborn's nature, jobs and travels...

N. N. GREGG

Cloverdale.

## 'Candle' Cabinet

Editor—It may be that my sense of humor is deficient, or that my fright buds are paralyzed by what has happened to the United States in the past few years — but I am baffled by Thomas Edwards' comments on Eugene McCarthy's proposed cabinet (Letters, August 20).

Mrs. Coretta King — the spine of an amoeba? Senator Fulbright — the sincerity of a weasel? Governor Rockefeller — extinct as a dodo? I will not attempt animal analogies to describe the group that has brought us to national despair and international shame; but compared to what we have, this "cabinet" shines like a candle in a dark place.

VIRGINIA NEFF.

San Francisco

## Auto Clubs and BART

Editor—The letter Monday from the California State Automobile Association's Executive Vice President, Neal Garrison, suggesting that the Association did not impede any legislation to aid the Bay Area Rapid Transit District is 95 per cent untrue. The CSAA joined other interests, committed to limiting State aid to highway construction only, in discouraging legislative attempts in Sacramento to help BART financially.

The following comments from Assemblyman John Foran, Chairman of the Assembly Transportation and Commerce Committee, supports this position.

"The Bay Area delegation to the Assembly worked long and hard during the 1968 session in attempting to formulate an acceptable solution for the BART

deficit. I think our efforts would have been successful if the session had not ended so unexpectedly. However, I am confident we will resolve this matter next month.

"Unfortunately the auto clubs helped thwart our attempts to assist BART. Every legislative proposal introduced by members of our delegation was actively opposed by the auto clubs. These proposals included bridge tolls, increased license fees, and the use of highway funds. The auto clubs have consistently opposed any measures that would use automobile related revenues to solve transportation problems. This, despite the fact that the automobile helps cause these problems...

"The auto clubs attempt to vindicate their obstructive activities by saying they sponsored a sales tax bill (SB 934) to save BART. However, this measure was by far the least acceptable of all proposed solutions.

"If the auto clubs are genuinely sincere in their statements that BART should be completed, I think it is incumbent upon them to work with the Bay Area delegation."

Mr. Garrison also erred badly when he stated that Bay Bridge toll money would "finance approximately 20 per cent of the entire cost of constructing BART." Bridge toll money will finance about 9.5 per cent of total BART construction, while the property taxpayers of San Francisco, Alameda and Contra Costa pay 90.5 per cent of the bill — around \$1.5 billion.

Most subscriber-members of the California State Automobile Association, including myself, believe that both comfortable public transportation and safe vehicular roadways are needed. It is safe to assume that the hostility of most auto club leadership earlier this year to State aid for regional rapid transit does not reflect general membership views.

LEO T. MCCARTHY  
Supervisor

San Francisco

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Friday, August 23, 1968



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Edict

Editor—Perhaps it is a form of blackmail, but it seems to me that one way for us to get out of the Vietnamese war sooner is for the United States government to lay down an edict.

Our government should withdraw support from the present South Vietnamese government if it persists in ignoring the "niceties of democracy." The recent sentencing of Truong Dinh Dzu, who placed second in last year's election, to five years of hard labor and the prosecution of other political figures and students for urging talks with the Viet Cong flouts the rules of democracy. Such suppression certainly does not provide an incentive for the Vietnamese to keep fighting for their government and thus it prolongs the war.

ARTHUR B. SIMON.

San Francisco.

## Same Problem

Editor—The Nigeria-Biafra problem is the same one Mr. Dulles and President Eisenhower accepted from the United Nations at Geneva.

The small countries of the world can no longer appeal to the United States for help nor should they expect our help. Any country receiving aid from the U.S. is a potential battlefield. Any step by us in Africa will mean the same type of propaganda against us we are now receiving world-wide because of our attempt to help Vietnam. The "escalation" process would be the same.

JANE RILEY

San Jose.

## Czech Crisis

Editor — James Reston's column August 21 on the Czech crisis is disgusting. The Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia is very much the same kind of thing as the American involvement in Vietnam and the calling up of the National Guard by Illinois' Governor to pacify the Democratic convention.

They all represent the organized use of violence against the weak and oppressed.

To say that these events must strengthen U.S. anti-communism la Nixon and pull the rug out from under U.S. doves is only to emphasize how much like the Russians we ourselves are.

The Soviet move has undoubtedly accelerated the growing alienation of their own young people and any move toward a hard line on the part of U.S. leaders can only cast themselves more firmly in the role of bullies Russian-style, than they already appear in the eyes of American youth.

ROBERT SIEMER

Berkeley.

Editor — Those of us who had seen encouraging ideological adjustments by the Soviet Union must now find this erased with the outrageous attack on the Czechs . . . The Dubcek regime is one duly elected and authorized by the Czech people and does not represent a revolutionary movement against an incumbent government

The complete disregard of the Soviets for the national integrity of Czechoslovakia presents a lesson in understanding that, I pray, will not soon be forgotten. Who, now, are the imperialist aggressors?

RICHARD N. HARRINGTON  
San Rafael.

Editor — Before we self-righteously bemoan the Soviet treatment of Czechoslovakia, we should consider a "log in our own eye."

Not so many years ago, an American "satellite," the Dominican Republic, undertook a program of "liberalization," only to be put down by the United States. Juan Bosch received a huge electoral mandate in the country's first free election in years and was overthrown by a military coup . . . When the Dominicans attempted to reinstate constitutional government under Bosch in 1965, the U.S. sent in troops to prevent this.

Our original rationalizations,

such as the protection of American lives, were as weak as the present Russian excuses for the Czech invasion. And also like the Russians today, we made a paranoid claim of a threat to the supremacy of our ideology from factions leaning to the other side. The behavior of the so-called great powers, whether capitalist or socialist, is remarkably similar.

C. TOM ROSS.

San Francisco.

## Sex in the Schools

Editor — I saw the KQED series on sex education and agree that it is an invasion of privacy. It is also made available to people not of normal intelligence. We have more sex education today than ever before and the results have been devastating. More illegitimate children, more permissive sex and more instability among our youth. If you think we have problems now, you haven't heard of problems.

Sex education is one thing, but that program is an insult to all children with normal intelligence

MIREILLE WOOD.

San Francisco.

Editor — . . . I was brought up to believe that sex is not a dirty, immoral thing, provided it is in its proper place. This is the way I think all children should be taught.

A mother who would teach her daughter that sex is filthy and horrid is almost as bad as the father who would teach his son that sex is something that is for his pleasure and that girls are around merely to exploit in search of that pleasure.

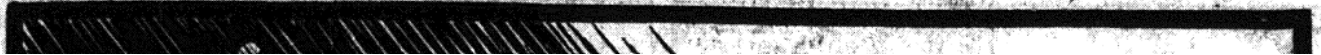
I haven't seen the KQED series, but if it follows the usual high quality programming, it is excellent. Sex education is something we have needed for a long time . . . And in case anyone's interested, I'm 16.

THOMAS J. KELLER.  
Rohnert Park.

**San Francisco Chronicle**  
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Monday, August 26, 1968



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## The 'It'

Editor—Mrs. Bodeen, executive secretary of POPE, as reported August 21, entered St. Paul into the record as being against sex education ("Let it not be mentioned among you"). She neglected to elaborate on the "it" referred to. Now, it may say something different in Mrs. Bodeen's Douay translation, but in our King James, St. Paul writes to the Ephesians: "But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be named among you . . ." Let those who equate sex education with fornication and uncleanness be admonished by James (likewise out of context): "And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body . . ."

GARETH S. PENN,  
MARY ANN PENN.

Berkeley.

## Thought for Today

Editor—Mayor Alioto is not thinking sharp about the commute tax problem. I suggest he reinstate an old San Francisco tradition which I remember was operating in full blast when I first arrived 48 years ago—pay toilets . . .

FRED L. JOHNSON.

Oakland

## Czech Tragedy

Editor—The ruthless Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia which has shocked the world will no doubt be exploited both by the Johnson Administration and the Republican nominee as proving how right the United States has been to resist communism in Vietnam.

Actually, the tragedy of Czechoslovakia proves precisely the opposite. It shows how our involvement in Vietnam has caused us to take our eyes off the really critical areas in the world and how it has paralyzed our ability to act where our vital interests are at stake.

Our ill-advised involvement in Vietnam has prevented us from

directing our attention to the two really dangerous areas of confrontation with the Soviet Union. It has prevented us from seeking an agreement for a mutual military withdrawal from Central Europe and for a general European security agreement which might have created a climate in which the thaw in the Communist imperium might have peacefully developed.

Our misadventure in Vietnam has prevented us from cooperating with the Soviet Union in halting the supply of arms to the turbulent Middle East. Detente in Europe and the Middle East should have been the twin objectives of American policy ever since the dual crises of 1956, when both East and West were flagrantly guilty of violating international law.

It is to be hoped that the indefensible Soviet action of Czechoslovakia will not confuse Americans as to the true nature of the issue before them in this election year. That issue remains the ending of the senseless war in Vietnam and the freeing of America's energies and resources for the works of peace at home and abroad.

JAMES P. WARBURG.

Greenwich, Conn.

Editor— . . . There is a great deal we can do to support Czechoslovakia without using armed force. We could cancel our treaties with the Soviet Union, such as the test ban treaty and the wheat deal of 1963. We could put restrictions of pro-Communist propaganda in the United States. That would be a real blow to the Soviet cause.

These things would be done if Goldwater were President. I trust my liberal friends are satisfied with their contribution to human misery

RAPHAEL SEALEY.

Berkeley

## Guns

Editor—Those gun nuts who argue that strict gun controls would take away firearms from

"respectable" citizens and put them in the hands of criminals should look at statistics.

Most murders are committed by so-called "respectable" people without criminal records at a time of passionate rage against persons whom they have known as friends, acquaintances, relatives or lovers. An available gun and an explosion of temperament can turn a "respectable" citizen into a criminal with the infinitesimal click it takes to pull a trigger.

It happens every day.

CHASE WEBB.

San Francisco.

• • •

Editor—The politically inspired antigun laws have no more chance of success than did the unlamented act designed to make America dry in the 1930s.

With our freedoms being eroded at every turn it behooves patriotic Americans of every race, creed and political stripe to thoughtfully examine this Hitler type move against the citizens' constitutional right to bear arms.

EDWIN B. RIVERS.

Hayward.

## That's Morality?

Editor—In reading our Governor's campaign comments regarding the key issues I noticed particularly "a return to morality." To what morality does the Governor refer? . . . Would it be the morality of rigid intolerance and legal absolutism, institutional racism, white supremacy, neglected ghettos, and segregated schools? Or is it the raping of our natural resources, industrial and agricultural slave labor and massive unemployment? Maybe he refers to the morality of spoon fed education, forgotten prisoners, mental patients and senior citizens? Is it possibly the morality of alcohol and tobacco, sexual ignorance, fear, and secrecy, the western shoot 'em up?

REV. CHARLES R. MOLINE,  
Temple Lutheran Church.  
San Francisco.

**San Francisco Chronicle**  
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38

Tuesday, August 27, 1968





# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## 'Open Those Coffers'

Editor—If the Pope is so concerned about the poor of South America why doesn't he open the coffers of the Vatican? The poor in Latin America have been kept in ignorance for centuries and are ripe for communism or whatever else that will at least feed them.

WALTER M. BEAM.

San Francisco.

## Rafferty Supporter

Editor — Your aggressive columnist Charles McCabe indicated my interest in Max Rafferty was because I had bought a "possible U.S. Senator," and seemed bothered if he would "stay bought." I do not recall having met Max Rafferty, the Republican nominee. Through reading in the newspapers quotes of his statements and other articles about him, I have admired Dr. Rafferty for many years. My part in the California senatorial primary lasted only four days. I asked acquaintances to call their friends in California suggesting they vote and get others to vote for Max Rafferty, and nearly all of them were delighted by my request.

Later, when I was trying to retire Rhodes Scholar Fulbright, the Arkansas Democrat, from the U.S. Senate by quoting his statements regarding the Communist problem, I took pride in mentioning the success for the freedom side in the California campaign.

My interest in Max Rafferty is that I believe he will be one of the most patriotic members in the Senate.

I do not anticipate, nor wish that his actions will help me financially.

H. L. HUNT

Dallas

## Nixon's the One

Editor—Richard Nixon is the only man in this country who is qualified to be our next President. He has spent years in preparing himself for the job through research, travel and actual experi-

ence. What other Republican can say the same?

Mr. Nixon has publicly stood by his beliefs, even at great cost to himself, and a man like this is far more to be trusted than one who will stand up and say anything he thinks will please the crowd.

We've surely had our fill, ad nauseam, of mealy-mouthed Democrats who will promise anything, however impossible. Now it's time to face facts: it's going to take a tough customer to guide our country through the next few years—one who will do what is right.

Right now the thing for every Republican to do is quit criticizing Mr. Nixon and Mr. Agnew and start working to get them elected. Otherwise, we'll all be stuck with more years of appeasement, give-away and world contempt.

CRYSTAL DAVIS.

Berkeley.

## Chicago, Chicago

Editor—The author of "Dowdly Chicago Primping Up" in The Chronicle August 23 shows a decided lack of knowledge concerning the city. As a native of Chicago I feel a great deal of pride in the city for several reasons.

First, it is without a doubt one of the world's most beautiful cities. The lakefront, the Magnificent Mile and the loop are all great sights. Chicago has long been a recognized center of architecture. The world's first skyscraper, many of the buildings of Frank Lloyd Wright, the famous Marina towers and several other rather spectacular buildings are all in Chicago. As a cultural center Chicago also rates quite high. The Art Institute's collection makes most others, including San Francisco's, look very sickly indeed.

Chicago has received undue attention in the area of crime. Crime is a major problem as it is all over America, but everyone in the great city is certainly not a criminal or a lover of brute force as implied. Chicago has one of the nation's finest and best integrated police

forces in the country . . . Few civil investigating organizations have done what the Chicago Crime Commission has been doing—publishing a list of those connected with the "mob" in the city . . . Truly Chicago is one of the few cities which has moved positively to correct its ills.

While it is true that mayor Daley is one of the few old time political bosses left in the country, it is equally true that he has done more to improve the city than anyone in past history.

ROBERT WALKER

Portola Valley.

## Hazard

Editor—Who is the dope responsible for the lane dividers on Franklin street? Franklin's one-way traffic drops from four to three lanes in the middle of the block between Clay and Sacramento with no warning whatsoever. How are you supposed to merge two lanes into one in the middle of the rush hour and avoid an accident—in the middle of the block yet?

A. ADAMS

San Francisco

## A Seed

Editor—Seeds, like thoughts, are cast into the winds. They are carried in God's had and planted in soil that is most suitable to them. They become roses with the incomparable beauty and delicacy of a rose. Weeds with the strength and tenacity of a weed. Redwoods with majestic grandeur that is timeless.

To you and I, humanity at large, I cast a thought to you and hope it finds fertile soil.

It took me almost 50 years to find goodness in humanity. The external world always told me I was bad. The seed of evil was planted, and like the weed it flourished, almost destroying the soil that gave it life.

Whoever you may be, I throw a seed to you—you are good.

ROBERT McADAM

San Jose

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Wednesday, August 28, 1968

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## A Censor-In

Editor — Steps have begun to correct society's problem of morals by providing family life education in our schools which will at the proper time and proper age teach sex in its proper place, and by backing the San Mateo Council's study of an ordinance which would regulate the entertainment of nightclubs with topless barmaids, etc.

Additional steps must now be taken to set up standards and to censor movies, advertisements, children's television programs, magazines and whatever else there is. All movie theaters must also be pressured into making identification mandatory for entrance to an adult movie. This business of selling sex must come to an end.

This is everyone's responsibility. Let our voices be heard and let censorship and standards begin!

BARBARA J. DIEHL

Burlingame.

## Shock in the Air

Editor — In a time of increasing concern about the pollution of the air in our cities, it is shocking to read that San Francisco is planning to replace some of its electric trolley coach lines with diesel buses. Even if they are cheaper to operate . . . it is only false economy which is achieved at the cost of further air pollution.

It should have become apparent that all agencies and departments of municipal government are interrelated and that all have a responsibility to make the city a desirable and healthy place in which to live. The task of moving people rapidly and comfortably from place to place is not unrelated to other important factors such as reducing noise levels and pure air.

Enlightened and farsighted planning would be in precisely the opposite direction from that contemplated, i.e., exploration of ways

to make more extensive use of electrically powered vehicles.

ARTHUR H. MICHEL.

Albany.

## 'How Could You?'

Editor — How could you write an editorial in favor of an increase in the Muni fare to 25 cents? . . . Your medieval proposal would make it even more difficult for the working people and the poor to enjoy the little money they have.

The increase tightens the noose around the ghetto, preventing its children from enjoying the things not located within the ghetto — the parks, ocean, zoo, bay . . .

At 50 cents a day some working people would be paying almost two weeks wages per year for transportation . . . Persons on welfare will have to deny their children the "luxury" of riding on the Muni in order to finance the necessary transportation for going to work and shopping . . .

You can be sure that if the Muni suddenly disappeared a free system would be established by businesses to make sure that their people got to where they could work or spend money.

JULIAN MARTIN.

San Francisco.

## Dynamic Duo

Editor . . . I believe I speak for the great majority of Giants fans in declaring that I am a dedicated "Russ 'n Lon" fan. Their credentials as baseball men par excellence are beyond reproach . . .

Those who would speak ill of our dynamic duo have evidently never had to suffer the agony of loyalty to a team whose announcers are less able than our own. Being a native Detroitter and a lifetime Tiger fan, I suffered for years with the mellifluous hysterics of Van Patrick, who had a good speaking voice but no self control. At World Series time we used to be subjected almost every year to the nasal inanities of Mel Allen.

There is little to choose between the tongue-tied bungling of Oakland's Al Helfer and the scratch-voiced hysterics of Harry Carey, who lives and dies with the Cardinals' every play.

There are several trades with Oakland which the Giants should consider: Ron Herbel for Lew Krausse, Hal Lanier for Ted Kubiak, and Bob Barton for Dick Green, for instance. Another good swap would be Bill Thompson for Monty Moore. But don't touch Russ and Lon.

ROY HICKS.

San Francisco.

## An Idea Not Dead

Editor . . . In most cases where an attempt is made to crush it by force, democratic communism, toward which Czechoslovakia has been moving, is not dead.

It may well, in fact, crop up again not only in countries now supposedly oriented toward communism but also in those with capitalistic systems.

There is great appeal after all in a combination of government by the people with its attendant freedoms of speech, belief, and so forth, production for use rather than for profit, and economic sharing from each according to his ability to each according to his need.

Being democratic, such a system would have to be voluntarily accepted by a majority, it could not be imposed by a minority.

TOM LAWRENCE.

Berkeley.

## Take Fifteen

Editor — If everyone thought 15 minutes a day about what he felt might make peace a closer planetary reality, and then wrote only one letter to implement the idea, more headway toward world unity would be made.

ALLEN GRIFFITHS.

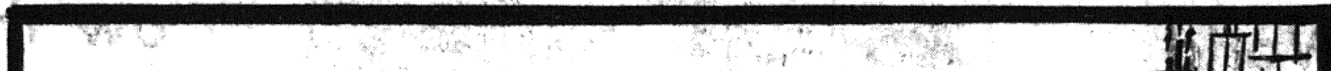
Oakland.

**San Francisco Chronicle**

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Thursday, August 29, 1968



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Pick Your City

Editor—Mayor Alioto's pronouncement against "police dog law enforcement" gives the green light to looters and criminals. . . . Such naive thoughts have gotten us into trouble in Vietnam. You don't tell the enemy what you are not going to do. Rather, you tell him that you will use whatever force necessary to maintain law and order, and let him worry and wonder about the limits of that force.

Mayors who are sympathetic to Alioto's ideas can only get their cities in trouble.

If you were a criminal looking for a territory would you choose Alioto's or Agnew's area?

HARVEY L. ROSE, M.D.

Sacramento.

## Soulmates

Editor—Russia's action in Czechoslovakia is an unforgiveable moral outrage and a costly diplomatic blunder. But the way for us to respond is not by unleashing John Connolly. We already have enough trigger happy people formulating American foreign policy.

The lesson of Czechoslovakia is this: the old methods and old alliances are obsolete. After all, it is other Communists who are the victims of Communist Russia's invasion. Exactly as other non Communists are victims of our Vietnam invasion.

Let us not paper over our own mistakes by gleefully pointing to Russia's mistakes.

Our hawks and Russia's hawks are soulmates. They see answers only in tanks, bombs and missiles. This alliance of hawks — Russia's and ours — will surely blow up the world. If the alliance of hawks prevails the only question left is the question of when, not if, their global gambling destroys them — and us.

We have spent many lives and more than \$900 billion since World War II. Does anyone feel more secure as a result of this massive outpouring of lives and money? Would anyone feel more

secure if we, and the Russians, spend hundreds of billions more to build anti-ballistic missiles?

There is only one way to preserve our freedom and mankind. There must be created a new and powerful alliance of purpose among people whose hangups and prejudices do not blind them. There must be a new and powerful alliance of people who see that military solutions to international problems guarantee the total destruction of humanity.

The anachronistic Soviet blunder in Czechoslovakia measures our own in Vietnam. The clear lesson of both is that the prevalent military paranoia must give way to common sense and the acceptance of new realities.

And our country should lead the way. By extricating quickly from Vietnam and by emphasizing the demilitarization of our foreign policy.

HAROLD WILLENS.

Los Angeles.

**The writer is national co-chairman of Business Executives Move for Vietnam Peace.—Editor.**

## The Man Who . . .

Editor—The principal cause of world turmoil is lack of food. The basic reason for lack of food is lack of adequate growing conditions, which usually means lack of available water. I alone hold the solution to this problem.

A circle of my friends has urged me to enter the presidential race on the basis that if I were elected I would be obliged to offer my solution to humanity, turning heart and hand away from all other compensation. After days of prayer and soul searching I have made my decision to run.

At long last, now and forever, the people of this country are to be given the opportunity either to end war, or to convince the rest of the world that by rejecting me we stand for evil and injustice.

I have invented a process that will enable the United States to send weightless water via air mail to underdeveloped food producing

regions. This fresh wholesome water may be processed at its source by a sophisticated method of dehydration mechanics, shipped in containers to parched lands, and made usable within minutes: just add tap water, as you would do to potatoes or dried prunes.

Laboratory tests show conclusively that my water, thus reconstituted, will grow anything except very large walnuts; this failure is due to the presence of a rust inhibitor in the concentrate.

Let me go on record to say, in conclusion, that it is my firm intention and my unshakable will to lose faith in the American political process if I don't get my way.

JOHN D. HERBERT JR.

San Francisco.

## Open the Primaries

Editor—Many Republicans are deeply distressed by the Governor's veto of the open primary bill. We feel we were disenfranchised in June by having no choice nor a write-in privilege at the presidential level.

There are many of us who do not agree with the policies of the opposition party but do believe we ought to be able to participate more fully on elections.

I hope those who feel as I do are not going to leave the party, but rather try to persuade their local Senators and Assemblymen to override the veto when they reconvene.

MRS. PETER SCHRAGER.

Hillsborough.

## By Any Other Name

Editor—The Russians moved into Czechoslovakia, rounded up the intellectuals, and rolled over demonstrators with their tanks.

George Wallace moved into California, expressed his hatred for "the smart folk," and said he will run over any demonstrators who lie in front of his car.

Question: if it looks like a Russian tank, acts like a Russian tank and thinks like a Russian tank, what is it? JAMES R. LUCAS.

Orinda.

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Friday, August 30, 1968

**Royce**

**On**