

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dirt

Editor—I have never seen a dirtier airport than the San Francisco International Airport and I am ashamed for your beautiful city.

Parking garages are covered with litter. The shrubs and ground cover around the garages and the terminal area looked like they hadn't been cleaned for a year.

Doesn't your city care about neatness?

GEORGE CARLIN.

Wilmette, Illinois.

Commuter Flap

Editor—It's time the commuters share the burden of the cost of extra traffic officers and vehicles, installation of traffic lights and signs, repaving of streets cracked and rutted by heavy traffic, and maintenance of such parks as Union Square and St. Mary's Square which they enjoy on their lunch hours. If they don't like the commuter tax let them get jobs in their own communities 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 Daly City as they now are. If the residents of these towns just wanted to live in any old suburb they would be living on the outskirts of Topeka or Wichita. . .

J. C. GLERUM, JR.

San Francisco.

Editor—While the commuter tax is obnoxious, the new business tax based on gross receipts is insane. The two combined should be enough to drive workers and businesses from this fair city—especially those in my own position. I live in and work in San Francisco as a matter of choice.

That these two taxes will offer any relief to homeowners is patently 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. S. PEACHEE.

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, surcharge tax, social security, State income tax, and California automobile tax on our out-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.

CAROL K. ADIB-ZADEH.

San Francisco.

A Game of Dominoes

Editor—The domino theory in Southeast Asia was projected as the compelling reason for our intruding into Vietnam.

Now it's Thailand, with up to 50,000 U.S. airmen and soldiers, most of them engaged in staging and raiding flights into Vietnam. Others are protecting 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 pursuit going on in Cambodia.

Thus we have set up a self-

perpetuating single handed game of dominoes 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 tree planting, it came as a shock to me to see how the bulldozers tore the beautiful little trees on Van Ness avenue to pieces. . .

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

FAY HYMAN.

San Francisco.

Stargazer

Editor—Quasars, emitting the amount of energy calculated, and being at the distance assumed, can only be a stellar envelope one step higher on the scale than a galaxy.

If quasars could be resolved into their constituent parts, they would be seen to contain myriad galaxies, which contain myriad stars, et cetera.

The totality of the galaxies observable from earth comprise our own "quasar" (most unfortunate choice of words), and there is no reason to assume that this is the ultimate "packaging" of star fields.

JACK WAYNE ESSEX.

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 Willie McCovey. This was in his salad 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

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 MALSBARLY.

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 loll 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 a joy 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 Whathisname.

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 cites 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