

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Eyewitness in London

Editor — I recently left San Francisco in order to take up a position in London, and write at this time with some observations and comments on the October 27 demonstrations in this city which might have, I think, some interest for San Francisco.

My office is next door to London School of Economics, the student center for the demonstration, and from its occupation on October 24 by the students I was able to follow events quite closely, visiting the school and talking with students and police. Despite the hysterical behavior of certain London newspapers I found the real atmosphere to be calm and generally peaceful. Very few people seemed to expect trouble, and fewer still welcomed the prospect. The police, in the days before the march, were in attendance but discreet and unobtrusive. There was no trouble.

On the day of the march I went down to the Embankment and saw the columns set off. Despite inflated estimates of crowd size printed in the London newspapers, I think that no more than 20,000 actually took part, perhaps as many spectators watched along the course of the march, which was attended in front and rear by small bodies of police. Single files of police also marched on each side of the columns, keeping pace. Bus loads of police reserves also kept company, using side streets and remaining almost painfully self-effacing. There were no incidents and no provocations.

From Trafalgar Square a body of militants broke away from the main route of the march, despite the pleas of the demonstration organizers, and proceeded up Haymarket and Regent Street toward the American Embassy in Grosvenor Square. Again the police were in attendance, front and rear and in single file along the sides of the column. Police buses again kept pace. I walked in front of the procession, which was moving at a fast pace, and got to Grosvenor Square ahead of the marchers.

The Square itself was packed with spectators. Large numbers of police blocked the approaches to the Embassy and also barred entrance to the central portion of the Square. The demonstrators, as a result of their rapid march, arrived in badly fragmented formations without any cohesion. Many were out of breath. I would estimate that there were less than 2000, again a smaller estimate than that of the newspapers. Again, few of the demonstrators seemed to want trouble. The police stopped the march short of the Embassy, interposing three lines of police with linked arms, backed by mounted police. Later several more lines of police were formed. I remained near the front of the crowd, on no occasion did I see any policeman respond to provocation. And I must say that individual demonstrators did offer some. Nor did I ever see a club or any other weapon or crowd suppressant used by the police. They simply blocked the further progress of the march, gave ground slowly when pressed, and then recovered lost ground with gentle but firm pressure. They made some forty arrests, there were some minor injuries and scuffles, but apparently most of the injuries were to the police themselves. Individually, the police simply confined themselves to maintaining their lines without retaliation.

I cannot commend too highly the conduct of the London Police and the British authorities in general. They allowed the demonstration to go forward and yet kept order admirably, under trying, but not desperate circumstances. That circumstances never did get desperate may largely be credited to police restraint and discipline.

I am sorry to say that based upon my observations of comparative police work in London and San Francisco, the San Francisco Police have a great deal to learn. I hope that they will. I am sure that they are able to do so.

DESMOND O'NEILL

London

Sports Note

Editor — On November 8 the Oakland Seals Ice Hockey team will play a game at the Cow Palace against the New York Rangers. What a great opportunity for the thousands of fans from San Francisco to San Jose to attract the attention of league officials to the fact that we want our Seals back on this side of the bay where they belong.

A capacity crowd that night, along with the continued determination of Mayor Alioto to build a new indoor sports arena here could well start the wheels in motion.

I thank you for the opportunity of expressing this hope, not only for myself but for the 12,000 plus other fans who remember well the exciting night a few years ago when the San Francisco Seals of the Western Hockey League won the Lester Patrick Trophy at the Cow Palace with a wild overtime victory over Seattle.

JOE PARETI

San Francisco

Note From a Refugee

Editor — Your editorial, October 25, "Flight to Freedom," was written not only with the usually excellent pen, but with a deep feeling for the thousands of newest immigrants from my native Czechoslovakia.

Once a refugee myself, I want to thank you sir for the warm sentiments expressed. You can be sure that the newcomers will become good American citizens, loving their new home, and not forgetting the country of their birth.

FELIX A. LENHART

Berkeley

Talking Turkey

Editor — William Henkelman (Letters, October 22) doesn't seem to have done his homework on the nomenclature of turkeys. Everyone knows that Hen Turkey stands for Henrietta, just as Tom Turkey stands for Tomas.

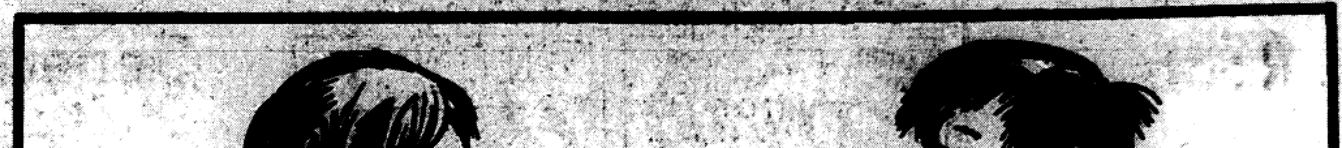
LEONARD KRIVONOS

San Bruno

San Francisco Chronicle

THE VOICE OF THE WEST

.....



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Bombing Halt

Editor—So now we find that the highly touted pre-election bombing halt was only a redeployment of the basic 450 air strikes a day we have carried on for years.

We also find Hanoi is willing to talk to all parties to end the war, but the Saigon regime holds up peace talks by refusing to talk to the NLF.

There is only one courageous and honorable course for our country to take now — cut out the political bull, tell the Saigon government to fight its own war, and get the hell out.

BRUCE BENNER.

San Francisco.

Editor — Who are you kidding? Your November 2 editorial says that North Vietnam has made a concession in agreeing to admit the South Vietnamese representative to the negotiation talks. The Saigon government is the legal government of South Vietnam and has been our ally for many years. The present war is a struggle between that government and the Hanoi regime. Then how can Hanoi possibly ignore Saigon?

Furthermore, in return for this recognition, we have agreed to recognize the Viet Cong, a group of rebels. We are actually putting the Saigon government at a par with the Viet Cong, which is a very significant concession on our part. We have made concessions, not Hanoi.

J. K. DOWE.

San Francisco.

Editor — Let us commend the President for his decision to stop the bombing of North Vietnam. At the same time we must ask Mr. Johnson why this important action was not taken sooner for the sake of hundreds of thousands of lives.

And there still remains the question of when we shall end the war.

PHILLIP J. FAIGHT.

San Rafael.

Editor — The timing of Lyndon Johnson's order to stop the bombing brands it for what it is: A professional politician's desperate attempt to salvage his party's

campaign and to put another Democrat in the White House . . .

E. N. EMMETT.

San Francisco.

Editor — What our country needed this Halloween was President Johnson sitting in the Pumpkin Patch with Charlie Brown in the hope that some "sincerity" would rub off.

SHIRLEY CHURCHFIELD.

Palo Alto.

Editor — Our President is to be commended for halting the bombing. It is the first step in bringing about peace. I suggest that a logical second step would be to release all political prisoners, our young men whose conscience or belief in a supreme being will not allow them to participate in the wanton destruction of Vietnam and the Vietnamese people. We free Americans condemn totalitarian governments that jail their political opponents. Our Federal prisons are a bitter testimony to the hypocrisy of our attitude.

LOUISE CLARK.

Lafayette.

'My Wife, the Stewardess'

Editor— I "live with" a United Airlines stewardess. In the privacy of our home I am married to her. The image of any girl "living with" a man is frowned upon, her married sister enjoys the comfort of a relationship sanctioned and honored by all Americans. I find United Airlines' unique rule that stewardesses cannot be married hypocritical, if not immoral.

United's current advertising campaign sings out "Take me along, if you love me." This is aimed directly at the husband who travels; the ad implies that the man is somehow less loving or is disinterested in his wife if he doesn't take her with him. United believes that marriage is so highly valued that reference to marriage in its ads will increase profits.

At the same time United requires its stewardesses to be unmarried . . . United has recently allowed a stocking manufacturer

to come out with an ad showing a uniformed stewardess, captioned "Eye the friendly legs of United." It would appear that the United stewardess is believed to be a better attraction for gaining customers not because of the better service she provides, but because she is eligible and available.

United approves of marriage for its customers, not for its stewardesses. I believe United is confused and that this confusion has resulted in a situation that has been degrading for its female cabin attendants, many of whom I know to be fine, upstanding women.

NAME WITHHELD.

Something for the Young

Editor — Have you considered the fantastic possibilities latent in the grand old Quartermaster Building on the west shore of Angel Island State Park?

This three-story structure, built of bricks brought around Cape Horn in the 1850s, has the potential for a simple yet magnificent Youth Hostel.

The upper floor could be a dormitory for young men, the second floor could provide sleeping quarters for young women, and the ground floor could house a kitchen, dining area and game room.

Here, in an incredibly beautiful setting, young men and women might learn that the sun doesn't rise and set in a chrome-plated automobile.

T. G. REPARD.

Sausalito.

Alcatraz Roulette?

Editor — I suggest that gambling in California be legalized and Alcatraz be turned into a casino. Everyone could go there and enjoy themselves instead of going to Reno and leaving their dollars there. They can be left here and put to good use.

Also, I recommend that the ferry boats be put back into operation so that the public could go to and from Alcatraz . . .

FRANCES C. FARRUGGIA.

San Francisco.

February 2, 1942

San Francisco Chronicle
THE VOICE OF THE WEST



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Garbage for Lassen

Editor — the transportation of San Francisco's garbage to Lassen county, in a site "good for 300 years," is not farsighted, except for Western Pacific. Do they plan on a 300-year contract? Will it take us that long to develop atomic reactors to burn the stuff?

GEORGE MALSARY.

Berkeley.

Fort Mason

Editor — If last Thursday's "second — and final — meeting on Fort Mason" is an example of the kind of planning our City Planning Commission is capable, one can understand the mistrust and cynicism of citizens toward their government.

The fact that only "more than 75 persons" met at Galileo High School to present views on the disposition of the Fort is more of a tribute to their dogged inquisitiveness than it is to any serious effort on the part of the Commission to attract more . . . It is doing little to allay the fears of many San Franciscans that a paper-clad case is being constructed to embellish a fait accompli.

I would remind the Commission that the Forts now belong to all the people of the United States, and upon release fall to the charge of all of the people of San Francisco, not just some of them. Previous statements made to the effect that "the land is too valuable for public use," including recreational and educational purposes, betray an unacceptable arrogance, the traces of an alien philosophy, and an inclination to assert economic nonsense. It should be evident to anyone remotely aware of contemporary urban problems and hopeful of their eventual resolution, that this land is too valuable for any but a public purpose.

It is appropriate that the meeting was held in Galileo High School, although the hour selected unfortunate — night covers all. A daylight visit, perhaps combined with a tour of the building, would have

revealed the deteriorating, inadequate, neglected, and, just plain dirty surroundings which San Franciscans have come to accept for the education of their youth. And, considering its location, one wonders whether the present Commission, sitting and planning in the early 1920s, would not have judged the present site of Galileo High School as "too valuable for public use."

In my opinion, the conversion of this public property to any private use, in whatever legalistic or cost-accounting guise, would constitute a betrayal of public trust.

EUGENE KRUSZYNESKI,
Associate Professor,
Dept. of Secondary Educ.
S.F. State College.

The Future of Man

Editor — The column by Clayton Fritchey in The Chronicle Sunday Punch November 3 should be food for thought for every rational, thinking citizen. Warfare is a relic of savagery and barbarism, the settling of disputes between different countries should not be in the control of the military, whose only method is killing people and destroying property. The only sane method is by arbitration, "thesis, antithesis, and synthesis."

If total control of warfare is relegated to the military, we could eventually find ourselves embroiled in a general nuclear fracas with the dire result of eliminating all human life on earth.

If such an event should happen, it will not make one iota of difference to nature; our planet earth would continue to spin in its orbit around the sun as if semi-stupid man with his self-dubbed importance, his gods, religions, fables and fallacies had never existed.

J. W. RUSSELL BOURNIER.
Aptos.

'Keep Black Courses'

Editor — If indeed our San Francisco State campus must decrease student enrollment in the Spring and release perhaps 60 faculty members as I heard the other

night on the news, then let us cut out the courses (students and faculty involved) other than those involved with basic social issues of our times. We cannot continue to put down a whole group of people who have waited long years for the limited courses and programs now in progress and those being developed. The black curricula, although receiving much publicity, are still a minority series of courses. There is no reason for dropping these courses; indeed, to do so now after such a long time of suppressing the education of black people in America is inhumane.

We can cut down on our own selected courses — we have plenty. (Perhaps if we do this, the current State administration will feel the squeeze a little — the squeeze of an ineffectual, no, a damaging control of the educational processes in our "public" colleges and universities.)

Our work to attempt honestly to help the black students coming into our colleges (and secondary and elementary schools) will not produce the feared violence from the majority of the black students that many of us may anticipate. More likely, the continued suppression of an entire group of people easily can produce the feared violence. I am sure that if people work with each other, they will not work against each other. We have yet to try this.

BARBARA M. POPE.

San Francisco.

Bring Back God

Editor — I have a solution to school problems.

Let us put God back in the schools. Start the school day with all heads bowed in a moment of silence to honor Our Father in Heaven.

Let us have a curriculum full of interesting projects. If a child is busy he is happy.

Let us procure the services of male teachers, an equal number of black and white.

VIRGINIA BURKE.

San Rafael.

San Francisco Chronicle
THE VOICE OF THE WEST

42

Thursday, November 7, 1968

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Fifth Amendment

Editor — The clamor for law and order in every part of the American community, from Nob Hill to the ghetto, demands and will receive attention. The election is over and it is the right and duty of Senator-Elect Alan Cranston and Representative-Elect William Mailliard to express the will and protect the persons of their constituents. It begins to appear probable that if they and their fellow officers do not soon find adequate solutions to the problems caused by violence we will drift more and more into a police state since this clamor will receive attention. While immediate emphasis must be given to the matter of eliminating injustice and other basic causes of violence and white-collar types of criminality, it would also seem to be true that there can be real improvement in the area of law enforcement which will assist in protecting the public and convicting the criminal without in any way moving toward fascism or destroying safeguards deserving protection.

When the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States was written, the Founding Fathers undoubtedly had in mind the torture procedures which had long been used to exact confessions from people who had been accused. Since that time we have seen every kind of brainwashing and third-degree inquisition used to exact confessions from people in an unfair manner. During the past decade the decisions of the United States Supreme Court have made it clear that it is useless for an accused person to have the right to remain silent when his case comes to trial in open court if a usable confession has been exacted from him prior to the day of trial. Therefore, the privileges and protections of the Fifth Amendment have been carried back to meaningful points at the time of arrest and in the police station by the enlightened decisions of the Court.

Now that these steps have been taken there is no longer any reason

why we should allow a person to plan his criminal acts with the shelter of the Fifth Amendment in mind, or to come into court and hide behind any part of the Constitution which we have designed to protect all of the people, rather than just criminal elements. Most of the Free World has thought it proper to require that a person charged with a crime shall stand in open court in the light and with the protection of the public gaze, in the presence of the press, with the guidance of counsel, in the presence of a judge, and then and there be required to explain his conduct. How this can or should be expressed and what protections may be required in a restatement of the Fifth Amendment, will obviously require most careful draftsmanship and may take some time.

I therefore call upon our Congressmen-elect to invoke immediate action by the Congress, through appropriate and public hearings, to restate the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution to provide, at least, the following:

No person shall be required or urged by any public officer to make any statement or answer any question after he is accused of a public offense, which statement or answer might tend to incriminate or degrade himself except as further stated in this Article;

If and when a person accused of a public offense shall be tried for that offense in an open and public trial in a proceeding presided over by a regularly appointed or elected judge and while the accused person is represented by counsel, that accused person may be required to take the witness stand and to answer all relevant questions which may be put to him upon the matter of the accusation;

In the event such accused person shall then fail to give a credible response to any such question, the finder of fact (jury or judge as the case may be) may draw all appropriate inferences therefrom.

SAMUEL W. GARDINER,
Judge, Department 4,
Superior Court, Marin Co.

Out of Our Hands

Editor—The election—and the campaign that opened over a year ago with Eugene McCarthy's startling declaration of his intention to run for the Presidency—is over. The American individual has no longer any hope of influencing — personally — the destiny of his people. An election campaign is always a very vital period for the nation. Politics is alive and tangible, in the public midst; you can touch it, shake hands with it, wear its buttons. If you are lucky you can corner it, tell it your views, and hear it agree with you. Politics rides down the street in open cars, waving, smiling idiotically, innocently promising the moon to the multitudes. It's crazy, it's blind, it places all the emphasis on personality and almost none on the issues, but it gives the otherwise passed-over individual a sense of his own importance that he hasn't known for the last four years and won't know again until the politicians need something else from him.

Wednesday morning the American public woke up tired and confused, and staggered over to the still-warm television set in hopes of prolonging Limbo until December. The news was disappointing. Someone (who? the Nation? certainly not the voter; one vote is nothing in 70 million) had made a decision. The holiday was over and America sighed, bored again, and buttered some toast. Business as usual. The Republic is out of our hands once more.

JANET COX

Palo Alto

Any Difference?

Editor — Will someone please explain to me the difference between the expression "pig" when used by militant Negroes in reference to policemen, and the expression "nigger" when used by militant policemen in reference to Negroes?

JOHN J. HOMMES.

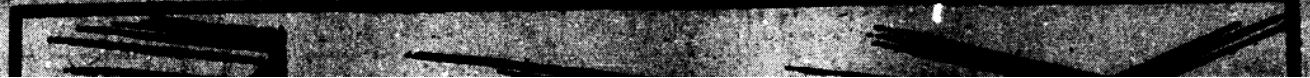
Rohnert Park.

San Francisco Chronicle

THE SPIRIT OF THE WEST

42

Friday, November 2, 1960



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Election Returns

Editor — It is often claimed that the election of a Republican to the White House causes depressions. This seems to be true as undoubtedly many millions of us are already depressed.

MELDON C. BELKNAP.

Concord.

• • •

Editor — Tuesday's returns — showing Southern California voting for Rafferty and Nixon while Northern California supported Cranston and Humphrey — carry onward the pattern of previous elections.

In view of this, why wouldn't both sections be happy to have California divided into two states? Then Southern Californians could elect their type of politician — the Raffertys, Reagans, George Murphys, Sam Yortys and Nixons — and we could choose our type — men like Kuchel, Cranston, George Christopher, Alioto, and Earl Warren.

R. J. HANSEN.

San Francisco.

'Alioto's Wrong'

Editor — Mayor Alioto has no right to intimidate the will of the voters, irrespective of any singular peculiarity in the mechanical process. I refer to the defeat of Proposition A and the requirement of a two-thirds majority for passage of a bond issue. In effect he is placing himself in the company of those who, if they don't like the law in question, violate it, rather than amend it by legislative process.

THOMAS M. EDWARDS.

San Francisco.

Problems at State

Editor — Your editorial of November 6 ("The Problems of Dr. Robert Smith) is a clear and concise statement of the complex situation at San Francisco State College. You are to be commended for your efforts to objectively in-

form the community at large on the real issue at the College.

That issue is not whether George Mason Murray ought to be suspended from his teaching duties because it is clear that his ability to communicate basic English to minority students is greatly outweighed by his outrageous threats to stability and personal safety of the campus community. The real question is whether a dedicated and effective college president who has secured the complete trust and confidence of all but a handful of students should be interfered with by a chancellor who enjoys no confidence from either the student body, faculty or academic senate.

This same chancellor knew or should have known that Dr. Smith had already undertaken immediate and thorough disciplinary procedures regarding Murray's actions. Dr. Smith proceeded in this fashion because he knows that Californians both in and out of the intellectual community passionately yearn for campus peace together with academic freedom. He was in the midst of pursuing this goal tenaciously and one can only hope that the chancellor's simplistic approach does not totally undermine all of Dr. Smith's efforts over the past five months.

GEORGE R. MOSCONE,
State Senator,
Tenth District.

San Francisco.

'God Bless Ike'

Editor — Being a Democrat I didn't put Nixon into office, but it's a good thing he won. For the next four years we'll have General Eisenhower as presidential mentor, the "power behind the throne."

If it is argued his own administration was nothing outstanding, let it be said that he profited by the mistakes he made then and as a result the general is the only remaining great American mind now extant. We need a military-minded leader anyway in this rebellious national atmosphere with its hippies, yuppies, and Black Panthers. Ike, through Richard, the pliable-hearted, will have a ready

answer for all of them. They will remain a minority group until they learn the meaning of common sense and its application to the genuine American way of life. God preserved Eisenhower from his heart attacks for no other reason.

I burn a candle of hope and gratitude, reverently meditating while Kate Smith sings "God Bless America."

CARLTON LEHNARD.

San Francisco.

Thank Father

Editor — A reader claims the solution to school problems is to "put God back in the schools" and to start the school day with all heads bowed "to honor Our Father in Heaven" (Letters, November 7).

It would be more appropriate if children were taught to give thanks to their hard-working fathers who labor to support a family. They might thank their mothers for the gift of love that brought them into the world in the first place and whose care nurtured them when they were helpless. They might thank the American system of public education that enables them to go to a free public school, and thank the citizens whose contributions in taxes made all this possible.

ARTHUR BURTON.

San Rafael.

'They're a Disgrace'

Editor — The strike and violence of a small percentage of the San Francisco State student body is deplorable. Those students are a disgrace to the school and to the people of this state:

But the greatest disgrace is the gutless majority at State. If only one person in each class had stood up and said "go to hell" the entire affair would have been aborted.

If students in any of the colleges are willing to be pushed around by a few agitators, they should drop out to make room for the man who is willing to stand up for his dignity and work for an education.

JOEL M. LEWIN, SGT. USAF.
Monterey.

ART'S GALLERY • Art Parties

Morning Report:

San Francisco Chronicle

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Leopard's Cruel Fate

Editor—During the past month while I have been in this country I have read and heard a good deal about the spotted-cat fur trade: are the leopard and cheetah of Africa in danger of going extinct? You may be interested in the comments of one who has lived and worked in East Africa for ten years.

The leopard and cheetah fur trade is a racket crude and cruel in the extreme. It is a casual plundering based on the needs of those who need nothing. One coat may require the lives of as many leopards as a single female could produce in a life time. A woman wearing leopard skin will not use it for nearly so many hours in a whole year as the original wearers. It hardly requires a modicum of imagination to see it as an act anti-social and tasteless to a degree: it is at bottom vulgar beyond conception.

I am in the course of writing a book on Leopard. I have spent the last few months collecting and collating material on leopard behavior and ecology. This work has entailed speaking to park personnel, staff at wildlife research centers, people engaged in the safari business for 20 years or more, anyone who is in a position to contribute authoritative material on the status of leopard and its prospects for survival.

The leopard is by nature a solitary and secretive animal; in the face of persecution it is a largely nocturnal creature as well. There is now only one area in East Africa where leopard can be seen in daylight with any degree of reliability, and that is a far cry from a few years back. Because it is now so little observed there are few persons who are prepared to make categorical statements about total leopard numbers, except that in wide areas they are already extinct. The numbers of leopard remaining is something on which no absolute data is available. But the overwhelming proportion of best opinion in East Africa is of the view

that the leopard is in significant danger.

While the leopard's secretive habits makes it difficult for anybody to pronounce definitely on its status, those same habits make it impossible to determine just how far it has already been driven toward the edge. The situation could arise without anyone being aware of it where the leopard had been reduced to such critical totals that it could not make a proper recovery. . . . The situation on the ground in East Africa is probably more serious than is represented by responsible opinion in the United States, but publicity by the World Wildlife Fund and other organizations has made the general situation plain. As leopard skins become harder to obtain, the pressures are building up on the cheetah, which is normally present in far fewer numbers than leopard. There is already an extensive trade in cheetah skins and it cannot but expand just as fast as the furrier and poacher alike can stimulate it.

Such is the situation in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. In other parts of eastern Africa there is little doubt but that in most areas the leopard has already been eliminated. These same regions still maintain a flourishing fur trade (one center alone exports a minimum of 8000 skins a year), by bringing in poached skins from over the border in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania where fair numbers of leopard are still holding out. Some authorities estimate that only one skin in a hundred finding its way onto an overseas market has been taken from a leopard in legal fashion. . . .

As leopard skins become harder to get, more expensive, hence more exclusive, the return becomes more attractive to the furrier as to the poacher. What is already a serious situation for the leopard is being aggravated, at an accelerated rate, toward a point where the final few leopard will be pursued all across the countryside because they are the most precious, the most sought after that ever lived. The final stages will be

the shortest and the swiftest; nobody knows how far they are already advanced.

The issue will be decided not so much in East Africa as in Europe and North America. It is pointless to say that the authorities of East Africa should do more to protect their endangered species themselves. The resources of these developing nations hardly run to policing an area one quarter the size of the United States against a form of contraband that can be concealed in an every-day manner. One wonders how much the resources of the U.S. wildlife services would achieve in such an area.

This is why legislation being brought before Congress — a Bill to restrict the importation of endangered species — amounts to such an important departure. Persons like Mr. Kaplan, the Fifth Avenue furrier who abandoned the selling of spotted-cat furs, may be responsible for far more constructive consequences than is at present apparent on this side of the Atlantic. Those in East Africa have a different perspective: one has to be far more than the odd one out to have anything to do with the whole business.

The leopard-skin fashion is not long for this world. Either it will fade out because of new fashion whims, or because of legislation, or because the leopard gives out before the fashion does. The time may not be too far off before travelers to East Africa find they have to do without the most spectacularly wild of the great cats. Africa will be a bit less Africa then.

Chicago. NORMAN MYERS.

A 'Pile of Junk'

Editor — One mistake was made with the Embarcadero Freeway at great expense. Now the Art Commission plans another . . . I must say that from the models the sculpture looks like a pile of junk stacked together.

MRS. A. A. HALL.
San Francisco.

the
In ne

on t
and
moo
wea

and
the
curv
The
000

F
tim
brig
wot
one

sun
Ma

ma
dar
gre
are
dia
mo
of
ma

my
tro
cyc
fec
An
atc
onc
hy
rel

stu
m
W
wh
an

San Francisco Chronicle

✕



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Future of Garbage

Editor — The idea of hauling San Francisco's garbage 365 miles to dump in a desert seems so fantastically inefficient and irrational that I can't help but question it.

Ours is one of the few countries in the world that has not utilized its garbage until recently, but now some of our cities are finding it is worth doing. For instance, Houston has a garbage processing plant that was built in 1967 and is already paying for itself.

Their refuse is about 75 per cent paper, much of which is sold to paper salvage dealers. There is about 22 per cent metal which is also removed and sold to metal salvage plants. About 3 per cent is usable plastic and glass. The rest is ground and processed into fertilizer which is sold commercially.

Admittedly a plant like this would cost a lot to build, but at least it would soon start making money, which the Lassen county desert will not.

BARBARA PACE.

Berkeley.

Another War?

Editor — As a mother of future soldiers it grieves me to see our country gradually falling into another Vietnam trap, namely, our involvement in the Middle East.

We are now sending 58 Phantom F-4 supersonic jet fighter-interceptors to Israel, which will undoubtedly draw us into another war but this time it could well be a third world war. The United States gives the Arab nations no choice but to bargain with the Soviets, and the Soviets, as anyone can tell you, are anxious for a foothold in that area. But once again, it is an arms race; once again, we are committing ourselves to one side and refusing to open our eyes to both sides as in Vietnam. Our foreign policy screams it is either black or white; there is no room for shades of compromise or tolerance for that matter.

Why should we risk another tragic war when it is clearly the duty of the United Nations Security Council to interfere in such

problems? If the draft call is for 26,000 Americans in January (the biggest since last summer) how can we sit back and accept further similar commitments in the Middle East?

JOAN MODIR.

Corte Madera.

White Tie Controversy

Editor — I was most interested in Lester Kinsolving's column of November 2 about the Church of God and the Gospel of Peanuts not only because I am a Peanuts man but also because my parents belonged to the Church of God.

I recall when I was very young, that the men wore no neckties and the women no "adornment." My parents' wedding picture shows my father with no tie. And to the day she died at the age of 73 my mother would not even wear her wedding ring. I can also recall a theological controversy in the church around 1920 about neckties; the conservatives stuck to the belief that ties were "adornment," were "worldly," hence sinful, but the liberals developed the notion that white ties were all right. The conservatives frowned and shook their heads at the sight of white ties in church, and there was much prayer and exchange of acidulous opinion in the pulpit. The controversy died out later with the complete victory of the liberals, and the white ties soon gave way to the same ties others were wearing.

LEE COE.

Berkeley.

Art and Republicans

Editor — Robert Commanday's column "Not Much Doubt Today for the Arts" November 3 leaves much doubt as to whether he has received the proper information regarding the activities of the California Arts Commission. In referring to the present California Arts Commission he makes the unkind statement that it has been packed by "Reagan's Republican Raiders" with "citizen Republicans." He also mentioned that the "Raiders" had cut the budget of the Commission.

This is not true as Governor

Reagan in effect recommended that the Commission receive a 20 per cent increase for the current fiscal year; however, due to the cutback of Federal funds, the increase resulted in only a net of about 10 to 20 per cent. It might be pointed out that while the State of New York works with a \$4,500,000 budget, California works with only a \$190,000 budget. However, within the framework of this small budget, the "citizen Republicans," under the leadership of the Governor, direct the grants of the Commission to organizations and projects which will have a state-wide impact and hopefully provide art for all the citizens of California.

The present Commission has extended its monthly meetings to two days. Also, many other meetings are held throughout the month in order to carry out the programs implemented by the Commission. These meetings are held in various cities throughout the State for the purpose of visiting and talking with community leaders.

In addition, all 15 members appointed by Governor Reagan to the Commission are devoted to the artistic growth of the State and each of the members has a wide background and interest in the arts.

HERBERT HOOVER, Member,
California Arts Commission,
San Francisco.

Needed—More Greenery

Editor — As beautiful as she is, San Francisco needs more green belts for all to enjoy. With every square foot of land being gobbled up for homes and offices, the argument over allowing private developers to build high-cost homes for a few versus converting the attractive grounds of Fort Mason into a public park should be settled with a resounding vote in favor of the public interests.

One hope for the future is that military reservations and cemeteries which now occupy choice land areas may be converted into park sites as monuments to peace and living memorials to the deceased.

RAYMOND AUKER.

Oakland.

San Francisco Chronicle

1854

F

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sloppy Highways

Editor—After returning from a tour through six of our South-central states, my husband and I were appalled at the highway litter in California.

Nowhere else did we see such trash on the roadsides — beer cans, bottles, papers, cartons, etc.

As a native of California, I am ashamed of our highway filth.

EUNICE M. BIGGS
San Rafael.

Other Voices

Editor — The stature of Richard Nixon and, to some extent, of Hubert Humphrey makes it apparent the office of President is less important to the future of America than that part of student dissent which is responsible, informed and creative — as much of it is.

We've called this a time of crisis and the major political parties have responded — almost defiantly — with stereotypical candidates whose greatest thrust was obtained from advertising. This is more terrifying than war, rioting, Wallace for democracy. I heard Senator Muskie say that people liked to be called to greatness and imply this approach made his candidacy appealing. If the American ideal is to survive, I suspect the leaders of this country will have to heed exhortations from below.

MICHAEL WHITT, M.D.
San Francisco

Revolt on Campus

Editor — This is one of the few times in our State people have not voted in favor of a bond for more high schools and colleges.

People are simply fed up with the willy-nilly stand our educators are taking with the groups that are preventing our children from getting an education. In this day and age when we haven't room in our state colleges for all the eligible students and thousands are being turned away, we allow a small minority to close San Francisco State College.

These students who disrupt our

schools should be expelled. If the militants are not satisfied with the school they attend and cannot get all their unreasonable demands, they can leave.

Furthermore, if this country is to go ahead we have to forget we are white or black but that we are all human beings who are going to work together to make this a better country.

ARNOLD AUSTIN.

Petaluma

Editor — It seems to me that everyone has lost sight of what is really happening at San Francisco State.

The one thing that is important in a place of learning is that a Governor and a Legislature, or a Board of Regents not interfere with the due process of law and that they not interject political considerations above the considerations of the students, teachers and the school.

FRANCES CHAPMAN.

Daly City.

When Police are 'Pigs'

Editor — John Hommes (Letters, November 8) rhetorically requested someone to explain to him "the difference between the expression 'pig' when used by militant Negroes in reference to policemen, and the expression 'nigger' when used by militant policemen in reference to Negroes." I'll try to answer his question.

Since a few police in most forces are non-white, and since militant whites have also called police "pigs," it seems unlikely militant Negroes mean the term to be a racial slur, which is what "nigger" is. Instead, the noun pig is not as important as the behavior a pig exhibits — "pig-like," gross physical force employed by police to suppress Negroes and other groups. It is the utter disdain for decency which is characteristic of a pig which has inspired the epithet.

Technically, it would only be "pig-like" policemen who would be called "pigs" and not all police.

While I believe most big-city

policemen are not "pigs," I believe too many of them are likely to behave in a "pig-like" manner in large groups when there is potential danger for the police, they are provoked deliberately, provoked by the different world view of the group they are confronting, they are ordered to be very aggressive, they know it would be difficult to later identify which ones were responsible for brutality, or when there is much noise and movement and emotions are more likely to get out of control.

As with militant Negroes, militant policemen (racially speaking) are a rather small minority. I believe that white police are no less prejudiced than the rest of the whites in America. Being a white myself I feel I am qualified to state that a lot more than a small minority of us are prejudiced.

I feel it is more important for the police to be carefully selected from the whites who have an unusual lack of prejudice than it is for Negroes to be tactful (and thus non-militant) in the choice of the words they use to describe ghetto justice.

HAL R. BURNS

San Francisco

Fillmore East

Editor — I'd like to clear up an apparent misunderstanding which I noticed in Royce Brier's column "The Revolution at Fillmore East" October 30. The Fillmore East is privately owned and managed by myself, not by "an aggregate of a dozen rock bands and radical theater groups." Further, the hippies referred to, actually members of a radical faction with a name you cannot print, were flatly refused their demands for exclusive use of Fillmore East "one night a week for the people." The Fillmore East will, however, continue to make its premises available to those of East Village concerned with constructive construction rather than wanton destruction.

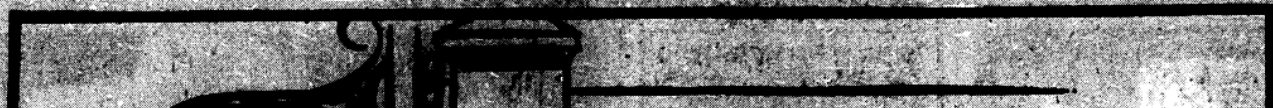
BILL GRAHAM, Producer,
Fillmore East and West

San Francisco

San Francisco Chronicle
THE VOICE OF THE WEST

46

Thursday, November 14, 1968



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A Look at Campus Turmoil

Editor—I am a student at San Francisco State and I am addressing my remarks about the Black Students Union in this fashion because there are no microphones open to me.

This whole scene at State depresses me. It all started when the BSU made ten demands and called for a strike. I agree with some of their demands, and I disagree with others. I can see the logic behind their strike. If they can incapacitate the college, they can force the administration to listen to what they have to say.

Before the strike was brought to this stage there were efforts made to bring the BSU and the administration to a negotiating table. The BSU declined. I can even see the logic behind this move. Talking takes time, and would ruin the momentum of the strike, the one thing that would force the administration to listen.

Well, the strike has finally reached its peak. There is no longer an S.F. State College. There is only a mass of empty buildings which represent nothing and which accomplish nothing. The BSU has managed to stop the machine.

Now that the machine has been stopped, why don't they try to fix it instead of ruin it. They can either destroy it and burn it down or they can talk to the administration and try to fix it.

At this stage of the game talking wastes neither time nor energy. If the protestors do not agree to negotiate I seriously question their motives.

PAUL GREENBERG

San Francisco

Editor—Your editorial "Students Were No Help" Tuesday was either foolish or malicious. The people of this state, with their glorious people's leaders Max Rafferty and Ronald Reagan, need no excuses to castrate the educational system of this state.

They fear knowledge — they fear the fact that their children

will learn how foolish they are, and the fact that their natural result of a real education is to challenge the basic assumptions and processes of American society. They fear youth — the presence of such an oversized "cult of youth" in adult middle-class society indicates the extreme anxiety most people feel about their advancing age — that anxiety is reflected in their continual resentment of the pleasures and goals of young people.

There are, at present, no universities in this state. There are no seats of higher learning, cradles of knowledge to be investigated and developed by scholars, without restrictions as to form or content. Instead there are overgrown basic training camps, whose duty is to train immoral functionaries and technocrats to produce the bombs and the germs and the weapons for this country's international mass murder; the businesses and defense industries of this state, who use by far and away the majority of the products of this university, both students and research, should be forced to spend the majority of their over-sized profits to support the university.

As a militant student, I do not want to see the universities closed. I want to see them become institutions of free inquiry and orderly social change. It is unfortunate, but true, that if orderly change is not accomplished immediately, then there will be riots, and destruction of property.

You, the press, and the politicians you patronize, have created the stupidity which defeated Proposition 3. It was a victory for you, not for militants. It was a victory for stupidity and reaction, not for social change or for freedom. You and your cohorts have helped to light a fire by suppressing the young and by suppressing the struggles of blacks and other minority groups to free themselves — don't be abashed when the flame is deposited on your doorstep.

DAVE KEMNITZER,

Berkeley.

Available

Editor — I read with interest Norman Myers' letter of November 11 on the status of leopard and cheetah in East Africa. I have known the author of the letter for some time and consider him a knowledgeable conservationist with an awareness of ecological and political factors in the future of Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania's greatest natural resource — wildlife.

Mr. Myers will be in San Francisco tomorrow and will stay through November 22, and I am hopeful that groups interested in hearing first hand what is happening will make an effort to have him on their programs. Arrangements may be made through the Sierra Club office here in Mills Tower.

JOHN S. FLANNERY,
Asst. to the President,
Sierra Club.

San Francisco.

'God Will Heal'

Editor—I fully agree with Virginia Bruke of San Rafael (Letters, November 8). Bring God back, not only in our schools but our churches and pulpits also.

The Bible tells us if we turn from our wicked ways God will heal our land.

L. FANNING.

Sonoma.

Scalpers

Editor—Poor Uncle Sam is getting pushed around by the Indians — they aren't paying their tax on the pine nuts they pick.

We spend billions on foreign aid and can't take care of our people here at home. We took the land from the Indians in the first place and I was always under the impression that the so-called treaties we signed with them gave them the right to hunt and fish any time of the year on their own property without a license.

At one time the Indians were accused of scalping. Now the shoe is on the other foot — we are trying to scalp the Indians.

W. J. BARRET.

San Bruno.

San Francisco Chronicle
THE VOICE OF THE WEST

40

Friday, November 15, 1940

