

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Best One

Editor — Mr. Humphrey conceded defeat so mildly as to make one wonder if he wanted the job in the first place, with its responsibilities, its heavy toll on the health and strength. It may be recalled that Adlai Stevenson had much the same attitude and practically admitted it. Mr. Nixon, on the contrary, plainly wanted to be President, went ahead and let nothing interfere, not even the stigma of previous defeat. The one who wants it most should get it because he will do the best job.

H. L. NEWMAN.

San Francisco.

Vive Banducci

Editor—Whereas the Chronicle periodically lauds various facets of the San Francisco entertainment world for meaningful contributions to the City, and,

Whereas the hungry i — operated in North Beach by Enrico Banducci since December, 1950, and now moved to a new, large (and still brick-walled) headquarters in Ghirardelli Square — has probably contributed to more pleasure for residents and tourists alike this 18-year period than any comparable institution, and;

Whereas Enrico Banducci has either discovered outright (the Limelighters, Mort Sahl, Shelley Berman, Bob Newhart, etc.) or presented when still unknown (Barbra Streisand, Bill Cosby, Mike Nichols and Elaine May, Jonathan Winters, Woody Allen, etc.) an incomparable array of talent for which early bookings, encouragement and advice were of inestimable value, and;

Whereas even non-performers have gone on to great things (Don Asher, now a successful novelist, was house pianist; Rudy Tellez, now Johnny Carson's producer, was a maitre d'), and;

Whereas more than 20 different artists and groups have recorded live at the i, and;

Whereas Banducci has not re-

ceived sufficient acknowledgment for his contributions to the San Francisco mystique and for the establishment of the West Coast as a major source and cultivator of talent,

Therefore I suggest that all honor and recognition be extended to probably the most famous night club in the country and the man who created it (who is probably the only non-SOB night club owner alive and has always put the performer's best interests ahead of the dollar).

RICHARD BIERCE.

San Francisco.

Price of Pride

Editor—How many South Vietnamese will be killed in air raids while President Thieu ponders the placement of nameplates in Paris?

How many South Vietnamese will be killed in mortar attacks while President Thieu decides which flags are to be flown in Paris?

How many South Vietnamese will be killed in cross-fire while President Thieu considers who will speak to whom at Paris?

JULIA YAFFEE.

Concord.

Quaking Prediction

Editor—Seismic activity, of high magnitude, can be expected along the San Andreas fault on November 21, "expert" opinion on unpredictability of earthquakes notwithstanding.

J. W. STRYKER.

Ajo, Arizona.

Unity and Diversity

Editor—Those who talk about bringing our "divided country together" overlook the workings of our complex democracy.

We are a nation with varied and deep-seated social and economic interests . . . The economic interests of the rich and poor clash. The interests of the races are divergent. The list is long.

In our democracy we have set up the principle of majority rule as

the best technique for adjusting these differences. They are not apt to be perfect solutions. They are at best conditional answers until better ones are found. And democracy's greatest safety valve is to allow citizens to continue to agitate for change even while a given law is in effect. To tolerate illegal means to bring about change is asking our country to commit political suicide, and these tactics must be resisted regardless of cost or sacrifices. If we fail, we are asking for a breakdown that will be ten times more difficult to control than the minority who now challenge us.

Our problem is not an unattainable uniformity, but is how to deal rationally with differences. We must, therefore, defend a policy that the three greatest principles of a democracy are majority rule, freedom of dissent and peaceful change: Any democracy that doesn't defend these principles doesn't deserve to last.

H. R. DOERING.

Berkeley.

A Dog's Life

Editor—This past month, while pursuing one of the supposedly more enjoyable pastimes of San Franciscans, which is strolling through the impressive residential and curio-shop districts of the city, I stumbled upon a city-wide problem: sidewalk dog deposits.

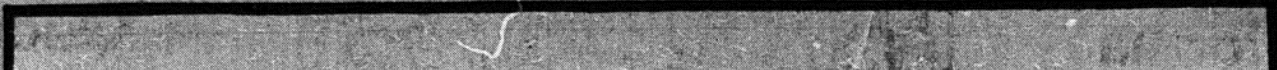
Something must be done about all that canine creativity.

I am not criticizing the existence of dogs in general, but just their end result. To help eliminate this nuisance, I propose the following corrective action: the dog owner, who lets her mongrel leave his message on the public walkways, must either remove the said nuisance as soon as possible or become liable for the same punishment as legally prescribed for those who litter the streets.

Such an ordinance, obviously, would get to the bottom of the matter and, hopefully, return the sidewalks to their rightful users.

DENNIS NEUFELD.

San Francisco.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Troubled College in a Troubled World

Editor — Approximately 17,000 students at San Francisco State College, myself included, have become the unfortunate victims of an asinine contretemps between a group of unreasonable, rude young men (the Black Students Union and Students for a Democratic Society) and a group of unreasonable, rude old men (the trustees and Chancellor Glenn S. Dumke).

Certainly George Murray's actions were imprudent, at best. His summary dismissal as an instructor and suspension as a graduate student were no less imprudent.

As a result, San Francisco State has become the battleground for an ideological war between the far left and the far right. The "only" casualties are the 17,000 students who are interested primarily in obtaining an education.

It is about time our elected officials get off their atrophied political rhetoric and do something about both elements in this ridiculous situation.

J. J. LAMB.

Mill Valley.

Editor — The interference of Chancellor Dumke in the issue of George Murray violates what little autonomy the campus had and drags education into the political arena . . . The faculty no less than the student body are now deprived of their rights.

The issue of "home rule" however must be separated from that of the SDS and the BSU.

As a student in a program (Urban Studies Department) vitally concerned with all the problems of the city I feel there is much work to be done to improve the situation of minority group students relative to the admissions policy and the curriculum offerings; however, it cannot be accomplished by tactics which resulted in the closing of the campus.

Because State is a commuter college and it is difficult for the majority to organize and peacefully protest the actions of the few, it is the job of our elected represent-

atives to exercise their responsibility in this situation. They must be allowed to handle those affairs (i.e., Murray) which are legitimately in their purview. This rule from above will only provoke more violence.

JACKIE HACKEL.

San Francisco.

Editor — The tragedy at State College has reached unbelievable proportions. The lack of ability and desire to compromise on all sides has reached the height of absurdity. The term "lack of communication" has become a cliché and a catch phrase, but it is unfortunately the most apt description of the situation on the campus in recent weeks.

The specifics of this issue have been clouded over by the larger and more nebulous issues of threats of violence and disagreement over tactics and strategy. It is unfortunate that in the confusion and excitement, many participants and observers mistake the tactics for the fundamental issue, and vice versa.

To my mind there is only one issue at stake; quality education for and by black people. That is, education of blacks, by blacks about the history, ideas and issues that are relevant to black people today. And it must become increasingly apparent to the white community that what is relevant to blacks, is by necessity relevant to whites as well. It would be an even greater tragedy however if what resulted from the crisis at State and the ensuing conferences and negotiations was a slipshod, carelessly thrown together package of quickie compromises, designed to pacify the blacks and other malcontents while simultaneously constructed to change nothing from the point of view of the administration and the legislature.

It happened at Berkeley in the 1964 FSM, and it can happen again. It must be understood that what can result from the kind of

pressure that is being brought to bear on State College will end up being acceptable in the short run but disastrous in the long run. In ten years there will be thousands more black and Third World students seeking higher education. They will no doubt be even more articulate about their own needs and desires than the blacks and other minority students are now. What is at stake now is a chance to really begin the planning and construction of a viable and relevant educational experience that will not only serve the students presently enrolled but their younger brothers and sisters who will be entering State in coming years.

If something is not begun now in the way of meaningful preparation for these students, the current crisis at State will look like child's play in comparison to what might come about in ten years. And then we will be over 30, and there will indeed be no reason for them to trust us.

KATHLEEN ALLISON.

San Francisco.

Editor—The taxpaying voters have sent the Students for a Democratic Society and other extremist campus groups a message loud and clear and also to the majority students and teachers who through fear or apathy refused to cast the rascals out.

In the defeat of Proposition 3, the voters indicated they were tired of packing junior's sandwiches and cooking for him too, and the politicians, many of whom were giving the public a spiel about a shortage of classrooms and facilities while hundreds of them were absent from classes busy picketing and raising hell and telling the voters that we were to support a philosophy of Mao and Marx because some blubbing radical said it was the thing to do whether the bulk of the public liked it or not.

E. E. BRUMFORT.

San Francisco.

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ART'S GALLERY

Morning Report:

San Francisco Chronicle
THE VOICE OF THE WEST

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Tuesday, November 19, 1968



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Roots of Campus Turmoil

Editor — We are students at San Francisco State College. Therefore we are among thousands of students who, because of the actions of a few, have not been able to attend classes.

We do not support the "student" strike that closed the campus for the following basic reasons:

First, students do not, as strikers claim, have the "right" to control "their" school. This issue involved here is, simply, one of property rights. The college is owned by the taxpayers of the State of California. Student money did not build that school, does not pay the salaries of the administration, faculty, or staff, and will not pay for the programs that these students "demand." Implicit in the cry for "student control" is the clause, "at the expense of 'the Establishment'." They are demanding, essentially, complete control of property which does not belong to them, and is therefore not theirs to control.

Second, we refuse to support a strike that advocates racism, under the slogan of "anti-racism." Racism is discrimination on the basis of race. Therefore, the demand that all black and Third World students be admitted, regardless of their qualifications, is racist. They are to be admitted because they are members of a racial minority, not because they have met the entrance requirements governing every other student admitted by the normal processes. To justify black racism on the basis that white racism is wrong is totally irrational. To advocate it under the banner of "anti-racism" is ludicrous. To demand that the taxpayers of the State of California provide the economic support for this kind of racism, regardless of the color involved, is criminal.

Third, we cannot support the tactics of the strike. Legitimate strikes operate by support of every member involved, but here, no vote of the student body was called, no majority stand was given, asked for, or wanted. The basis of the strike tactics is that of

brute force. The leaders knew they could not win by reason, and so chose the only alternatives. . . . The strike leaders also know that the administration will follow its usual policy of appeasement and compromise. Unfortunately, the administrators apparently do not know that appeasement only results in more demands and that compromise designed to please everyone can only result in pleasing no one. To give in to the strikers for the sake of temporary stability is to sign the future death warrant of the American educational system.

For almost two weeks we have been called "racist dogs" because we think that a man should be judged on the basis of his ability, not his skin color. We have been intimidated and threatened because we think we have the right to attend those classes in which we are enrolled. We have been condemned because we think that violence abrogates the rights of all individuals. We have had no classes to attend, because the demands of a few have negated the rights of all.

We ask that the campus be re-opened to accommodate those students who wish to continue their education at San Francisco State.

ELIZABETH E. REGISTER,
FRANCES BRISTOL,
JERROLD KARP,
CLAYTON A. SAWYER,
LINDA LEAS,
R. BELARDINELLI.

San Francisco.

Editor — As faculty members and sociologists and psychologists at San Francisco State College, we feel that unless the problems that lie beneath the current crisis on our campus are recognized and resolved, the education of all students is in danger. Most educational institutions in urban areas today are hampered because they are forced to operate under a structure designed to meet the needs of only one segment of the population. This structure is no

longer relevant at San Francisco State College or other colleges and universities in similar situations.

Because each State college in California is required to serve its local community, and because these communities vary, each of the State colleges must be given the autonomy flexibility and assurances of financial resources to meet their needs.

San Francisco is a city where a very high percentage of the students in the elementary and secondary schools are non-white. As with other colleges in our city, San Francisco State College must be sensitive to the immediate and long-range educational needs of minorities. Because of our cumbersome and unwieldy structure and our lack of resources, we have been shamefully slow in adapting to the needs of these groups. We have been so slow and frustrating in meeting their educational needs that we are now facing this current crisis.

For these reasons we feel that the current deliberations of the faculty are most important for the welfare and education of every student and every future student. We appeal to the people of California to support us in our efforts to make education relevant to all peoples in this state.

JOHN W. KINCH, Chairman,
Sociology Dept.,

STEPHEN S. RAUCH,
Chairman, Psychology Dept.

The letter was signed also by 44 members of both departments.—
Editor

The Shape of Things

Editor—With reference to R. J. Hansen's letter last week regarding the vote split between Northern and Southern California, it would seem that instead of Northern California being the habitual liberal voting area, the trend is confined, with limited exceptions, to isolated areas at opposite ends of the Bay bridge and shaped, significantly enough, like a dumb-bell.

W. M. CARPENTER.
San Carlos.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A Real Commie Plot

Editor — Where is the House Un-American Activities Committee now that we really need them? Why is Orange County now silent?

I have just read that producers plan to pack the weiner with 25 per cent chicken meat and still call it a hot dog. This calls for a response of righteous indignation from red-blooded Americans everywhere.

When they tinker with anything as American as the hot dog, it is clearly a Communist conspiracy.

CHASE WEBB.

San Francisco.

... My Love in Avalon

Editor — Save the Avalon. I want to dance. If the Board of Permit Appeals wants to sit at home and watch TV or shoot speed or balance sponges on their noses they have my blessing. I want to go to the Avalon.

The Avalon on a good night radiates pure joy — people feeling free — people freeing themselves — people dancing. There are not the big money big band vibrations of Bill Graham's Fillmore West — it was always more like partying.

So now the great plastic steamroller wants to do in the Family Dog. And since it's just a bunch of longhairs no sanity or justice will come — maybe. San Francisco has been the musician — let it remain.

Love,

JACK WOLF.

San Francisco.

It Can Add

Editor — Your editorial of November 7 regarding the handling of election results by the San Francisco Data Processing Center was admirable in its display of your customary color and zeal, while entirely void of information and common sense.

There is no space here to pick at details. It is the principles that should concern us.

The world has entered the computer age, and it is up to all of us to realize that the computer

is not a bete noire determined to take over our lives; it is a very pedestrian piece of equipment that, by virtue of its ability to do arithmetic more rapidly than you and I, stands to contribute a great deal to the common well-being if used with discretion.

It is anachronistic to suggest that computers are unsuited to handling large quantities of data. If criticism is to be levied, it should be against those who have the responsibility to use the machines effectively.

NAME WITHHELD.

Editor — The city counts votes at least as efficiently as your computer sets type, so what the hell are you complaining about?

L. E. STEVOCK.

San Francisco.

Careful Words

Editor — I really must take issue with Mrs. A. A. Hall on her assessment of the fountain planned for the Embarcadero Center (Letters, November 12). She says it looks like "junk stacked together." This is really not quite accurate. Rather careful choice of words is warranted in describing a project of such enormity. "Stacked" suggests some, however slight, degree of order.

ALBERT MEAKIN.

San Francisco.

The Raid at Moe's

Editor — I noticed from Friday's Chronicle that Moe's bookstore was raided for selling the "obscene" works of R. Cobb and R. Crumb (this definition provided by the Berkeley police). R. Cobb's work is unquestionably innocent of this charge, which in any case is a spurious one. His drawings are pungent, but in no way "obscene."

Having seen Zap Comix No. 2, I can inform your reporter that, although it includes somewhat graphic sexual scenes (and these are not always intrinsic to the narrative itself), Zap is a collection of highly relevant satire. Granted, it is not the type of satire found in

Mad magazine or the Harvard Lampoon. It is a much coarser satire, and it will shock and offend many. Zap is therefore a valuable publication.

A free press supposedly embraces all shades of satire, from Zap to the comparatively tame Mad. To limit the spectrum to only the "acceptable" or "least objectionable" magazines is to not only deny these artists their right to express themselves, but to deny the established a vigorous avant-garde. It has always been the "fringe" publications, like Zap, that have led the more acceptable ones into newer and more daring art forms. Without them, "acceptable" satire would sink into mediocrity.

I look forward to the day when we take the task of judging literature — a comic book is literature — away from the unfit, so that America's Moe's can sell whatever they choose. The Berkeley officers and their relatives do not have to visit Moe's Bookstore.

JAMES McLEAN.

Palo Alto.

Neglect in the Mission

Editor—Whenever someone proposes to construct a trade center or even an apartment building in the Northern part of San Francisco there is a great deal of publicity and pressure is exerted to make the project attractive to enhance San Francisco's reputation. Yet, someone permitted the White Front Stores to cover over Seals Stadium with one of the most hideous eyesores conceived. I am astonished that the architects chosen for the job were so ignorant of esthetic values and that this project was allowed by the Planning Commission.

San Francisco needs an Andre Mauriac to watch over the entire city. Why is the Mission not given the attention other parts of the city are given? The location is only five minutes from the heart of the city, yet the area is treated as though it were part of South San Francisco.

JEAN JOHNSON.

San Francisco.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mt. Garbage

Editor — That Lassen county desert where San Francisco is to have its garbage hauled may be remote to you and me, but I bet it's right next door to somebody, not to mention the flora and fauna.

Why don't they take all the trash and no-deposit bottles and torn up pavement to some place that has been ruthlessly leveled by the bulldozers, and build another Mt. Lassen there?

MALVINA REYNOLDS
Berkeley.

Darwin and Scripture

Editor — A recent Supreme Court decision in favor of the principles of Darwin's theory of evolution being taught in the schools of Arkansas

There never has been any conflict between Darwin's theories and a belief in an Almighty God. Darwin explained the "survival of the fittest" Neither he nor anyone else has explained the "arrival of the fittest" There are many theories of cosmic rays, etc., as causing such arrivals.

But actually, the "arrival of the fittest" substantiates a belief, under whatever formal religion, in an Almighty Benevolent God guiding the Universe. Darwin really explained how Divine Benevolence created a situation on earth where survival of His chosen arrivals occurred.

LOUIS ETS-HOKIN
San Francisco.

'No on the Fountain'

Editor — Trying hard to find some reason for the jumble entitled Vaillancourt's Fountain, it occurs to me that it might be a prophetic portrayal of the effect of the next earthquake, Richter 9, on the Embarcadero Freeway

J FRANCIS WARD, AIA.
San Francisco

• • •

Editor — Your editorial questioning the Embarcadero Fountain design merits the strong public

reaction which I hope it generates. I would like to make my contribution to it by stating categorically that the proposed fountain, judging from the photograph, looks like nothing more than a pile of junk which the Embarcadero itself would resemble if it were demolished.

It is quite obvious if you look at the photo that the pool in which this debris rests would be much more beautiful if the debris were eliminated. This would probably reduce the price from \$320,000 to \$20,000 and there are certainly many ways to spend \$300,000 that would profit society more in an environmental sense than this. The planting of trees, shrubs and flowers, with modest fountains, would do the job. In these times with the social problems we are facing, it is almost immoral to allocate that sum of money to something that is the opposite of peace, calm and esthetic satisfaction we are seeking

NATHANIEL A. OWINGS,
San Francisco.

'It Was Beautiful'

Editor — I have lived in the Haight-Ashbury for close to two years now and I worked in a clothing store in the Haight. A group of us have sat back and watched our community go through a lot of changes. We are tired of seeing the supposedly hippie-yippie or whatever ruining what started out to be a beautiful thing.

There are three major things that are killing us slowly — speed, heroin, downers. It brings us down to see straight people pointing at the vegetables, animals and, to be blunt, scum, and call them hippies and associate us with them. You may ask us to cut our hair and live decently. Well, we had a beautiful thing and we are going to do it again.

We're not hippies or yippies. We're what we started to be, the remains of the love generation. Must we go extinct because of these other people? The answer is no, because we're becoming stronger. There are more and more

people who are finding out that peace is where it's at, not riots or burning in the streets.

The Government may not be great, but the country itself is beautiful and when we remember that this is what we're fighting for we forget the mistakes of others.

We're not part of the others and we wish not to be associated with them.

PHILIP PATTERSON,
San Francisco.

Clarification

Editor — I am quoted in The Chronicle of November 16 as saying in an interview in my house the day before with a deputation from a group of demonstrators belonging to the Citizens for Irish Justice in San Francisco that "the Northern Ireland Government is equally as bad as the Smith Government in Rhodesia."

I fear that I was misquoted. I did not mention the Northern Ireland government, though I did refer to the Smith government in the context of certain remarks on the subject of discrimination and prejudice, racial or religious. I expressed myself as being against any form of discrimination or prejudice and drew attention to the fact that Prime Minister Wilson is currently seeking to ensure justice for the majority black population in Rhodesia and also justice for the Catholic minority in Northern Ireland. He has held talks on this matter recently with the Prime Minister of Northern Ireland following on the civil rights demonstrations in Northern Ireland.

J O. LLOYD,
H M Consul General,
British Consulate General
San Francisco.

Clean Air For Sale

Editor — I'm convinced that if a fast buck could be made from clean air (or water or soil), the only interference with visibility would be the weather and the curvature of this befouled planet.

JAMES F HARVEY,
San Francisco

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Friday, November 22, 1968

WHITE HOUSE KITCHEN

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

An Apt Name

Editor — It appears appropriate that one type of our rockets connected with our missile and space system was named The Centaur. In Greek mythology the centaurs were a race of monsters, savage beings symbolizing for the Greeks the destructive forces of nature. They were depicted as being the body of a man on the front end of a horse.

Since the days of the Ancient Greeks, man has spent some of his best efforts in manufacturing more and more terrible means of killing his fellow man, and destroying his property. If this stupid effort continues it is possible that man will eventually eliminate all forms of life on our little planet Earth. Methinks that the Greeks put the man on the wrong end of the horse.

J. W. RUSSELL BOURNIER.
Aptos.

Retired at 30?

Editor — I think if we were really thinking about the continuity of mankind, we would retire everyone at 30 or 40 years.

Let all of us old timers write books or letters to the editor.

The young have the best, most creative notions. Let them lead!

HIRAM JACOBS.

San Francisco.

Open the Avalon

Editor — Many adult San Franciscans may not realize it, but our city has taken its place as one of the creative leaders in the world of popular music (due, incidentally in no small part, to the efforts of The Chronicle's Ralph Gleason). The Avalon Ballroom has been one of the key places for exposure of new creative talent. Many of the most exciting groups to emerge from San Francisco onto the national scene got their start at the Avalon.

Surely, as the Mayor himself has suggested, a compromise could be worked out which could reduce the noise level but allow the Avalon to continue spreading its message of the new San Francisco throughout the musical world.

San Franciscans, in my opinion, should treat this crisis with the same gravity as one affecting the San Francisco Symphony. I write only as a friend of popular music, with no axe to grind, and would urge the Board of Permit Appeals to reconsider its action . . .

MICHAEL R. SHER.

San Francisco.

Something for Both

Editor — Sale of air rights over Kong Chow Temple could pay for restoration, make possible preservation, and yet allow utilization (of surrounding property to economic limit). Any architect worthy of the title could frame the Temple (perhaps in an entrance courtyard setting) with a high-rise, if need be, to the mutual enhancement of both buildings.

ARTHUR K. DUNLOP.

Berkeley.

Another Inside Report

Editor — It is encouraging to see one of your news services reviving the old American custom of sponsoring young journalists on all kinds of adventuresome treks around the world. The fevered pitch of a transcontinental automobile race or an around-the-world balloon sail has not yet been reached, but the accounts of a balding 40-year-old reporter just back from some illicit drug den off Sunset Strip are certainly a step in the right direction. How exciting it is to learn about how the "hippies" borrowed 64 cents from the generous reporter to buy oil for their old Ford, how they gathered the reporter in their confidence (or something) and allowed him to be present when they (of all things) smoked marijuana. This then led to further startling revelations, one such referring to a "sound barrier" being created by Bob Dylan, another shocker indicating a short money supply, the article finally ending on a smug note about lack of pride. Good work, men. Really crack reporting. That's the stuff a newspaper should be made of.

Meanwhile, at S.F. State the spectacle increases its absurdity

daily. Ego-maniac, power-tripping students and a simple-minded Governor together with a group of shallow, callous trustees clash in the captain's tower while the "silent" majority snivels about their education being interrupted and their careers having to be postponed, things are happening at their "expense."

You want another inside report? There's a silent minority. We have no expectations at all — other than that manifested in a valid passport. We knew who George Wallace was way back in '62 and a few days ago we saw him run for President of the United States. We sang "We Shall Overcome" when people thought that was the American Communist party theme song. We suffered under the clubs of the Oakland police last October. We hold Johnson-Humphrey responsible for the deaths of thousands, yet a few days ago we were forced to secretly hope for Humphrey — and saw him lose. Some of us even faintly recall pro-con discussions about pre-marital sex.

Excuse me while I light this joint. So maybe you can dig what I'm putting down. Dropping out? No, dropped off is more like it. We laugh and love, and occasionally drop a tear into the dust. We look back and all we can say is: good luck.

YIPPIE!!!

GABRIEL MARIAN.

Berkeley

Tortured by Squares

Editor — If you lived in the year 1968 instead of 1868 you would know the soul is tortured today by squares. By putting a cross in the mess he made, Vaillancourt's work is perfect. By putting it among the Mammon lovers where they can contemplate it is pluperfect.

My suggestion to you is that you begin by studying all the gods and goddesses. Then you will see that Vaillancourt is like many artists today, centuries ahead of his time.

I am sorry that I am always picking on you but, boy, you need it.

LOUIS HENRICH.

San Francisco.

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Monday, November 25, 1968

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Limbo and Dental Bills

Editor — Congratulations and our appreciation for your good editorial "The Tooth Gap" in The Chronicle Sunday Punch November 17.

Compulsory retirement with a small pension, social security are the present income on which my wife and I struggle. (She's not old enough yet to get social security.)

It's plain hell to be relegated to the limbo of "senior citizen" and to attempt to meet the high cost of living, let alone unexpected dental bills.

Thank God for Medicare and for your encouraging editorial on dental hygiene and dental insurance.

THE J. RAYMONDS.

San Francisco.

Raw Trash Cannonball

Editor — In defense of Supervisor Mendelsohn, five of his colleagues, and the "Raw Trash Cannonball," I would like to make the following points:

1. The "Cannonball", or unit train as it is technically referred to, would cost the railroad \$6.5 million and would require a 10-year minimum amortization period. An incinerator would cost at least \$20 million and would require a 20-year minimum amortization period.

2. The unit train presents no air pollution problems. An incinerator would not be approved by the Air Pollution Control Board until it was complete and ready for check-out. (What happens if it doesn't pass, and what happens in 5 or 10 years when the standards are raised?)

3. The unit train would take 9 months to become operational. An incinerator would take at least three years (the scavengers have two years to go before the Brisbane dump is filled).

4. The unit train can handle combustible and non-combustible material. An incinerator has a 20 percent-40 percent residue for combustibles, and cannot handle non-combustibles such as construction debris at all.

5. The unit train can handle

cannery waste, animal manure and other agricultural waste streams and make compost out of it. An incinerator in San Francisco would not have the capacity for this waste, and incinerators elsewhere in the Bay Area would add to San Francisco's air pollution problem.

6. The desert fill site in Lassen County would be improved by the solid waste because this material would form a filter to leach out the alkali content which presently makes that soil sterile. Where would the incinerator residue that is non-combustible go?

7. The accumulation of large volumes of waste via the unit train makes it possible to think of various recycling processes so that we can stop throwing our resources away.

8. Finally, the people at Hunters Point are trying very hard to create a decent place to live, and an incinerator is about the last thing they want there.

Hans Feibusch
Chairman

SPUR Waste Disposal Committee
San Francisco

Teaching Lesson

Editor — It seems that many people are dissatisfied with the reading achievement of California pupils. Before someone assigns blame for this fact, perhaps those responsible for the actual teaching of reading should be consulted. Have any of them tried to teach the first grade lately?

The first grade is the crucial year for readers. Yet we are plagued with large classes and educationally handicapped children. May I suggest:

a maximum of 20 pupils in the first grade, a maximum of 25 for grades 2-6;

children who have learned to mind and to listen before they enter school; (This is what we spend a great deal of school time on, instead of teaching reading);

special provision for holding back immature children who are incapable of learning to read yet;

less push to teach a multitude of subjects besides the 3 R's;

more special instruction for

children speaking little or broken English;

elimination of poverty, prejudice, disease, and broken or chaotic homes from the environments of our pupils.

May I also suggest that the tests used by this State to measure reading achievement are inappropriate and confusing to the children. According to the grapevine some schools pre-teach these tests although most do not.

When the above conditions are met for most of the State's schools and pupils, I will guarantee you better readers.

One further note: The State school administration should stop squabbling over phonics vs. look-say. As a first grade teacher I can say most of us teach both anyway because some children learn better one way and some another.

NANCY THOMPSON.

Sonoma.

A Thank You

Editor—My wife and I would like to thank all those wonderful people who came to her aid last Saturday, November 9, when her car, a Volkswagon, turned over several times due to a blow-out on the Bay Shore Freeway between Redwood City and San Mateo. I want them to know she is doing fine and I hope to have her home from the hospital soon.

DOMINIC MATTERA.

San Francisco.

Youth Wants a Voice

Editor — Why all this student unrest? It is very simple really. The young people are the barometers of any society, for when things are not all right, they can see with unclouded eyes. It is they who spring energetically and emotionally into causes when the other members of the society have fallen into indifference. What youth clearly wants now is a voice in matters that concern them, whether it be wars, education or social change.

DOUG CARLSEN.

San Francisco

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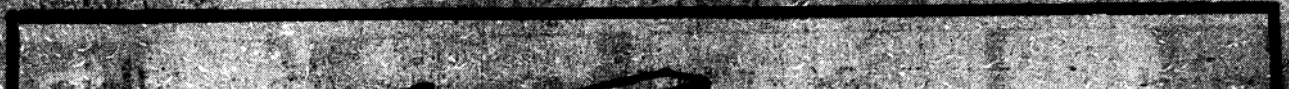
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San Francisco Chronicle
THE VOICE OF THE WEST

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Tuesday, November 26, 1968



"I think we're in for a rough flight, Captain."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A Way Out for BART

Editor — There has been a tremendous amount of discussion recently regarding the financing of the \$144 million construction deficit for BART. Everything from an increase in sales tax, income tax, bridge tolls and a half dozen other hare-brained schemes have been offered as a solution. It is amazing, that with all the transportation systems that have been bought and paid for the world over, that a modern metropolis such as San Francisco should find itself in a stew over a simple problem.

What makes this situation more ridiculous is that the money for BART is already available and has been sitting here in the three counties which are to be served by BART lines. All that is required is that an honest legislature put its hands on the monies and see to it that the people who have been and are to be benefitted by BART pay for it.

There are two groups who will benefit most directly by BART. The first are the commuters whose daily travel into the city will be shortened and made more economical. These people will pay for BART with their daily commuting fares, retiring the bonds, and, at the same time, supporting the maintenance of the road.

The second group, who have already benefitted and are to benefit from BART, and whose millions of dollars of wealth have come as a bonanza, these people have not even been asked to pay their share.

The money is already available in the increased values in land and property which BART has produced and will produce in the counties of the East Bay. All that is required is that these three counties be considered a special taxing district, and that the increase in land values alone, not the property, not the buildings, but the increase in land values be taxed.

The taxing is a relatively simple process. We have had considerable experience with it in California in our sewer and water districts, in our irrigation districts, and for other community services. It is obviously fairer to tax the land rath-

ter than the property since the effect of BART on property is variable, depending on its commercial potential or private use, whereas the effect on land is more widespread and will extend in predictable ratios from the BART lines and BART substations.

The fiscal practices for assessing both land and property values are established. All the legislature needs to do is to order a reassessment of the land, and determine what increase in value has occurred since the first plans for BART were drawn. In fact, if this were done on an annual basis for the next three or four years, the increase in land values will be so great there will be funds for the entire system.

This is by far the fairest method of taxation. Otherwise, the tremendous bonanza of land and property value increase is given away to the speculators and will go entirely untaxed, and those fortunes which are created by the taxpayer will remain in private hands.

In these days of fiscal chaos, let us show the rest of the country that San Francisco and the Bay Area can handle its financial obligations promptly and equitably.

EDWARD W. MILLER, M.D.
San Francisco.

The Backbone

Editor — In all of the recent stories about the Sierra Club, little or no mention has been made of the role of the volunteer members in this unique membership.

The Sierra Club is probably the largest volunteer activist group in the country, and certainly one of the most effective. Its volunteer activity is what makes it different from other conservation groups, accounts for so much of its success, and attracts the kind of interested, motivated and concerned people who keep joining the club by the thousands.

In the Bay Area, for example, Sierra Club volunteers have led in the fights to expand Mt. Tamalpais State Park, to enlarge Big Basin

State Park and to establish the Pt. Reyes National Seashore. Sierra Club volunteers frequently testify for the club at local hearings regarding city and county conservation problems. Sierra Club volunteers hold local clean-up hikes to remove roadside trash. Many members work for open space programs, good city planning, and in the fight to save the Bay. The San Francisco dinners of the Sierra Club, held monthly for the past seven years, draw capacity crowds for conservation programs which often spark new action.

It is this kind of volunteer activity — as much as the beautiful books which the club publishes — which attracts new members to the club and contributes its phenomenal growth.

It should also be noted that members of the club's volunteer Board of Directors master-minded two of its recent spectacularly successful conservation efforts. Dr. Patrick Goldsworthy of Seattle directed the fight for the North Cascades Park. Dr. Edgar Wayburn, the Sierra Club's volunteer president, was directly responsible for the outstanding campaign that gained for the country at long, long last, a Redwood National Park.

CLAUDIA DOERR
San Francisco.

Child Tax

Editor — Because of the threat of overwhelming population increase and a resulting famine, the nations of the world should consider a family tax. Instead of rewarding parents for having large families by tax exemptions, tax them for every child after the second. This is a process that everyone, of all faiths, can understand.

G. J. BAGGS
San Francisco.

Blow-up?

Editor — The models of that proposed fountain at the base of the Embarcadero freeway look like someone blew up part of the freeway (which would be a godsend) and made a fountain of the debris.

C. K. CHAMPLIN
San Francisco.

ART'S GALLERY • Art Fairs

Morning Report:

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San Francisco Chronicle

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Wednesday, November 27, 1946

Special Thanksgiving Edition

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Wrong Target

Editor—If Defense Secretary Clifford is right in his belief that bombing is a fit punishment for refusing to negotiate peace in "good faith" (The Chronicle, November 25) then shouldn't we be bombing Saigon?

ARTHUR SEEGER.

Davis.

Praise for the Fountain

Editor—I think the range and vitality of Armand Vaillancourt's design for the Grand Fountain of the Embarcadero Plaza deserves our praise and support.

We need to surround ourselves more and more with an oasis of forms and water.

Good luck to Vaillancourt.

PATRICIA Haslett.

San Francisco

State College Crisis

Editor—As members of the English Department at San Francisco State College, we are of course deeply concerned about the troubles at the school. These troubles are not likely to be alleviated so long as the general public clings to several misconceptions.

We listen to the "talk" shows on the radio or speak directly to the man in the street ourselves. We are appalled at how little most people seem to understand the root causes of our present crisis. The average voter all too often labors under the illusion that he and other taxpayers have financed a perfectly adequate system of higher education and that the confusion on campus is caused wholly by the irresponsibility and malice of a few troublemakers.

The reality is otherwise. The evils pointed to by ex-President Summerskill at the time of his resignation early this year — political interference and financial starvation — hold sway as much as ever. The political interference needs no underlining for anyone who has been reading The Chronicle with regularity. But perhaps a few statistics about the financing

of the system would be worth repeating.

Californians now spend much less of their personal income on higher education than residents of other states. According to the most recent figures we have seen, we spend \$10.79 per \$1000 of personal income on state institutions of higher education, compared to a national average expenditure of \$13.74 and an average expenditure of \$17.89 for the 25 Western states excluding California. In other words, our expenditure is 27 per cent less than the national average and 65 per cent less than the Western average.

Should not the electorate that voted down the bond issue in the last election direct a little of its critical attention to itself and to the worst administration in Sacramento's history?

HOOSAG K. GREGORY,
MAURICE BASSAN,
RICHARD WAIDELICH.

San Francisco.

A Swill Contest

Editor — Thanks for a merry week-end! which my husband and I spent in tears of hilarity and self praise as we invented a great number of what seemed to us remarkably brilliant names for the slop train.

GEORGIANNA VON PRUSSING.
Paradise.

Editor . . . How about a slogan: "Send your garbage to camp."

I'm afraid to submit my name because I don't want the Supervisors to change the dump location to my backyard.

NAME WITHHELD.

And keep those cards and letters coming, folks. —Editor

Not So Small

Editor—In your edition for November 21 I noticed the article concerning "Small Change for Amador." While it is true that Amador is small and it is true that we did receive a much smaller amount of Sales Tax Administra-

tion Refund I believe that you should check your source of information before printing such informational stories as this one.

As Deputy Auditor it was my very pleasant job the other day to write the receipt for the check remitting to us the refund. I would like to tell you that Amador county received the amount of \$16.17 in refunds while it would appear that Amador city, one of our cities in fact received the 27 cents mentioned in your story. While this difference is little I believe the principle of accurate reporting is involved here.

CHARLES STOCKER,
Assistant Auditor,
County of Amador.

Jackson.

Absentee Vote Delays

Editor—In your editorial of November 11 "There Must Be a Better Way" you set forth certain priorities for election reform and state, "The third (priority) is to elect the President with certainty on election day . . ."

I suggest a Federal law requiring each state to count its ballots not later than the hour when the polls close in that state.

MARSHALL H. KUHN.
San Francisco.

Thanksgiving Thanks

Editor—I am a handicapped veteran, living on a small pension. My vision and hearing are slowly leaving me. The doctors say they can do nothing, so I began collecting real old post cards, old calendars and antique valentines as a hobby, in an effort to forget my defects.

During the past year, many of your readers have been kind and generous in sending me items which I collect.

As I continue collecting items for my hobby, I want to wish you and your readers a wonderful Thanksgiving, for you have given me much to be thankful for, and I feel that life is worth living after all.

LEON THOMPSON.
Seattle.

San Francisco Chronicle

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Thursday, November 28, 1968

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Charles de Young Thieriot, Editor and Publisher
George T. Cameron, Publisher 1925 to 1955
Founded 1865 by Charles and M. H. de Young

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Money Crisis

Editor—If the recurring monetary crises are not to lead to a "recession" in 1969 as they did in 1929, banking systems with international involvement should call for a common monetary system, currency and economy under common government.

The reason is that devaluation, balance of payments and gold flow and trade problems arise only in areas of anarchy among independent governments, each handicapped with its own monetary and protectionist system.

The 13 colonies, for example, suffered the same monetary and trade crises among them until the Constitutional Convention provided for a common monetary system within a common economy.

Since economic and political anarchy is the major cause of isms and of war, as well as depression, the banking systems and other concerned businesses should use their influence to hasten the necessary political steps towards common world monetary system, economy and democracy for this pre-shrunk world.

RICHARD B. JOHNOSN
Sonoma.

Editor—Western Germany vis-a-vis its bankers is cocky again. General Charles de Gaulle stands as a giant among statesmen, in my opinion.

Should the forebodings of the financial world come true, then the only road open to de Gaulle is a socialistic one. Can the bankers take that? France is rich agriculturally; its people industrious and saving; and, if they have to change the rules of the game they will, NATO to the contrary notwithstanding. Therefore, the bankers will help de Gaulle financially, at least in the granting of credits. Interesting situation.

ANNE O. JELM.
San Francisco.

Toward Electoral Reform

Editor—Much of the opposition to reform of the Electoral College comes from representatives of the

less populous states who believe that the present system benefits their constituents because they have more electoral votes per unit of population than residents of the larger states. What they fail to understand is that the unit-vote rule, under which each state's electoral votes go to the plurality vote winner, reverses the small state's advantage because the voter in the large state may potentially affect a very large number of electoral votes.

Computer calculations show, for example, that a voter in New York has over three times the chance of affecting an election as a resident of the District of Columbia and more than twice the chance of residents of seven other states. Voters in 32 states and the District of Columbia have less than average voting power under the present system. Reform can come only when voters in the 32 smaller states convince their legislators that they are tired of playing a secondary role in presidential elections.

JOHN F. BANZHAF III,
Assoc. Prof. of Law,
George Washington University,
Washington, D.C.

The writer has made these extensive computer studies to determine the exact mathematical disparity in voting power among the states in the course of his work on the problems of equal representation at state and local levels of government.—Editor.

The Friendly CP

Editor—My wife and I having just completed a round trip from Vancouver to Montreal via the Canadian Pacific Railroad "The Canadian," we feel that all is not lost in superlative train travel.

In sharp contrast to the dirt, bad food, rundown equipment and the general public be damned attitude now found on American railroads, the Canadian Pacific is nothing short of outstanding. The food, service and accommodations were superlative, and the courtesy shown the public by all, from the depot Redcap to the dining car

steward was unbelievable in this day and age.

If U. S. railroad moguls would give some thought to the thousands of us who want to, and would, ride a decent train for the pleasures and scenic beauty it can afford, instead of being so interested in squeezing every last dollar from freight, they could learn how it is done in Canada. They probably lose money on some of their passenger lines up there too, but either through conscience or government edict, some of the millions in freight revenue is put into a way of life some people still seek, and they do it most graciously.

ROSS M. TURNER
San Francisco.

That's Peace?

Editor—I supported Reagan because he said he'd bring peace to our campuses. If I'd only known what he meant by peace. He's like a man angered by a bee's sting who takes a bat and pounds the hive.

His "finesse" makes the bumbler Brown look mighty good now to those of us who rejected him.

MARK HAWKINS
San Francisco.

Death Penalty Decision

Editor — Justice Mosk, in justification of his decision to retain the death penalty, explains that he is "bound to the law as I find it, not as I might wish it to be," and asserts that to yield to his predilections in opposition to the death penalty would be to "act wilfully."

This attitude demonstrates an appalling disregard of those values which are the essence of humanity, one of these values being precisely the ability to "act wilfully," to chose freely, to have the courage of one's own humanity in the affirmation of life. Justice Mosk has chosen instead to avoid his responsibilities as a human being by affirming his duties as an inhuman, efficient, functional member of an inhuman, efficient, and functional society.

PHYLLIS LANHAM
Saratoga.

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Friday, November 29, 1968

