

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Solution

Editor — The reason they can reach no agreement in Paris is that they are using a square table and, by breathing one another's luncheon exhalations they keep their fighting mood.

By using a round table, as did King Arthur, there soon is generated a whirling swirl that moving aloft clears the air and peace comes at once to all parties.

LOUIS HENRICH.

Boulder Creek.

## 'Revolting'

Editor—We have been subscribers to The Chronicle for many years. I have never read such a revolting article in your newspaper as in the December 5 issue on page 3 entitled "A Sexless Old Age is All in the Mind." I feel that I am a liberal broad-minded person but the paragraph describing the sex act turned my stomach. I daresay this would only have been of interest to doctors or psychiatrists.

DOREEN MAGUD,

San Jose.

San Francisco.

## Don't Scratch the Ladies

Editor — Nick Jemas of the Jockey's Guild made some comments in The Sporting Green November 27 on lady jockeys and I should like to draw your attention to some facts which do not substantiate his statements.

He states that "a woman's emotional make-up might betray her . . . it could also imperil the lives of other jockeys, not to mention her own." This comment probably stems from the popular misconception that women are in some way both physically and emotionally inferior to the male of the species, an idea that is entirely lacking in scientific validation. There is no evidence that women are less capable in stress situations, and furthermore, investigations made by reputable psychologists show that women's reflexes are no slower than men's. It tests of motor ability, men admittedly excel in speed and control of

gross body manipulations, but women easily close the gap with their superior scores for fine finger movements.

All this leaves Mr. Jemas only the rather biased argument that the risk of life and limb is a male prerogative. This ridiculous assumption expresses the antiquated double standard of the woman on a pedestal. In a society where women obtain PhDs, pay taxes, vote and hold public office, such a view is woefully inappropriate . . .

If indeed he still believes his complicated arguments for keeping women off the race track, I suspect that some investigation of his family background is indicated. I would not be at all surprised to hear of a close blood relationship between Mr. Jemas and the equally endearing Count Marco.

ELIZABETH STEWART.

Oakland.

## Thrilling

Editor — Your early proposal and continued support for removal of the Embarcadero trestle have been thrilling.

That community might err, admit it, and move boldly in correction may be unprecedented.

However, might it not be wise to take no direct action pending the April earthquake? Perhaps . . .

CHARLES E. STOUT.

Santa Cruz.

## Election Reform

Editor — Professor John F. Banzhaff, III, through "extensive computer studies," has determined "the exact mathematical disparity in voting power among the states" (Letters, November 28).

May I suggest that we cannot exercise our sacrosanct democratic right to govern or misgovern ourselves through a system so complex that only computers can show how badly it works.

The only honest way is the determination of the will of the majority on a "one man, one vote basis" (the U.S. Supreme Court recently said so), which means presi-

dential (and other nationwide) elections by direct national referendums. It incidentally also means direct national party primaries. There is no other way to avoid the wheeling-dealing scandals of secretive selection of party primary delegates or of electoral college members.

There is no other way of achieving the majority rule which we profess to revere. Our Constitution basically implies that it is the lesser of the available evils.

It is probably right.

M. L. BRAMSON.

San Francisco

## 'Let's Have Publicity'

Editor — After attending the four concerts of the Little Symphony under the direction of Paul Freeman and featuring an excellent orchestra, as well as outstanding soloists, I feel compelled to write this letter.

These concerts were not given any publicity at all . . . As a piano instructor and faculty member of the Community Center, of which Dr. Freeman was the Director until last June, I felt it my duty and responsibility to call the concerts to the attention of my students, and I am happy to say that the children as well as their parents enjoyed the performances.

The students at Luther Burbank and Herbert Hoover schools were given the programs on the day of the concerts and apparently there was no announcement at all at Benjamin Franklin Junior High School. It is more than a disgrace that Dr. Freeman was discouraged to the point that he called off the concert at Benjamin Franklin Junior High School. The first two concerts at Presentation Theater were not too well attended either.

How in the world will people who do not comprise the concert-going audiences find out about worthwhile concerts if there is no publicity. The Executive Secretary of the Art Commission is paid a salary to take care of publicity! He should get with it.

MRS. GRETA KRANZLER.

San Francisco.

**San Francisco Chronicle**  
THE VOICE OF THE WEST.

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Monday, December 16, 1968

Charles de Young Thieriot, Editor and Publisher  
George T. Cameron, Publisher 1925 to 1935

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Behind the Problems at State

Editor — If the "silent majority" at San Francisco State College seems unduly inarticulate, it may be that they have no place to go to voice their opinions, and worse, no one who cares to hear those opinions once voiced.

Students are in revolt from Caracas to New Delhi, and from Paris to Toronto, so we who are on the faculty like to tell ourselves that the condition is endemic, and that this semester just happens to be our turn. But in truth, our turn has come because we deserve it.

A donnybrook of the magnitude of the one now underway at San Francisco State does not come into being overnight. It takes preparation. We have been working on this one for years. When President J. Paul Leonard left us, he vacated a position which he had filled with strength and had handled with a great sense of organization. We differed with him at times, but during his tenure the lines of authority and responsibility were clear.

When Dr. Glenn Dumke was appointed president of the College by the then-dominated State Department of Education, he declined to be as hard-nosed as Dr. Leonard, and saw fit to spend a great deal of his time developing the Master Plan which was to govern the relationships between systems of higher education in the State. He was off the campus as much as he was on it, and this fact, coupled with his disinclination to try on Dr. Leonard's shoes, left a power vacuum. The faculty, which had long complained of low status, rushed to fill that vacuum with an Academic Senate. Dr. Dumke turned to the Senate for policy, but failed to define his own authority and responsibility as chief administrator. And instead of directing the growing campus himself, he ceded his powers to numerous councils, committees and individuals selected jointly by himself, the Senate, or — literally — by ad hoc pressure groups.

As a consequence, the coordination necessary to run a swiftly growing organization like ours was lost, and the power to make the kinds of decisions which social change demands was dispersed so widely that the nominal adminis-

trators were left with little but their responsibilities. This unhappy situation might have been corrected by concerted action on the part of the now Chancellor, Dr. Dumke, backed by an informed Board of Trustees and by helpful legislators. But all were busy elsewhere.

The Academic Senate was busy, too. It successfully pressed, in the name of democracy, for a greater faculty role in the decision-making process. The Senate was legitimately elected, and its statements had the ring of virtue about them. Some of the best people were in the Senate, in the academic sense of quality — but some of the worst were there as well: the full-time politicians, who published not, and rarely did they teach. But they were then, and are now legitimate. Despite their efforts to bring down Dr. Hayakawa, there is no way to say that they are not representative, because no one knows what the whole faculty thinks.

The College might still have prospered, because it has an able faculty and thousands of students interested in improving themselves, but it had bad luck in the presidential office. Following Dr. Dumke, six men have occupied the chair — acting, interim and temporary presidents. The turnover suggests that under present circumstances, that office may be unworkable. It is clear that the educational systems in this state are not going to get much help from Governor Reagan, and it is equally clear that some legislators are all too ready to heed the school bond votes of last November, and to continue to assign funds to the California State Colleges which are less than adequate for their maintenance. The faculty itself is split into factions, and the militants — because they are the only well-organized segment of the campus, have kept the situation in a state resembling war, even though their "demands" are far secondary to their induced disenchantment as a force for disorder.

What keeps the silent majority quiet is this very disenchantment, together with the sharp awareness that some of the militants' demands should long since have been

college policy. Many of the faculty — I hope most of them — back Dr. Hayakawa in his courageous wish to keep the College functioning. But what will happen if he does? Even if he succeeds, I believe that the Chancellor, most of the Trustees and the Governor will back off and sell him short on what is really required for change and growth. Save for the company of Mayor Alioto and a few Trustees, Dr. Hayakawa stands alone, "And we are here as on a darkling plain

Swept with confused alarms of struggle and flight,

Where ignorant armies clash by night."

Is there hope for the College? I think that three positive forces are at work. The first is the massive desire of a great number of people to get an education. Many are sacrificing much just to attend school. They take chances even in coming on campus, but still they come. The second is the will power of Dr. Hayakawa, short fused though he understandably is. He is the first man in a decade on this campus to say "no" to anyone about anything. If his courage can reach the majority of our legislators, and so link up with the only power source which can rescue us, then he may survive to help the College meet the changing demands of the future.

The third force is the simple truth that both sides — the militants and the Trustees — have worked themselves out to polar positions. I think both are uncomfortable there, for if real violence erupts and the College is permanently closed, the militants may not be educated and the Trustees will have failed. Each side needs to be rescued from rigidity. Mediation is vital, but it cannot be supplied by labor, which is a nominal sponsor of the faculty union. It cannot be supplied by the Trustees, who are interested parties. It must, I think, be supplied by our legislators, who need the votes of all the groups involved in this aching dispute, and who have, once a resolution is agreed upon, the power to assign the funds to implement that resolution.

FREDERIC W. TERRIEN

Professor of Sociology,  
S. F. State College.

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Tuesday, December 17, 1968



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Correction

Editor—Your story of December 13 regarding the sale of United Air Lines, piston fleet to Allen Paulson of California Airmotive Corporation has caused considerable confusion and I would like to clear the matter up.

The fact is that Mars Metal Corporation, headed by President Hugo F. Forster, purchased their entire fleet of 58 piston planes last month. They are currently being stored at the Tracy Airport.

PAUL C. LONG,  
General Manager,  
Mars Aviation,  
Division of

Mars Metal Corporation  
San Francisco.

## Trivia

Editor — Must we preoccupy ourselves with such trivia as the geometry of the Paris conference table while our young men continue to die in Vietnam?

ROSS A. CARKEET, JR.

Twain Harte.

## Computer Humor

Editor — Your editorial of December 11 says that no computer can "bring off a pat joke."

Well, a couple of years ago a student and I programmed a computer to compose simple incongruity jokes. The program begins by storing in the computer a list of words which have several meanings; the computer then compares the "meaning domains" of each word with the domains of every other stored word. If two words have the same domain, that pair of words is listed, and the domain similarities are indexed. This joining of semantic domains is sometimes surprising and funny.

Here's an example. If we have "baseball" as one domain, and if we list a set of baseball-related words, it turns out that many of these words (bat, ball, bag, base, fly, etc.) have meanings outside baseball. Thus, the following concatenations could emerge:

"Bag (base) . . . Bag (female)"  
"Bag (base) . . . Bag (skin fold)"

"Bag (base) . . . Bag (occupation or life style)"

These pairs then are readily converted (not by the computer) into incongruity jokes:

"This must be a baseball town, all the bags are loaded."

"She has baseball eyes (two baggers)."

"He'll never get off first base until he breaks out of his bag."

Most of the "bisociation" listings are not funny or even especially interesting; the ones above are about as good as we ever obtained (appropriately enough, some are unprintable). But we maintain that a computer can, through such listing, provide the essence of jokes. To extend the program and make it compose better jokes, we will probably have to build in explicit gradients of aggression and ridicule, since these factors are central in much comedy material. In any case, the better we understand what makes

something funny, the higher quality of the jokes produced by the computer.

NICHOLAS A. BOND, JR.,  
Professor of Psychology,  
Sacramento State College.

## 'A Five-Dollar Crime'

Editor — The public destruction of draft cards and American flags are symbolic acts of protest that do not harm people or disrupt public order.

In this society a person can be imprisoned for five years for burning a piece of paper. Even if one favors such "insults to national honor" crimes then the punishment should fit the crime. Let the punishment be as nominal as the offense. Destroying draft cards and flags should be misdemeanors punishable by \$5 or \$10 fine.

STEVE WELLER.

East Palo Alto.

## Old Math

Dear Sirs,

One night (Fri., Dec. 6, 1968)

I was reading *Peanuts*, and doing my Math homework at the same time. I came across the same problem. The Math problem is in *Brumfiel Elichols, Shenke-O'Daffer Arithmetic Concepts and Skills*. The page is 114 problem 26. I go to West Meun School in P.T. Ryan Station. Wow! what a coincidence.

Sincerely Yours  
Lisa Stone

Inverness



All right, class, now what's the answer?—Editor



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Some Questions

Editor—Now that South Vietnam is in Paris, at the peace table, are U.S. Marines dying from square bullets or rectangular bullets?

How about some good open discussions on "saving face." Do you "really" care who saves face? Does an average American know what "saving face" means?

D. E. RUSE.

Stockton.

## Presidential Elections

Editor—Thought is being given these days to changing the method of electing our President. There appears to be much support for electing him by direct nationwide popular vote, the candidate getting the majority of the votes wins.

Such a change would require a constitutional amendment which would have to be ratified by 38 State legislatures.

Electing the President by popular vote may not appeal to those in states which have small electoral votes. The voters in those states may feel that their voice is lost in the volume of votes in the states with large populations. If such is the case, then the states with small electoral votes could block the ratification of the proposed amendment. Only 13 states would be able to do this, and there are 20 states which have six or less electoral votes.

THOMAS D. ROSS.

Moraga.

## Human Rights

Editor—As the 20th Anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights comes to a close, I would like to make a few observations.

The United States rightly was the leader in preparing the Declaration; Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt served ably as Chairman of the committee that drafted it. Not only the Declaration, but the supplementary conventions have the familiar ring of our own Declaration of Independence and our Constitution. Fourteen Human Rights Conventions have been ap-

proved by the General Assembly of the United Nations. The U.S. record of ratification has not been very good. Only one — for the abolition of slavery — has been ratified by the Senate. Only seven have been submitted for ratification.

United States ratification of these Human Rights Conventions would be an expression of our acceptance and faithful implementation of the provisions of the agreements. We would thereby give encouragement to other states to give their adherence to them. Thus, there would be a tremendous impetus for a world-wide battle for human rights. Certainly it would be in our tradition that "certain inalienable rights" were the heritage of all men.

I hope the new administration in Washington will recommend that the Senate give its advice and consent to all the conventions now before it.

HENRY W. SPIELMAN,

President,

United Nations Assn.

San Francisco.

## An Important Program

Editor—On December 9 NBC presented one of the most meaningful programs about black people to be aired in a long time. Typically there have been no reviews of that show.

Those of us who are black watched the Supremes and the Temptations carry us back to every Saturday night party we have known. I spent an hour with all the friends I have not seen in years, because our way of singing and dancing, interpreting word to fit our circumstances, have been our strongest bond.

The Timex people are to be congratulated for sponsoring such a beautiful program. For so long we have been watching all the intellectual (sometimes emotional) outpourings about black people. It said something important to me, and that is that our history and our present notwithstanding, my people still have a corner on joy. Because the impossible dream which they sang of at the end of the show

is still impossible for us, and we cling to it to survive, I would hope that Monday from 8 to 9 will not be the last of real black people on television.

We need the opportunity to present our views, certainly, but we like to be able to see ourselves in our happiness as well. The fact that there was no response to this offering of some very talented young black people who were not trying to be white is symptomatic of the frustration that is erupting all over the world. I am grateful I saw the program.

JOAN M. RAWLS.

San Francisco.

## Drug Prices

Editor—An appendectomy for \$25, or one tonsil removed for \$5, or a special at 2 for \$7.50. Rather good prices — but would you want to take a chance? Maybe wait until tomorrow and another doctor may shave the price 50 cents.

The strongest human urge is survival, the next sex, and with newspaper writers the urge to attack drug prices — as did Milton Moskowitz in *The Chronicle* December 9 in his advocacy of posting drug prices. Evidently the gentleman cannot distinguish the difference between groceries and prescriptions.

It would be a physical impossibility to list the thousands of drugs used and break them down in groups of a dozen to a hundred. If every drug was prescribed 100 to a bottle it would be less difficult, but who wants 100 pills when only 12 are necessary. The remaining 88 are returned to the shelves to gather dust and eventually wind up in the garbage can, while a newer and hopefully a more effective drug is prescribed.

By all means ask your pharmacist why he does not post prescription prices, but trust you won't be invited around the counter to prepare it. Also ask your pharmacist how many hours a week he works and how much he has to pay a registered pharmacist who has had six years of college training.

ERIC W. LANE.

Corte Madera.

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Thursday, December 19, 1968





# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Hard Working Pharmacists

Editor — I am outraged at Milton Moskowitz' column of December 9 "Smokescreen in the Drugstore." . . .

I am a community pharmacist practicing a profession devoted to the ethical handling and distribution of drugs, which encompass the proper storage and dispensing of potent medications . . . and the responsibility for imparting directions and cautions to patients in regard to their prescriptions.

Mr. Moskowitz is correct when he says that to fill most prescriptions, a pharmacist transfers pills from a large bottle to a small one, but this is far from the only service he provides. In an average pharmacy there are close to 5000 different items in stock. When a pharmacist fills a prescription for 20 pills of a certain drug from the stock bottle . . . there is no guarantee that he will ever sell the balance of that particular drug.

Not all people with heart trouble use the same type of medication. The same is true of people with allergies. There are at least 1000 different drugs or drug combinations that could be used for people with heart trouble and just as many products for people with allergies. Prescriptions are written for specific people with a specific malady at a given time . . .

As a pharmacist, I do not oppose relating the cost of a specific prescription order before I fill it, but the idea of posting selling prices of about 5000 items which are sold in varying quantities, seems to me absurd . . .

There is more substance to pharmacists' claims that a family chooses its pharmacist in the same way it does a doctor or dentist than Mr. Moskowitz might realize. In this day of specialization, many families have more than one physician. There is no better clearing house for checking drug incompatibilities or synergy of drugs than in one pharmacy. The possibility of preventing dangerous effects of cumulative drug therapy by more than one physician is definitely in

the hands of a family pharmacist, regardless of what Mr. Moskowitz thinks.

As a community pharmacist, I have devoted my life to a profession which has allowed me the privilege of saving numerous lives, the lives of specific individuals who are my clients. I have not participated in any action of which I am professionally ashamed. Therefore, I am protesting Mr. Moskowitz' deceitful inference that the pharmacist is an anachronism, or a mere smiling man in white coat who keeps 40 cents of every dollar just as surely as if he held a gun.

If there were no pharmacists, who would Mr. Moskowitz put in charge of ethical drug distribution? The already over-worked physician? The corner grocery or supermarket? . . .

CHESTER D. YEE,  
Pharmacist-manager,  
Laurel Drug Co., Inc.

San Carlos.

## A Real Loser

Editor — Do you know how it feels to be a loser in a garbage contest?

CHASE WEBB

San Francisco.

## The Gift of Blindness

Editor — Recently I had the experience of being totally blind for seven days. I will always be thankful for the experience.

If everyone in the universe could experience this just once in their lifetime there would soon be no prejudice, hate or malice toward one's fellow man, regardless of race, creed or color.

While I was lying in the hospital bed I was completely dependent on other people for all my basic needs and for a lot of minor needs, such as putting on robes, slippers, feed-

ing me, lighting my cigarette — all of my daily needs, period.

Not one time did it matter a damn whether the person who helped me was white, black, red or yellow. I could not see, I listened to hearts. Kindness and consideration have no color. Neither does love, compassion and understanding. Yet these are the things that we must all create and develop in our hearts before we will ever be able to bring about peace and harmony in the world today.

I received much help not only from employees but from fellow patients as well . . . And when the doctor removed the bandages from one eye the first face I saw beside his was a black male employee with a big smile on his face. Believe me, please, black is beautiful. I am a white man.

If ever in the remainder of my lifetime I allow prejudice to enter my heart I pray to God that He will return me to darkness because I will have already blinded myself to His truth.

RAYMOND H. MITCHELL.

San Francisco.

## No War

Editor — There is a widespread unfounded fear that the Arab-Israeli conflict might lead to a military confrontation between the big powers, the Russians helping the Arabs and the U.S. helping Israel. It is naive to believe that nations go to war in order to help other nations. If the two super powers would clash over the Middle East it would be for the sake of oil and bases, for the sake of economic and political power.

For many centuries the Middle East was dominated by the Turkish empire, then by the French and English empires and after World War II by the American and Russian empires. Empires come and go, but the peasant in the Middle East, both Arab and Jew, will stay. If they could stay together they could become free of domineering empires.

MAX WEISSENBERG.

Fairfax.

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**San Francisco Chronicle**  
THE VOICE OF THE WEST

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Friday, December 20, 1968

"Ah! We've saved face, again . . ."

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## 'Block It'

Editor — I was absolutely appalled at the interview with Secretary of the Interior-designate Walter Hickel which appeared in Thursday's Chronicle.

How can a man who will be responsible for our national parks say that conservation is wrong? Have we fought terrific battles for the establishment of parks in the Redwoods and North Cascades only to have a new administration move in and ruin everything we've been striving for? This man obviously understands nothing about wilderness conservation; is tied ever to the developers and exploiters, and is completely unfitted to run the Department of the Interior. We face grave dangers in this man, and if all we have achieved in the last few years is not to go for naught, we must prevail on the Senate to block his confirmation to the Cabinet.

TOM TURNER.

San Francisco.

## Private Schools

Editor—Tax money spent on public education above the high school level could be put to better use in correcting air and water pollution in California.

Youngsters with a serious thirst for knowledge could then enroll in private colleges and the tuition could be counted as a State Income Tax deduction similar to the Canadian plan.

M. MADSEN.

Sunnyvale.

## Student Revolt

Editor—One may question not only the propriety but the motivations as well of the Governor of California, whose image has been magnified by an attempted presidency of the United States, when he refers to student demonstrators as a "criminal element."

Since the Governor is also very critical of the professors, mostly members of the American Federation of Teachers, who also took part in demonstrations, the "criminal element" becomes still more considerable. This only aggravates

for the Governor his understanding of the situation as stated by him when he said that California has reached "a moment of confrontation" in higher education, and "we must take a stand."

Though the Governor is very hopeful in this respect from a purely military point of view, since he stated that "on the basis of attrition, Dr. Hayakawa is winning," there is a growing number of prominent representatives of the city's labor, educational, religious and business communities who refuse to share his opinion that "the very idea of sitting down and negotiating demands is intolerable."

When Ronald Reagan says: "You listen to students; if their suggestions are good, you decide to implement them . . . but that decision belongs to the administration and no one else," one must decide what kind of criminal element the good law and order Governor speaks of—college or prison.

LEON KOGAN.

San Francisco.

## 'A Great Service'

Editor—As my term as President of BART comes to an end, I want to thank The Chronicle for the fair news coverage it has provided the project during 1968.

It seems to me that both BART and The Chronicle are fortunate in having a reporter like Elmont Waite on the job. His accurate and incisive reporting of BART, in my opinion, has done your readers a great service, and I want to bring this to your attention.

JAMES P. DOHERTY.

San Francisco.

## 'Socialize Them'

EDITOR—Appeals by public spirited citizens for improved passenger service on the Southern Pacific are not apt to have much effect, to judge by the past performances of that corporation.

Under capitalism, these private companies are operated to maximize profits regardless of the needs or the welfare of the citizens

of this country. Those of an optimistic frame of mind about better rail service over the country will point, no doubt, to a speech by Senator Warren G. Magnuson, Chairman of the Committee on Commerce, on October 8 and numerous newspaper editorials on the subject.

Despite all the attention and publicity, it is unlikely that some regulatory change will provide substantial passenger improvements.

What is needed is something drastic, basic and complete, such as the workers of America taking over all the industries and services and operating them democratically and collectively as provided in the plans put forward by the Socialist Labor Party.

HENRY R. KORMAN,

Longview, Washington.

## Help Is Here

Editor — Help! My conservationist friends have been giving me dirty looks lately. I finally realized why. They think I am the Robert Cranmer who wants to fill in the bay. Please note that as a conservationist, Sierra Club member and architect, I am not in favor of filling up any part of our beautiful bay . . .

ROBERT M. CRANMER.

San Francisco.

## The Problem is Solved

Editor—The accounting department of a local insurance company (which shall remain anonymous for fear of repercussions from the boss) took it upon themselves to solve Peanuts' Old Math problem.

Although we all put our heads together, it took an infiltrator from San Francisco State (they're really getting around now that college is on Christmas recess) to come up with the only logical answer—the distance between town A and B is 140 miles.

HERMAN KLIGERMAN,  
Spokesman.

San Francisco.

# San Francisco Chronicle

THE VOICE OF THE WEST

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Tuesday, December 24, 1968

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Charles de Young Thieriot, Editor and Publisher

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Mask It

Editor—One way to keep the Hong Kong flu epidemic from getting larger is to wear cotton masks that cover the nose and throat. This has been done in Japan with success.

BEATRICE KEILY.

San Francisco.

## 'Instant Hiroshima'

Editor—Bravo to Supervisor Blake for wanting to save the city from two disasters — the Vaillancourt fountain and the blood of landscape architect Lawrence Halprin (who has vowed to cut his throat if the fountain is a failure).

The vote of the Art Commission for the Embarcadero Plaza's fountain "sculpture?" was not, as reported in the newspapers, unanimous. The two artist members of the Commission, Ruth Asawa and I, were against it. Looking at the model, my first thought was that it should be called "Instant Hiroshima."

The principal feature claimed by the planners of this unhappy project is that people can walk through it. We already have a fountain at the Civic Center in which people walk, wade, and even bathe, and it remains dull and ugly.

ANTONIO SOTOMAYOR.

San Francisco.

## Danger Ahead

Editor Your reporting of the action of the Board of Directors of the Sierra Club to again refer the Diablo Canyon matter to another membership vote will serve, I hope to awaken the Club membership to the danger of internal division, if not destruction, from the intransigent action of, unfortunately, the present majority of the board.

The good name of the Sierra Club is at stake and as a minority member of the Board I wish to make public my strong feelings on this matter. The previous referendum revealed that the membership supported the actions of the Board (by a large majority).

Equally important is the negative effect the Board action will

have on definite progress towards cooperation of conservationists and the Utilities and private industry (and Government agencies as well). In these times, with the enormous pressures of population and the depletion of our natural resources it is essential that we work with the world at large and strive to educate, persuade and assist in the solution of the vast problems confronting us. Belligerent opposition should be the last resort. I trust the membership of the Sierra Club will be alert to the realities.

ANSEL ADAMS.

Carmel.

## Spain's Story

Editor — On behalf of my country, Spain, I would like to refer to your editorial of December 23 "Lust for Gibraltar."

Let me expose our point of view on, as you say, the facts of history, the tenets of international law, and the right of self determination.

At the beginning of the Eighteenth Century, Spain faced a problem of succession to the throne, a pure internal affair. England intervened supporting one of the pretenders and took advantage of the situation to seize and keep Gibraltar so that in the future it would suit its own interests strictly as a naval base for the fleet and for the growing Empire.

The Spaniards were expelled from the Rock and a small population was attracted from the bordering countries: Tangiers, Malta, Genoa, etc. just for the needs of the military settlement, and unfortunately providing a certain number of smugglers and a continuous headache for Spain.

For this group of settlers England claimed a right of self determination.

It is not difficult to imagine that by this system, a big power could easily take hold of almost any part of the world, by disembarking a group of settlers and organizing right away a plebiscite.

You seem to have your own idea in understanding international law.

Fortunately, the United Nations

is a better authority for this interpretation and repeatedly, in different resolutions and with overwhelming majority of votes has proclaimed the rights of Spain and advised strongly to Great Britain to enter into negotiations leading to the return of the territory to its legitimate owner.

We should be consistent, Mr. Editor, and if we praise one day the United Nations, whose birth in this city constitutes its unquestionable glory, we should agree with all its resolutions, whether they are in favor or against our interests.

Do not forget that many authorized opinions have considered the United Nations as the "last chance for humanity."

ANTONIO VIDAL-GABAS,  
Consul General of Spain.  
San Francisco.

## More Answers

Editor — It has taken me several days to figure out the Peanuts math problem, due to so many unusual interruptions. However, after using 19 sheets of 8 x 10 scratch paper, the solution to the math problem as presented in the Letters column December 18, the exact, precise distance is 76½ miles between points A and B.

This is figured on the basis that the trip is on the old highway and not the new freeway. I also took into consideration that the ferry boat between two points drifts 170 degrees downstream thereby causing us to lose nearly three quarters of a mile. This is gained back due to the new detour which has to be taken.

The only question is, in points between C and D, is this really necessary? The old road was covered over, you know.

P. L. MARTIN.

San Francisco.

Editor — Would you believe, A to B is 185?

D. REICHEL.

Oakland.

# San Francisco Chronicle

THE VOICE OF THE WEST

Charles de Young Thieriot, Editor and Publisher

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Wednesday, December 25, 1968



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Why Youth Should Vote

Editor — Governor Reagan's hostility to voting for 18-19-20 year olds, as reported in your pages last week, is hard to square with the facts. He argues that it "would threaten academic freedom," and that "it would bring politics onto our campuses."

As we now enter the 1970s, young adults between 18 and 21 have already had most adult responsibilities imposed on them by law. They pay heavy sales and income taxes and some property taxes, they are liable for debts and contracts in most states, more than half of them are employed in business, agriculture and industry. The young males comprise a majority of our armed forces. Moreover, they are the best-educated generation and the most concerned and involved generation in American history. Yet they are barred from the decision-making on election day.

If Governor Reagan wants to relieve the frustration of young adults eager to join in decision-making, he should enlist with those of us seeking to win them access to the ballot box. Traditional democratic American methods should be the way these issues are solved. Our Governor aids the anarchist elements by this unreasoned hostility to ballots for young adults. His vehemence and contrived rationale leads to the suspicion that he really fears how they might vote on him.

Moreover, our Governor stands alone among national leaders of his own and of the Democratic party — President Eisenhower and President Johnson have both asked Congress to act. Republican-President-elect Richard Nixon, Senators Everett Dirksen, Barry Goldwater, Jacob Javits, Mark Hatfield and others have long advocated 18-year-old voting. So, of course, have Vice-President Humphrey, all the Kennedys, Mayor Alioto, Senators Birch Bayh, Senator Mansfield and the rest. Both 1968 national party platforms approved it.

Currently a coalition of national

organizations, convened by the National Education Association, is being launched in support of 18-year-old voting. It includes, among others, the AFL-CIO, the National Student Association, the NAACP, the Young Republican Federation and the Young Democratic clubs. It will seek action in the 46 states which have not yet lowered the 21-year barrier, and also at the national level. Governor Reagan's consideration of his position would be welcomed — and indeed his support may be needed if California is to act soon to correct this injustice against more than one million young Californians.

MONROE SWEETLAND,  
NEA, Western States Office.  
Burlingame.

### Thanks

Editor — I extend to you and your talented staff not only my best wishes of the season but my appreciation for the kind words you have printed at the death of Mr. Norman Thomas. I voted six consecutive times for this man for whom I had respect and admiration above all others.

Your thoughtful and generous appraisal of his life and work was most becoming of you and I thank you very kindly.

HUGH F. McKEE.  
Los Altos.

### Parks for Everyone

Editor — Recently in Cyprus 200 acres of land were purchased and set aside as a park to be made accessible to all the world's peoples. Similar actions were taken in India and Japan, and in Switzerland a one-acre plot of timberland was purchased and deemed "world territory," to be governed by a "world government of the people." In a "Report to the People" held at the International Center in San Francisco concerning the happenings at a World Constitutional Convention at Interlaken, Switzerland, Dr. Lucille Green, a delegate

to the convention, proposed a resolution that Alcatraz island be declared the first "world park" in an international network of such territories, not unlike the various national park systems.

As students and future citizens in a region whose very existence largely depends and proliferates on good world relations, I and five other of my student colleagues at Berkeley High School pledge our full support to Dr. Green's proposition to make Alcatraz the first in a series of world parks.

MARCUS THYGESON.

Berkeley.

### 'Question Him'

Editor — President-elect Richard Nixon's choice for the Secretary of the Interior I feel is sadly lacking in answering the questions of whether he will be a leader in conservation or destruction. Governor Hickel has not expressed his views on this subject to the fullest extent, which for his office can be a tragedy.

I urge that your readers write to Senator Henry M. Jackson, Chairman of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C., 20025, and tell the committee that Governor Hickel should be thoroughly questioned on whether he would support the conservation interests or economic interests.

Those of us who have a special interest in the conservation of our resources for future generations, should be sure that no doubtful man should ever be appointed Secretary of the Interior.

ROBERT W. CORBETT,  
California Chairman,  
Youth for a New America.  
San Leandro.

### Help

Editor — Please do all you can to change the design of that idiotic fountain at Ferry Park.

THOMAS L. SCHOLTEN.  
San Francisco.

# San Francisco Chronicle

THE VOICE OF THE WEST

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Thursday, December 26, 1968

Charles de Young Thieriot, Editor and Publisher



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## A Very Deep Conflict

Editor — Professor Terrien's thoughtful letter of December 17 unfortunately passes over something which by now, consciously or not, everybody knows: that the conflict at San Francisco State is too deep and broad, involving as it does the whole fabric of our culture, to be solved on the campus itself.

The demands of the militants, representing true aspirations of the restless segments of minority groups, are infinite by their own admission: the candid aim is cultural domination. There are no rational grounds for opposing this drive. But neither is there any reason to expect that the majority is going to give in to it — currently, it is showing increasing signs of the contrary. The conflict is apt to go on for the foreseeable future, and God knows how it will be resolved. Despite our secret need for violence, aggravated by our growing alienation from simple life, most of us, I feel, would opt for peace and co-existence, however uneasy, this being the realistic rule of survival in advanced society, e.g. between the United States and the Soviet Union. But the immediate question at state is, I believe, the following: is this college a valid educational institution, worth saving, or not? (or, by extension, can it be made one with some reasonable technical changes such as the acquisition of some new faculty?)

My assumption is that State is worth saving: that there is, in addition to the fine physical plant, a viable core of faculty dedicated to the transcendent values which are by definition the essential cultural or professional values. Whether they themselves are outstanding scholars is less important than that they be loyal to the values of scholarship. If such men do not presently constitute the strong majority at State, that defines the main task for the trustees and the loyal faculty: how, patiently and firmly, to build that solid base

anew. Meanwhile, the institution, like any other delicate cultural enterprise, must be protected from the violence of nature and political struggle.

A scholar — one almost blushes to say these things — needs a minimum of shelter from cold, rain, noise and hurled objects in order to do his inward "thing." Of course, this implies that he must live with a certain uneasiness of conscience; but since social injustice is infinite, extensive and complex, how can a man take the time to even look at a picture, let alone study or paint one, without some theoretical guilt? The scholar must comfort himself with the reflection that his "self-centered" enterprise may well reward the society in the long run; moreover, the militants themselves are not entirely innocent. If he is sincerely dedicated to his task, the scholar will find the strength to go on despite the hue and cry.

Dr. Hayakawa and the trustees will need much encouragement for the difficult road ahead. It may help if they remember this: if my career as a teacher and scholar has enlightened me on anything it is the fact that a considerable proportion of academics, often very accomplished, are constitutionally incapable (or so it would seem) of thinking anything through. What is even more distressing at the present juncture is that so many journalists are similarly paralyzed — some, no doubt, out of fear of being out of step with the modish intellectuals.

ROBERT G. COHN,  
Professor of French.

Stanford University.

## Negotiations

Editor—Both Defense Secretary Clark Clifford and Senator McGovern should keep their mouths shut and let our negotiators do the negotiating in Paris, where Hanoi's envoys are making things difficult enough without the likes of the

Senator and Defense Secretary muddying the waters.

Ky and the other South Vietnamese critical of these two know the Oriental mind; we should be taking lessons from them, not giving out criticism. After all, should we give a royal welcome to the murderer or invite him to be a member of the jury? That's about what we'll be doing if we permit the Viet Cong equal status at the Paris negotiating table. Finally, have we so soon forgotten the lessons of South Korea and the importance there of settling procedural matters in advance of negotiating?

GEO. C. McNUTT.

Oakland.

## Required Reading

Editor — Congratulations on reprinting "Why We Should Listen to Youth" by John D. Rockefeller III in The Chronicle Sunday Punch December 22. It should be required reading for every educator, school trustee and administrator.

In particular, the last three or four paragraphs of summary should be read by everyone involved in the San Francisco State controversy. I am terribly afraid that under the prodding of ignorant and reactionary elements in Sacramento, the college administration will fall into the trap of the revolutionary provocateurs and the end result will be repression instead of reform.

There is a strange and frightening concept that education is a "product" which one "acquires" by going to a designated place for the proper number of hours. Robert Hutchins had it better: education is a process which produces educated people. This is impossible in an atmosphere of militant paranoia and helmeted police forces clashing on campus. I think that if Mr. Rockefeller's ideas are fully understood and applied, both intruders can be removed and a more relevant curriculum instituted.

LOTHER SALIN.

San Rafael.

# San Francisco Chronicle

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Friday, December 27, 1968

Charles de Young Thieriot, Editor and Publisher



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## An Infinite Power

Editor — When I remember the profound sense of beauty which came to me when the three astronauts quoted from Genesis before they left their moon orbit and then I hear the post-Christmas words of Mrs. O'Hare, the self-styled atheist, I do indeed question the good sense of the news media in placing a mike under the nose of such a sterile-minded, unilluminated speaker.

Her words, albeit like dust in the face of eternity, the world can well do without; "without form, and void" in their contemptuous regard (or disregard) of the infinite Power which guided those men to make right decisions, meticulous in wisdom, they (her words) will vanish, leaving no trace — according to their merit.

LILY G. RICARD.

Oakland.

## The Pueblo Affair

Editor — Your editorial last Tuesday concerning the Pueblo, and the double-faced procedure used to obtain the release of the crew, much needed writing. It is not only regrettable that these procedures were used but it is also regrettable that those responsible for their use would believe we are now so cynical, so accustomed to the "official lie" that we would accept these procedures without question.

As you point out, a conditional apology could have been offered immediately after the capture; there was a better way.

Safety in navigation, and the regulations of the Navy, require the regular "fixing" of position, and the adequate recording of position. The official records are the quartermaster's notebook and the log, both written in the handwriting of the men on watch. They would be exceedingly difficult to falsify. In addition to these official records there should also have been plotting sheets, DRT traces, charts with time and position noted, and radar logs. Accurate data on position would be expected to be found in the chartroom, on the bridge, in the radio room, and in the yeoman's office. Even if they had wished to do so the crew could probably not have destroyed all records of position during the short

period during which the ship was captured. They were also occupied in attempts to destroy codes and confidential publications during this critical period. It may then be assumed that the North Koreans obtained extensive records showing the position of the ship prior to capture.

It should have been possible to arrange to have navy officers from a neutral nation inspect these records. It may still be possible. If these officers certified that the Pueblo had not been operating in North Korean territorial waters, or if the North Koreans refused to make the records available, then public opinion and world opinion would have condoned a much more vigorous effort to obtain the release of the ship and crew than that which was made.

If the neutral navy officers certified the ship had been operating in North Korean territorial waters we could either have apologized and officially accepted the blame, as with the U-2 incident, or we could have apologized and offered to court martial the commanding officer for disobedience of orders. Since the North Koreans did accept a conditional apology there is no question that they would have accepted an earlier unconditional apology and the crew would have long since been returned.

At the time of the capture there was much talk about the ignominy of having one of our ships captured at sea. The loss of our largest aircraft carrier by capture at sea would have put a lesser stain upon national honor than was produced by the handling of the Pueblo affair.

FRANK J. GALLAND.  
Santa Cruz.

## Sierra Club Crisis

Editor — Your editorial comment of December 22 regarding the so-called Sierra Club crisis is misleading as was your editorial on the same subject March 20, 1967. In my letter to you, which you published March 24, 1967, it was pointed out that in matters like the PG&E plant at Diablo Canyon, the board of directors of the Sierra Club would do well to ascertain the desire of the membership before committing the club to a policy as is here involved.

The fact is that the board of directors which followed the one voting for the Diablo Canyon plant showed a majority of directors voting against the policy expressed by the board of directors in office as of the spring of 1967. The board is not at present favorable to the Diablo Canyon plant. It should be made clear to your readers that a board of directors in most organizations can change its stand insofar as it is permitted by its by-laws and that the Sierra Club's board of directors is no different in its operation than other organizations in this respect.

What is behind these efforts is to change the direction of the club's policy from strictly conservation (and publication) to conservation and planning. The latter is the kind of organization favored by the Reagan administration as signified by its unusual concern over private lumber companies in the area set aside for the National Redwood Park.

There are many members, when the issue is clearly stated, who will support a policy of conservation only and will oppose any planning with industry as being contrary to the purpose of the Sierra Club.

ANDERS LARSEN.

Carmel Valley.

Editor — Your December 22 editorial on "A Sierra Club Crisis" is accurate and to the point. The motto of the Sierra Club used to be "not blind opposition to progress, but opposition to blind progress." Since the improper electioneering of a year ago, the new directors seem to have changed this to "blind opposition to progress."

PG&E has spent large amounts of time and money, at the request of the Sierra Club, to move to another location so as to save the Nipomo Dunes. The Dunes are of international importance, and PG&E has formally offered to lease their 1100 acres of the Dunes to the State of California for park purposes. The company should be praised for its public spirit, not double-crossed years later.

RICHARD M. LEONARD,  
Past President,  
Sierra Club.

San Francisco.

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Monday, December 30, 1968

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Paradox

Editor — It is good that Apollo 8 is back. Yet it is paradoxical that our technology can achieve such perfection and reliability that astronauts can orbit the moon in greater safety than they could walk the streets of the nation's capital at night.

MERVIN GUINTOLI

San Jose

## Alioto's

Editor—The time has come to stop San Francisco's galloping Alioto's!

When he ran for Mayor, Mr. Alioto issued a fine position paper, from which I quote:

"I will use every program at our command to insure (that) community structures reflect a beauty of living that will endure . . . I want to make this city a joy for generations to come. This means not only building with imagination, but preserving with discretion. The architectural integrity and distinctions of our neighborhoods must be sustained."

In a letter to the Telegraph Hill Dwellers of November 2, 1967, Mr. Alioto enthused:

"The 40-foot height limitation — which, by the way, Harold Dobbs opposed when he was on the Board of Supervisors — is an essential guardian of the majestic views of Telegraph Hill."

Once elected, Mayor Alioto changed his tune.

At a private meeting with officers of the city's largest corporations, he advised would-be developers not to consider themselves restricted by the Bolles Plan on the Northern Waterfront:

"I don't want the city to be frozen by the 40-foot height limit along the waterfront," he declared, as reported in The Chronicle December 2, 1968.

Simultaneously, the Mayor is promoting a disastrous plan to cover the bulk of Fort Mason with unneeded luxury housing.

As a special Christmas gift to San Francisco, he has sanctioned the destruction of the Seawall Warehouse, our most historic and

irreplaceable building on the waterfront.

If our "dynamic" Mayor continues to bulldoze what little remains of San Francisco's open spaces and its historic heritage, little will be left for future generations by the time he runs for Governor.

ROBERT KATZ, Chairman,  
Northern Waterfront Comm.,  
Telegraph Hill Dwellers.  
San Francisco.

## Three Ifs

Editor — We would gladly pay twice whatever Federal income taxes are required of us for as long as the following general demands are met and given top national policy priority by our government:

A substantial reduction in the pollution of air, water and land;

A humane program to stabilize the population and eventually bring it to an optimum level, and a foreign policy consistent with this program;

The establishment of a cabinet post dedicated to ecologic quality. Who would join us?

JAMES F. HARVEY,  
JANE N. HARVEY.  
San Francisco.

## Save the Cabildo

Editor — A very old and priceless inheritance of the nation, the Cabildo in New Orleans, a part of the very heart of the Vieux Carre, will not be able to open its doors to the public in 1969 because of financial problems.

Erected in 1795, the Cabildo comprises along with the St. Louis Cathedral, dedicated Christmas Eve 1794, and the Presbytere, also built in 1794, three historic buildings predating the Louisiana Purchase in 1803 and the admittance of Louisiana to the Union in 1812. They face Jackson Square.

Thus, it can be truly said these three old buildings belong to the nation and the State of Louisiana is but a caretaker.

The citizenry must now know the State is shamefully neglecting their inheritance by failing to appropriate sufficient funds to guar-

antee the Cabildo will be open to the public.

A nationwide public subscription to prevent such a thing from ever happening again is needed now. Preservation groups and private citizens can help by contacting Cabildo, 751 Chartres Street,

RANDALL TRUDEAU.  
New Orleans.

## 'That Atrocity'

Editor — The other evening I watched a TV travelogue which covered some of the art, architecture and fountains of Rome. Everything shown was a thing of beauty.

In contrast, we have an Art Commission, excluding Ruth Asawa, which had the unbelievably bad taste to approve that ultimate absurdity by Vaillancourt (whoever he is) as a fountain for Ferry Park.

As for Lawrence Halprin, a so-called landscape architect, perhaps the people of San Francisco, before they listen to his praise of the above-mentioned atrocity, should think back to the monstrosity he created as the landscaping of Civic Center Plaza immediately after the underground garage was built.

JACKSON MOFFETT.  
San Francisco.

Editor — Any fountain that is opposed by both Supervisor Blake AND Antonio Sotomayor can't be all bad.

FRANK A. MARX.  
San Francisco.

## What Right?

Editor — The letter from the Spanish Consul General in this column on Christmas day should be answered. Sr. Vidal-Gabas assumes that the present government of Spain is a legitimate one, but it obtained power only 30 years ago by force of arms. At least, the English have held Gibraltar for 250 years.

It is strange to read his calling on "the right of self determination." Elections in Spain are held with about the same frequency as elections in Cuba, Red China, Haiti and Saudi Arabia.

CHARLES L. ANDERSON.  
Sacramento.

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Tuesday, December 31, 1968

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