

PRAYER FOR TODAY

Bless, Lord, this day. Give me problems to test my worth. Place before me broken things to mend. Use me to help heal hurt and wounds. Strengthen me to bear torments great and small. Restrain me from striking back. Keep me unafraid of failure as I do my best. Open up the right way as I keep moving forward. Let my words give You praise and meaning for life to others. Bless, Lord, and make new, this day; in Christ's name. Amen.

—James W. Kennedy, Cincinnati, O., director and editor, Forward Movement Publications.

EDITORIALS

Aid Works In Reverse

There seems to be some sort of Parkinson's law to the effect that the more that is done to aid the disadvantaged members of society, the worse off some of them will be. Or perhaps the Bible best expressed it:

"For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance; but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath."

It has been charged, for instance, that urban renewal, which is designed to benefit slum dwellers, has on the whole actually reduced the supply of low-cost housing available to them and forced them to pay higher rentals.

Another antipoveity measure, the federal minimum wage, lifted to \$1.60 an hour as of Feb. 1, has also come in for the lumps.

The minimum wage, claims Yale Brozen, economics professor at the University of Chicago, has actually increased, rather than decreased, poverty in America. More than that, it is a direct cause of urban riots, he says.

Before the minimum went to \$1, he says, unemployment among nonwhite and white male teenagers was roughly the same. Since then, unemployment among nonwhites has been 50 to 150 per cent greater than among whites.

"The greatest help we can give the Negro today is to repeal the statutory minimum wage," he says. "By raising it, we are foreclosing opportunity for Negro teen-agers who cannot get the jobs where they could learn the skills that would enable them to earn far more than the minimum."

Goodwill Industries officials in some cities have expressed fear that the new minimum may force them to cut back on some of their unskilled workers—those most in need of the employment Goodwill provides.

If one defines poverty as the measure of the distance between those who have and those who have not, even the recent rise in social security benefits has widened this gap.

Another Chicagoan, Henry M. Oliver, Jr.,

Opinions Of The People

Anyone in the Greater Vallejo Area is privileged to send letters to "Opinions of the People," an open forum of public opinion. Opinions in this column, however, do not necessarily represent the policy of the publisher. Letters must be confined to 200 words or less and addressed to The Editor, Times-Herald. You must sign your name and address, but your name will not be published if you make such a request.

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Crime is one of the biggest diseases of our time, however, it is only one result of our massive, unplanned and populous cities.

Citizens are frightened, and rightly so, because there is little guarantee for their protection, especially at night.

Law offenders are generally unknown and easily lose themselves in the huge maze of the city.

I think that even more serious than crime itself is the deeper more human loss of those qualities of trust, openness and the willingness to take a chance to help your neighbor. The attitude of "who knows the victim might victimize us" instead prevails, so we turn our back on him. We lock up everything and in the process lock our neighbors right out of our lives.

We cannot lay the blame on people but rather on those conditions which force these measures. This in my opinion is what needs changing. It is these conditions which dehumanize society and create a need for "Big Brother" to watch out for us as obviously we cannot watch out for ourselves. Right now, the president is proposing a federally-backed police force . . . the beginning of "Big Brother" perhaps.

Another problem the big city imposes is the loss of individuals to have much influence in shaping society in any way other than existing within it.

Right now there is an urgent need for more recreational space. Too many recreational areas are hours away from the city and those within the city are nearly always crowded and congested. Parks of a natural type seldom exist at all within or close to the city.

Population experts also see a trend toward a shorter work week and an increase in recreational time in the future.

If there is a shortage of recreational space now, how much more so in the future!

Coming from a small town and transplanted to the city, I find the contrast appalling.

In a smaller community, vandalism, assault and robbery offenders are seldom at large for very long before being found out because they are known.

Because you know your neighbor, you are unafraid to lend a helping hand when needed.

Because there are limited vocal chords you are able to make yours heard and thus affect changes.

A possible solution that would combine the cultural advantages of a big city with the close-knit community features of a small town might be to have small towns built around a co-ordinating center. The co-ordinating center could serve as cultural center for all the small towns as well as co-ordinating police and government activities.

Each "townlet" would have its own government, its own parks, including areas in their natural state and of a recreational type.

Perhaps industry could be located away from towns or visa versa. Distances between town groupings could be established. National standard zoning laws could accomplish this.

It is not too late to start planning for the future, but if we do not learn from the past mistakes, will the future hold continued expansion of ugly, crowded metropolises gobbling up the countryside?

If we look at the universe, its greatness lies



OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

This letter is to the ones that the shoe fits. . . . Former United States Ambassador E. O. Reischauer recently stated that "Vietnam could have been avoided" if the U. S. in 1954 had not opposed the regime headed by Ho Chi Minh.

It would have been like Yugoslavia, another country to spend our tax money, thus lightening the economic burden which Russia has to face in supporting Communism.

If America can be persuaded to retract from her official policy of military support for smaller countries who are subjected to outright Communist aggression, we may confidently expect further aggression in other parts of the world.

The Vietnam "Peace Demonstrations" in the U. S. A. have been to a large extent organized by actual branches of the Communist Party, and many other organizations working towards the same end are run by individuals who have Communist contacts. Civil Rights and Vietnam Peace demonstrators only talk about "ugly Americans" and "profit motive", but do not say a single word about Viet Cong tactics or their motives.

They could tell of the four Americans who

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

In Lusaka, Zambia, Jan. 5, Hubert Humphrey pledged doubling aid to this country, much of the money earmarked for improvements on a road to the Indian Ocean. This would help them export their copper cheaper and aid in solving export-import problems. Question is who would benefit from the export of the copper? The Chinese Communists have a plan to spend \$14 million making a survey of a rail link between Zambia and the ocean bordering Tanzania. Wonder why?

In Addis Ababa, on Jan. 6, Hubert Humphrey addressed an audience at the headquarters of the Communist dominated Organization of African Unity. He denounced the anti-Communist governments of Rhodesia and South Africa. But to the black regimes of Africa, Humphrey says: "We in America are with you — materially and with our hearts." Mr. Humphrey does not speak for me. I will not condone our vice president sanctioning communism as the will of all Americans.

In Mogadiscio, Somalia, Jan. 7, Mr. Humphrey signed an \$8.5 million loan to give this city by the Indian Ocean a modern water system. He also invited the Premier of Somalia on behalf of the President, to visit the United

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Some time ago I received a rather touching letter from a friend in a rest home.

"The home is pleasant and we are comfortable," my friend wrote. "If we only had something to do. The days are so painfully long, especially for those of us who have long since been forgotten."

Visiting my friend was physically impossible, but through the knowledge of a very rewarding hobby which plays an important part in my own life, I was able to change those painfully long days into happy, productive hours. My friend is overjoyed. Even more satisfying, however, is the fact that the hobby has now opened up a whole new world for two people at the home who are blind. They have their own tape recorders and are enjoying the hobby to the fullest extent.

Perhaps your readers would like to know more about this hobby. Perhaps some of them need help, too.

I refer to the hobby of voicepondence — visits via magnetic tape. This fascinating hobby is enjoyed by thousands of tape recorder owners who spend their leisure time cultivating the friendship of others.

I have tape friends here and abroad. Some are young and some are retired. They have one thing in common, however; they enjoy making friends and they are eager to exchange ideas and opinions. Listening to those ideas and opinions and learning about the environments in which they live is what continues to make this exciting hobby such a truly wonderful experience.

One of my voicepondents, for instance, is a free-lance writer. He travels extensively and has the opportunity to meet many interesting people.

And then there is the retired sea captain with the colorful career dating back to the early 1920's. This voicepondent can spin engaging yarns until the tape runs out, and he usually does.

There are others: the veterinarian from St. Louis, the San Francisco department store detective, the rare coin and stamp collector from Tacoma, the Los Angeles antique dealer, and the motel owner and operator from England. Imagine, if you can, the pleasure of receiving regular visits from such a group of tape friends.

Yes, this is the fabulous hobby of voicepondence. The only restriction is good taste. The requirements are a tape recorder, a desire to make friends, and some information about voiceponding procedures. This information can be obtained from The Voicepondence Club, Noel, Virginia, simply by asking for it and enclosing a stamped envelope. The Voicepondence Club is a nonprofit organization of more than 2,000 tape friends throughout the free world, and you are welcome. The Club publishes a directory of members, giving their occupations and interests. It also provides information on voiceponding procedures and practices to help you get started.

Your first step, then, is a letter of inquiry.

GERALD J. PAICE
52 Aberdeen Road
Arlington, Mass. 02124

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OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

portunity for Negro teen-agers who cannot get the jobs where they could learn the skills that would enable them to earn far more than the minimum." Goodwill Industries officials in some cities have expressed fear that the new minimum may force them to cut back on some of their unskilled workers—those most in need of the employment Goodwill provides.

If one defines poverty as the measure of the distance between those who have and those who have not, even the recent rise in social security benefits has widened this gap.

Another Chicagoan, Harry M. Oliver Jr., chairman of the Chicago Commission for Senior Citizens, while praising the new social security law, submits that it "will be of no benefit at all to the poorest older persons living in our community."

This is because the incomes of the more than 18,000 persons who receive old-age assistance from the Cook County Department of Public Aid are fixed by law (presently at \$39.98 a month). The same holds true in other states.

"For these people," says Oliver, "an \$11 increase in Social Security will result in an \$11 reduction in their public aid payments. Thus the poorest older people in our community are going to be just where they started."

Not quite. They are going to be even further below the general standard of living.

The new federal law gives states the option of continuing their old-age assistance payments at the same level, independently of the higher social security payments. There has been no rush to accept this option.

Thus the burden of assistance is being shifted from the states to the federal government by the precise amount that social security benefits have been raised.

No one questions the humanitarian motives behind such antipoverty measures as the minimum wage and Social Security. There would seem to be, however, great need for a little flexibility, a little allowance for special cases, on the part of our lawmakers and those who administer the laws.

All Win In This Game

The Rights and the Lefts battled it out on the California State University campus at Long Beach recently.

But it was all in good sport—touch football, in fact.

The Rights team in the "Picket Bowl" playoff was fielded by the conservative Young Americans for Freedom, the Lefts by the liberal Student Action Committee.

Appropriately, the one was garbed in red, white and blue; the other in pinkish T-shirts.

Pregame speculation had the Rights relying heavily on the time-honored Statue of Liberty play. The Lefts were expected to use the Reagan Option, in which the backs may elect to run or pass the ball off.

ordinating center. The co-ordinating center could serve as cultural center for all the small towns as well as co-ordinating police and government activities.

Each "townlet" would have its own government, its own parks, including areas in their natural state and of a recreational type.

Perhaps industry could be located away from towns or visa versa. Distances between town groupings could be established. National standard zoning laws could accomplish this.

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If we look at the universe, its greatness lies in its minuteness.

The President has proposed a study on model cities to Congress. The need is great. I urge you to write your congressman to support this proposal. If you think the above article has merit, clip it and send it along with your request. If you think the above article stinks, ignore it, but write your congressman. If you have ideas of your own, on how to improve your cities, make them known.

Sincerely,
MRS. SUSAN ARANAS

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OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

In a recent accident a home owner and taxpayer missed death or disablement by inches, so to speak. What price death or disablement? Whose and how many? And it will happen, if something isn't done, some sort of traffic control, possibly four way stop signs or traffic lights in the vicinity of Maple and Georgia Sts. and Oakwood Ave. and Georgia St. In the past numerous accidents has occurred at these intersections. They will continue until something is done. Responsible people must be aware. If not they should be, however, apathy is contagious, it is to such a degree, where some people take the attitude "So what? It didn't happen to me". This appears to be predominant. Must there be a fatality? And how many? before there is authorization of traffic control at those intersections. Or should mere accidents just continue?

Respectfully,
A TAXPAYER AND HOMEOWNER

★ ★ ★

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Not long ago the City of Vallejo had two men and a dump truck spend more than half a day picking up the cans, papers, bottles, etc. cetera deposited along the roadside inside the city limits.

Since then empty cans and other forms of trash have been thrown at the side of the road. Soon it will be as unsightly as it was before the men cleaned up the debris.

Similarly, if a dog makes a deposit on a lawn, unless its mess is removed, other dogs follow suit.

Isn't it regrettable that so many people behave like dogs?

Years truly,
S. P.

★ ★ ★

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

As one Welfare Service Group I would like to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks the Chipman Van and Storage Company for the courtesy space they donate to the many organizations in Vallejo.

They have sponsored this service for a long time and they are to be commended for their consideration to serve the public agencies in this manner.

HOY C. PACK, Director
Seventh-Day Adventist
Welfare Service Center

If America can be persuaded to retract from her official policy of military support for smaller countries who are subjected to outright Communist aggression, we may confidently expect further aggression in other parts of the world.

The Vietnam "Peace Demonstrations" in the U. S. A. have been to a large extent organized by actual branches of the Communist Party, and many other organizations working towards the same end are run by individuals who have Communist contacts. Civil Rights and Vietnam Peace demonstrators only talk about "ugly Americans" and "profit motive", but do not say a single word about Viet Cong tactics or their motives.

They could tell of the four Americans who went missing in January, 1965. VC guerrillas ambushed and captured them.

Days later, two of the Americans were found in the water with their arms tied behind their backs and disfigured beyond description.

In Saigon, a bottle of champagne can look innocent until the cork goes off. A loaf of bread can contain enough TNT to blow a half dozen men apart. Shattering bombs are converted, in bicycle frames, the VC dig pits lined with sharpened bamboo stakes, and when a buddy tries to help they are blown to bits.

...Probably the Peacefinks, Vietalks and liberal intellectuals see nothing wrong. Do you?? Read "How to Stay Alive in Vietnam", a practical guide for GPs fighting for freedom in Vietnam.

...Let us win this freedom and bring these BOYS HOME. They will straighten out some of these ISMNICERS for sure.

Sincerely,
ASA McBRIDE

★ ★ ★

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

In this column about two weeks ago the Solano Council for Retarded Children asked for help from the people of Vallejo. We asked for donations of articles for our rummage sale to be held on March 1 and 2.

The response was very good but we are still short of enough items to promote a hang-up sale.

This rummage sale is for the benefit of the pre-school day care center and adult workshop for the mentally retarded, in this community.

Any usable items you may have that are just lying around your garage, basement, attic or closet may be just what someone else needs.

Won't you "help us to help others?" It will be greatly appreciated.

You may bring your items to the school at 300 Contra Costa St. between the hours of 9 a.m. till 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Or call Mrs. Hamilton 643-4813, Mrs. Smith 643-6377 or the Council for Retarded Children at 644-7455 for pick up.

Thank you.

A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL
FOR RETARDED CHILDREN

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OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

...The Seventh-Day Adventist Welfare Center has had several calls for blankets - sheets - pillow cases - towels - wash cloths etc. this winter.

Our supply has run quite low, these items are given to the less fortunate of Vallejo, without cost, regardless of race, creed, or religious background.

If you can assist in a replacement program we will appreciate your donation, you may phone 643-5664 or 643-4854 for arrangements to pick up your donation.

Seventh-Day Adventist
Welfare Center
1220 Alhambra

bordering Tanzania. Wonder why?

In Addis Ababa, on Jan. 6, Hubert Humphrey addressed an audience at the headquarters of the Communist dominated Organization of African Unity. He denounced the anti-Communist governments of Rhodesia and South Africa. But to the black regimes of Africa, Humphrey says: "We in America are with you — materially and with our hearts." Mr. Humphrey does not speak for me. I will not condone our vice president sanctioning communism as the will of all Americans.

In Mogadiscio, Somalia, Jan. 7, Mr. Humphrey signed an \$8.5 million loan to give this city by the Indian Ocean a modern water system. He also invited the Premier of Somalia on behalf of the President, to visit the United States in March. One thousand Russian technicians are laboring at the task of training Somalian troops in the use of modern weapons?

While back our Commerce Department issued an export license to allow shipment of \$500,000 of American butter to the East German Communists. American exporters sold 2,500,000 pounds of butter at 49 cents a pound. We calculated that butter in the sum of 74.5 cents a pound. In this one instance, American taxpayers were robbed of \$504,127 in give butter to the Communist enemy. We also gave them millions of tons of soybeans for margarine.

In the United States of America, Jan. 17, President Johnson says Congress must increase taxes to offset spiraling prices and continued erosion of the dollar. Who was it that said, "Spend, spend, spend, Tax, tax, tax, the people are too stupid to know? Are we?"

Sincerely,
VALESKA CHANG

★ ★ ★

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

As a nation what is America coming to when the desire of money is so great that the family is often neglected.

In my neighborhood there live two teen age boys, one in front of my place and the other in the back. Two or three months ago I happened to go in my back yard where there are several trees making a sheltered section. To my surprise I saw two boys there having taken possession. I asked, "What are you doing here?" The answer was, "We like this place can't we have a little hide-out here?" I have been interested in Boy Scout work for some 15 years and hated to turn them down so I said, "All right if you don't do any monkey business."

I have been kept quite busy so did not pay any attention to them. Yesterday I went in the back yard and to my surprise I found they had built fires had used coal oil, stealing it from a drum I have for killing weeds. This was under lock and key. They broke the lock and were helping themselves. If this had been in the summer time there would have been a serious fire. With an ax they cut considerable bark from one of my favorite trees which may die. I ordered them out, leaving the place in a mess.

I don't blame the boys as much as I blame the parents. Will we ever get back to the days when parents watch their children especially boys?

E.W.C., Benicia.

★ ★ ★

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Wanted: a man — who appreciates the nice things in life. He must have a good sense of humor, (non-drinker), looks and money.

Also, one who can take over and do all the things that make a home. An old man with young ideas need not bother!

Come to the Community Center Wednesday evening; also Post 150 Friday evening. Have a dance, and meet me.

L. D.
(A Widow)

formation. Information for the Voicependence Club, Noel, Virginia, simply by asking for it and enclosing a stamped envelope. The Voicependence Club is a nonprofit organization of more than 2,000 tape friends throughout the free world, and you are welcome. The Club publishes a directory of members, giving their occupations and interests. It also provides information on voicependence procedures and practices to help you get started.

Your first step, then, is a letter of inquiry.

GERALD J. PAICE
32 Aberdeen Road
Arlington, Mass. 02124

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OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Here is one opinion about a very basic idea I believe is held by many of my fellow citizens. God, Nation, Honor and Patriotism are all intertwined. My parents and school teachers must have been thoroughly indoctrinated with love of childhood thoroughly imbued with high ideals of both. So much so, in fact, that all my productive life until retirement was spent in service to my country. As a professional U.S. Marine, I have long believed that obligations between man and nation and nation and man are, and by all that is right, should be, equal.

War is horrible, war is ugly. There can be only one justification for war. It must be in defense of God, Country, Home, and Honor. Once our uniformed men are committed into situations where they represent us, (they are offering life and limb) we owe them full and complete backing. When the enemy seized our men and one of our naval vessels the burden passed from the shoulders of those men and was placed squarely on our shoulders. Those men and that vessel are our honor. If we do not force their release by the enemy we will have exhibited before God and man that we are no longer a nation of honorable men. Certainly one man among us is being given an opportunity to show whether he is 'Hawk', 'Dove', or — 'Chicken'.
Think.

W. B. SIMMONS
357 Pfeiffer Way,
Vallejo, Calif. 94590

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OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

For some reason this is and has been an awful cold winter. Start saving all your woollen coats. Alter that old wool coat into a bathrobe, or wear it as it is — you won't be cold and you will be glad you did. Or you "Can Do" — Like the Chinese do. They put on one coat. It is one coat cold then two coats, two coats cold, then three coats, three coats cold, and so on, sometimes as high as seven coats cold. If they can afford that many coats. They have very little heat for their homes. Solve your own heat problems, just keep warm. Cut down on expenses, too.

E. A. W.

★ ★ ★

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Reading of the recent Supreme Court decisions allowing self-admitted Communists to take defense jobs and jobs with the Merchant Marine, and noting that Stubby Carmichael and his entire contingent are allowed the freedom of this land, and taking into consideration that very soon now we will see Soviet consular offices in all our major cities—I can't understand how we can ask our youth to put their lives on the line in a war dedicated to halting the spread of communism in Asia.

I spent four years in the Air Force in World War II. I enlisted because I had a hatred for the enemy and everything he stood for and I knew the people and the government of our great country were behind me, even the Supreme Court. Can you or I ask our own to do this today?

THOMAS S. RAPTS

PRAYER FOR TODAY

God of greatness and goodness and love, I can never move through February without standing in awe of men of valor and vision. I am grateful for Thy gift of life to George Washington and Abraham Lincoln and for what their courageous devotion to freedom and unity means to me even today. I do not aspire to move in their circles of grandeur, but, Lord, help me to gain a bit more of their kind of courage and vision so that I can do a better job of living in today's world; in Christ's name. Amen.

—Hoover Rupert, Ann Arbor, Mich., minister, First Methodist Church.

EDITORIALS

Lincoln For Our Time

More than 150 years have passed since Abraham Lincoln's birth in 1809, but with each passing year his image grows brighter, a beacon in the dark of adversity.

It is often instructive to reflect on how history's giants would have dealt with current crises. Some clue to Lincoln's reactions may be found in the words he left behind.

Of all the Lincoln speeches—and there were many—it is generally conceded that the 16th president rose to the greatest oratorical heights with his Gettysburg Address.

So brief that a photographer on hand for the occasion couldn't get his camera adjusted in time and missed the shot, the speech, given at the dedication of the Gettysburg (Pa.) military cemetery nevertheless holds a cherished niche in the archives of great documents.

The timeless quality of Lincoln's words has caused them to take on new meaning with the passing of more than 100 years.

The times have been few when we were not engaged in a struggle "testing whether that nation or any nation . . . can long endure." And isn't it still true that "it is for us, the living . . . to be dedicated . . . to the unfinished work which they who fought . . . have thus far so nobly advanced . . . that these dead shall not have died in vain"?

It is always interesting to speculate on how great men in history would have come to grips with today's problems. Following are some topics of current interest with Lincoln quotes which might apply:

On Vietnam: "A house divided against itself cannot stand. I believe this government cannot endure permanently half slave and half free."

Opinions Of The People

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

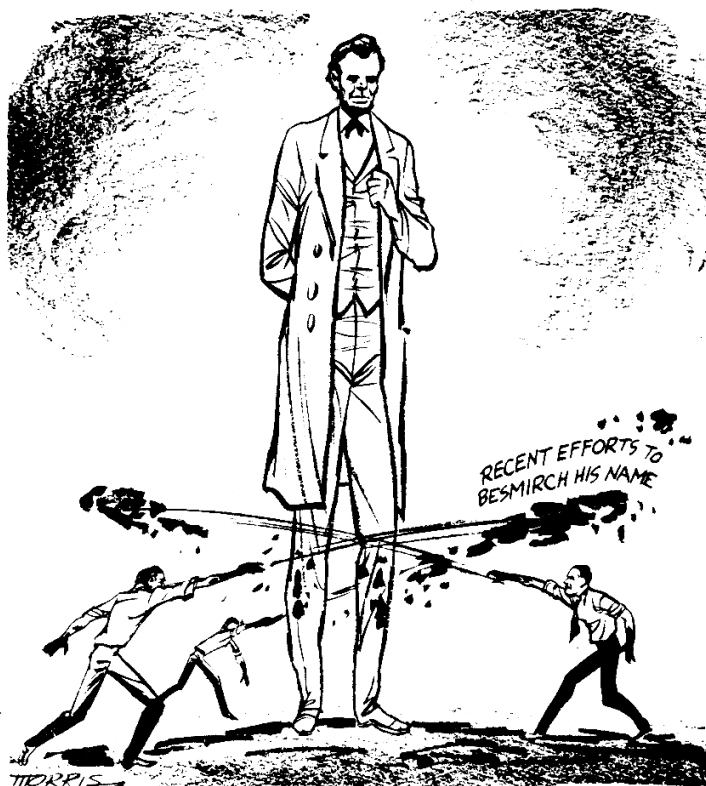
Two weeks ago at Hogan High School in "Emerging Nations" courses the students were treated to what may have seemed to them a rather exciting experience, they met and talked with two engineering professors from the Soviet Union, Vasily Zvonov and Boris Locotosh who are doing research at the University of California.

The students were given the opportunity to ask questions of the "diplomats," as the reporter in the News-Chronicle article called the Russians. Regarding a question about the main goals of the Communist Party Locotosh said, "Peaceful coexistence with all nations . . ." I hope the students are aware of what Communists mean when they use the word "peace." Outwardly it would seem "peace" means the same to them as it means to us, but of course the Communists have created a special vocabulary designed to deceive their enemies. Consequently, "In their external communications they talk sweetly about cooperation, disarmament and peace. But when they talk to each other, their internal language concerns itself with winning the struggle for the world through force, violence and war." According to Dr. Stefan T. Possony in a study for a subcommittee of the Committee on the Judiciary, United States Senate. Senator James O. Eastland, Mississippi, in the foreword to this study said, "The Communist definition of 'peace' means the time when there will no longer be any opposition to the paramount aim of bringing the entire world under communism." This "peace policy" is merely another and — under given conditions — a more advantageous form of fighting capitalism. 'Peaceful coexistence' is the current version of the 'peace policy' according to Dr. Possony's study.

I suppose there is really no cause for alarm at the fact that these Russians spouted Communist propaganda to high school students. After all, surely one of the instructors pointed out to the students what they heard was propaganda. One would hope so, anyway.

Of course this brings up an interesting question — why are our high school students being exposed to this Communist propaganda in their own classrooms? According to J. Edgar Hoover in a speech to a youth group in 1962, "During the past two years Communist spokesmen have appeared on nearly one hundred campuses from coast to coast. Their purpose: To create confusion, raise questions and spread doubt among our young people . . ." I believe Mr. Hoover was referring primarily to college campuses, but we have come a long way since 1962, especially in Vallejo, All-American City, and now Communists are invited to speak at a high school campus, stressing their desire for "peace."

Another question asked by a student was the connection if any, between the U.S. and Soviet Communist parties — the answer, "I don't know about any secret agreements between the two parties" would be almost humorous if it weren't so ridiculous! Anyone, including the students at Hogan I hope, who knows anything about the Communist conspiracy is aware that it is international in its organization and aims and the Communist Parties of all countries take orders from Moscow, including the U.S. Communist



HE STILL STANDS TALL!

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Inasmuch as 1968 sees the end of 18 years of continuing work by the Solano County Committee on School District Organization it is only fitting and proper that this dedicated service by lay citizens should be further recognized.

There were three charter members of the Committee when it was first organized in 1949. These were Calvin Anderson of Rio Vista, Henry Noonan of Fairfield, Miss Elsa Widenmann of Vallejo. Mr. Linford (Bud) Anderson, of Dixon, took office shortly after that in 1951 and has served ever since. Dr. Paul Nielsen, of Vacaville, who is present Chairman of the Committee, and John Cannon, of Fairfield-Suisun, were elected in 1957. Steve Shubin of Vacaville and Mrs. Beatrice Kennedy of Vallejo were appointed in 1960 and 1961. The following are also members of the Committee: James DeTar, Fairfield; John Bown, Vacaville; Frank Cadenasso, Fairfield; Don Hancock, Fairfield and William Quandt, Benicia.

There have been 136 meetings of this committee since its inception in 1949. You multiply this times two hours and multiply that times 11

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Attention: Members of the Vallejo Planning Commission.

Your article concerning the Planning Commission's proposed limiting of child day care centers to four to six children was very well presented. Your lead sentence indicated a major problem the planners have overlooked. The words "for pay" in quotation marks indicates a very key point.

Child day care centers are governed and controlled by the County Welfare Dept. They have never been declared a business and are not required to have a business license. What is "for pay"? Actual exchange of U.S. currency? Labor sharing by exchange of equal time? If child day care centers are nothing more than a business, let the planners require a use permit and a business license to be issued and we will treat our children like any other commodity such as selling cars, shoes, gasoline, etc.

The child day care centers are licensed by the State of California and inspected by the Solano County Welfare Dept. The Vallejo Planning Commission has decided that these two

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OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I am writing to express my concern about the City Planning Commission's proposing the limiting of day care centers to four to six children.

I teach school and leave my three pre-school children in a day care center. They are well cared for and look forward each morning to their day with their friends. The lady that has the center is an intelligent, lovely person, who in my opinion, is more than capable of giving 10 children the care they require. This lady is licensed by the State of California and receives glowing reports of praise from the County Welfare Department.

The parents of the children in the day care center which my children attend have nothing but praise for the way it is conducted and the attention the children receive.

A day care center is not a foster home. It is a daytime babysitting service for young children in a family setting. This does not extend into the evenings or weekends. The children in the day care centers are not running loose, noisy or unsupervised. The rights of neighbors and their properties are most certainly being respected in this situation; and in my opinion, much more so than the neighbors of the "average family" having only two or three children.

Good day care centers are desperately needed in Vallejo and provide a valuable service to the community and to the neighborhoods in which they are located. Most of Vallejo's day care centers and all of the nursery schools are full to capacity. They have long waiting lists of parents that require and want competent child care services.

What do the city councilmen propose working mothers do with their pre-school children?

It is inconceivable to me that our city councilmen will react so rash and emotionally as to discontinue such a valuable community service, limiting the maximum number of children from 10 to 4 or 6 as proposed, will effectively discontinue many of the better day care centers, because of a single complaint.

Note how many complaints are made daily concerning nuisances and damages caused by neighbors' pets, unsupervised children, music lessons, etc., etc. Yet, no logical thinking individual would attempt to combat these problems by proposing an ordinance effectively banning pets, children or music.

It is entirely conceivable to me that our Planning Commission and/or councilmen can resolve the single complaint concerning a day care center without resorting to measures that will so drastically affect so many working mothers.

If we could expect such an illogical response and proposal to solve any one of my or my neighbors' minor complaints or pet peeves, God, help us all!

MR. AND MRS. L. E. SHERRY

★ ★ ★

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Helping Hands is not a ladies' club. We have no meetings and pay no dues. We are a group of Navy wives, interested in giving a little of our time, to help other Navy and Marine dependents in time of need.

It is always interesting to speculate on how great men in history would have come to grips with today's problems. Following are some topics of current interest with Lincoln quotes which might apply:

On Vietnam: "A house divided against itself cannot stand. I believe this government cannot endure permanently half slave and half free."

On civil rights: "When . . . you have succeeded in dehumanizing the Negro; when you have put him down and made it impossible for him to be but as the beasts of the field; when you have extinguished his soul in this world and placed him where the ray of hope is blown out as in the darkness of the damned, are you quite sure that the demon you have roused will not turn and rend you?"

On presidential politics: "While the people retain their virtue and vigilance, no administration, by any extreme of wickedness or folly, can very seriously injure the government in the short space of four years."

On riots: "There is no grievance that is a fit object of redress by mob law."

On the limits of freedom: "The world has never had a good definition of the word liberty, and the American people, just now, are much in want of one."

In one instance, however, Lincoln has been proved wrong, or perhaps it was modesty that prompted him to say in the Gettysburg Address, "The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here . . ."

We Travel Faster

We weren't aware of it, but the highway patrol gentlemen aren't the only ones who keep tab on motorists' speeds. The Bureau of Public roads evidently has been doing it for years.

It reports that Americans are traveling faster than ever on the nation's open roads, mainly because there are more and more miles of four-lane freeways to go faster on.

According to study conducted by the bureau and state highway departments, the average speed of all types of motor vehicles—passenger cars, trucks and buses—was 53.7 miles per hour in 1966. This was nearly one mile an hour faster than the year before.

About 40 per cent of the vehicles were clocked at speeds of 60 m.p.h. or higher. The average speed of buses and cars was the same—58.8 m.p.h. Average truck speed was 52.6 m.p.h., about 50 per cent faster than the average truck speed of 25 years ago—which will not surprise anyone who has tried to pass one lately.

high school campus, stressing their desire for "peace."

Another question asked by a student was the connection if any, between the U.S. and Soviet Communist parties—the answer, "I don't know about any secret agreements between the two parties" would be almost humorous if it weren't so ridiculous! Anyone, including the students at Hogan I hope, who knows anything about the Communist conspiracy is aware that it is international in its organization and aims and the Communist Parties of all countries take orders from Moscow, including the U.S. Communist Party. Actually, he side stepped the whole question, no one was asking him about "secret agreements," but I don't suppose one could expect a Communist to answer a question like that truthfully. Or any other question, for that matter.

It would be interesting to know who was responsible for inviting these men to Hogan. Whoever he is, he must be very naive about the nature of communism. On the other hand, perhaps he is very much aware of the nature of communism. At any rate he is certainly giving it a helping hand in reaching our young people and deceiving them!

Sincerely,
(Miss) ROBIN E. HIGHT
111 Dyer Ct.
Vallejo, Calif.

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I would like to take this opportunity to tell the people of Vallejo about a youth group now being formed. Our purpose is to be a friend to the mentally retarded of Solano County. The club is open to any young person between the ages of thirteen and twenty-five who is willing to spend some time with the mentally retarded, either in a personal friendship or as part of a group activity.

We would like to have all the junior highs, high schools, and the Junior College represented in the club. The particular role of each member can easily be fitted to his schedule and desires. We are working under the guidance of the Solano County Council for Retarded Children.

If you would like to be included, or would like further information, please contact Barry Retwitt 642-9879 or Betty Muth 643-1635.

Sincerely,
Steering Committee
Youth Service to the
Mentally Retarded

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

We have done all of our shopping directly or indirectly from your editions and should be pleased to thank you for making it possible for people like us, who are living on a limited income to be able to enjoy the luxuries at a reasonable price from the years of 1950 to 1966 and hope to have many more.

Sincerely yours,
Mr. and Mrs. Lorn Taylor
186 Bret Harte Way
Vallejo, California

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

One of the local grocery stores has an idea they have slashed prices. Which is true. But that's not what I am writing about.

I have been one of their every week shoppers for months. Now, but every week I go I never find the same prices. It's one, one, two or three cents more. It's obvious this store wants to charge fifty cents for a can of beans, corn or what have you. So why not stamp 50 cents on the can and forget it, instead of adding a little at a time.

PRICE WATCHER

ever since. Dr. Paul Nielsen, of Vacaville, who is present Chairman of the Committee, and John Cannon, of Fairfield-Suisun, were elected in 1957. Steve Shubin of Vacaville and Mrs. Beatrice Kennedy of Vallejo were appointed in 1960 and 1961. The following are also members of the Committee: James DeTar, Fairfield; John Bown, Vacaville; Frank Cadenasso, Fairfield; Don Hancock, Fairfield and William Quandt, Benicia.

There have been 136 meetings of this committee since its inception in 1949. You multiply this times two hours and multiply that times 11 members of the committee and you get 2,992 man hours of dedicated service to education in Solano County. Members of the Committee do not receive any remuneration for the time spent and I cannot speak too highly of the contribution these people have made to education.

The reorganization plan has now been completed according to the wish of the people, as determined at regular elections. This will mean, in my judgment, inevitably better education for the students in Solano County.

Inasmuch as their major objective has been reached, and in the interests of good government, the Solano County Committee on School District Organization has voted to disband and turn over their responsibilities to the Solano County Board of Education.

I am sure that the Solano County Board of Education would join me in expressing our sincere appreciation to these people for the service they have so unselfishly given.

FRED G. McCOMBS
Superintendent of Schools
Solano County, California

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

The demonstrations that were on display throughout our country are quite interesting. We hear leaders make statements that they believe in freedom of speech, freedom of love, freedom this and freedom that, and that the people of America have to be taken care of, housing, clothes, food and entertainment.

They don't mention the socialistic nations helping any country with their freedom and food and free everything.

These same demonstrators go to New York, Detroit, Cleveland, Watts, Berkeley. Last summer they appeared in 110 American cities.

Now who does this benefit? It isn't America or the people like you. They only create hate and confusion.

Only last summer in talking to a young student that was going to summer school in Vallejo stated "he saw nothing wrong with the Communist way of life," so I asked him why the Berlin wall, if there isn't anything wrong with communism. He stated "That the wall was built to keep us out." Where did he get that? He said his history told him. ARE THESE TEACHERS PAID TO TEACH LIES?

Young people will tell you they want to hear both sides. They may be getting it. Why the socialist side?

I see no evidence of their helping the world to freedom. However people of Cuba and other countries that know communism are trying to get away from it.

I would want to know why some of the teachers of Vallejo teach these lies. If my children were in school, who are they helping? Not the children listening to this kind of propaganda. There's only one answer and it isn't America. No wonder there is draft card burners, flag burners, demonstrators, and all the rest that goes to be un-American. What can you expect if you continue not to be involved.

Sincerely
ASA McBRIDE

have never been secured a business and are not required to have a business license. What is "for pay?" Actual exchange of U.S. currency? Labor sharing by exchange of equal time? If child day care centers are nothing more than a business, let the planners require a use permit and a business license to be issued and we will treat our children like any other commodity such as selling cars, shoes, gasoline, etc.

The child day care centers are licensed by the State of California and inspected by the Solano County Welfare Dept. The Vallejo Planning Commission has decided that these two government agencies are incompetent. The centers are limited by their state license for the number of children they may care for. Trained social welfare workers make periodic inspections of each child day care center. These trained personnel judge the adequacy of a home to care for a given number of children.

If the Planning Commission feels that six or more children are a blight on a neighborhood, then perhaps each neighbor or person should be notified when a large family desires to move into their area.

My own child is in a day care center which is licensed for 10 children. She is a happy, well cared for little girl.

I am a public school teacher and every day parents entrust 32 children into my care for 6½ hours. The "house mother," that cares for my child is a loving, competent woman, who, in my opinion is equal to the task of meeting the needs of 10 children.

MR. AND MRS. RICHARD BLAISDELL

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I concur with your editorial in the Feb. 4 edition of the Times-Herald.

You said and I quote, "Public should help officers at all times." However, I think you should have stressed the point that the police force is not looking for John Q. Public to ride that gun but to be more observant toward the things around him at all times.

It is also a fact that your family newspaper can give our Police Department a great deal of help by seeing to it that the scales are balanced equally by reporting an incident per se. If an elephant committed a crime say an elephant committed the crime. On the other hand, if a donkey committed the crime, say the donkey committed the crime.

I think it would be a good gesture if the newspaper would get together with a number of our young people of all races and have a real good discussion. Bring out all the pros and cons and afterward have a question and answer session, something on the same line the Police Department has been doing for years.

Respectfully yours,
JOHN L. LEE

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

We note a widow wants a man to meet her at the Community Center, 225 Amador St.

Well, gentlemen, there are several widows wishing to meet partners for our Golden Age Dance Club. We don't mind if he is forty or ninety years old, just so he can dance. We can assure you a good time from 7:30 p.m. until 10:15 p.m. every Wednesday night. Refreshments are served after the first hour. We also extend an invitation to come join our Napa dances every Friday night, same time at Senior Citizens Center, 1006 Second St.

If you fail to come join us, and hear the pitter-patter of happy feet dancing to the best music ever, then you will have missed the best two hours of your life! We promise you a happy time and the pick of many good partners.

SAMANTHA

If we could expect such an illogical response and proposal to solve any one of my or my neighbors' minor complaints or pet peeves, God, help us all!

MR. AND MRS. L. E. SHERRY

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Helping Hands is not a ladies' club. We have no meetings and pay no dues. We are a group of Navy wives, interested in giving a little of our time, to help other Navy and Marine dependents, in time of need.

We use our own cars to drive dependents, active or retired, to the Mare Island Dispensary, Oak Knoll Naval Hospital and Travis AFB Hospital when no other means of transportation are available to them. Our passengers reimburse us for gas and bridge tolls. We also, in an emergency, take into our homes, children who may be left alone, due to an accident, illness or emergency hospitalization of parent and care for them until another member of the family can come for them or other arrangements are made.

We are always in need of new volunteers. This is not a paying job, but is a richly satisfying one. We work with the chaplains and come under the Navy Relief program. It gives us a change from our everyday pace, a change of scenery, the opportunity of meeting new people, making new friends, sometimes meeting someone from our home state.

What about your children? Some of our volunteers have only one or two, some have five or six. We abide by our schedules. Child care is provided to volunteers, at the Day Care Center at no charge. Last year we volunteered over 500 hours for transportation.

Could you volunteer a few hours of your time, to make one trip a week, or one trip a month, at your convenience to help your 'sister' Navy wives? We have all had times when we had to call on someone for help. Let us repay those times, by helping others. Let's try to keep up the tradition that the Navy takes care of its own.

If you could volunteer a few hours to us, won't you please call the Navy Relief office — 644-0756 and give them your name and number. Your help will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

MRS. BETTY J. MORGAN
Chairman

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Answer to S. S.'s letter in "Opinions of People."

Read about comparing people to dogs! How many dogs get picked up for drunken driving?

How many for breaking into stores and holding up the clerks?

How many for deserting their families? How many are hippies etc?

How many commit murders?

Compare the criminals to wolves, foxes, pigs, other greedy and brainless animals not our protective pet dogs! They never divorce us, desert us, and so forth. Chew this up and swallow it.

R. R.
Dog lover

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Fairfield residents:
I, and practically all of the people here, do not want fluoride put into the drinking water in Fairfield. Nevertheless, the City Council have seen to it that we get it anyway.

We can all thank the City Council this April by voting against everyone of them.
A Voter

PRAYER FOR TODAY

Help me today, O God, to put my good intentions into action. In my yesterdays I have often stumbled. Sometimes I have fallen. I know that the path now in front of me is not easy or smooth. But I rejoice in the conviction that Your strength can become mine, that Your power can give me energy to hold my head high and stride forward. If I am tempted to delay, prod me into action. Give me such a vision of Your greatness and Your power and Your glory that I can rise above myself—right now. Empowered by that vision, may I this day do the best that I know, through the grace of our Savior. Amen.

—Webb Garrison, Evansville, Ind., minister, Central Methodist Church.

EDITORIALS

Inactive Contemplators

Bustling, energetic Americans periodically have love affairs with the quiet, contemplative philosophies of the East.

A few years ago, Zen Buddhism was the rage of intellectual circles. In the 1920s and '30s, the writings of Kahlil Gibran were on the best-seller lists. Yoga exercises have always commanded a small but faithful body of practitioners.

Rapidly becoming an international celebrity today, thanks to his winning of such disciples as the Beatles and other well-known personalities, is Maharishi Mahesh Yogi, a Hindu teacher who preaches "transcendental meditation" as the cure for the world's ills.

"For world peace, we have to have peace for the individual," says the guru (teacher).

Transcendental meditation has been defined as "a kind of relaxed focusing of the mind on its clear, uncluttered center"—"a method of releasing the individual's full potential." Some who have tried it say it relieves anxieties and tensions and enables one to live his life in a more natural, spontaneous way.

And more and more people are trying it—most of them, inevitably, young people on college campuses. The recently founded Students' International Meditation Society has more than 1,000 members on the West and East coasts.

Altogether, says Associated Press religion writer George W. Cornell, there are more than 100 Hindu teaching centers in the United States, many of them started in recent years. Mahesh's International Meditation Society now has 50 centers around the world, with headquarters at a "plush center" in Uttar Pradesh, India, where meditation rooms have soundproof walls and indirect lighting.

The appeal of Oriental philosophy to students, says the Rev. Richard R. Russell, Catholic chaplain at Yale University, "seems to come from a kind of frustration with social activism, a sense of despair at trying to change the ghettos or stop

Opinions Of The People

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

In reply to (Miss) Robin E. Hight's letter concerning the presence of two engineering professors from the Soviet Union at Hogan High School in connection with the school's "Emerging Nations" courses, I have this to say. I found your letter particularly disgusting, mainly because you were so untactfully narrow-minded.

If the people of other nations throughout the world connotated every action of our government as being directly representative of the will and desires of all the people the reference to Americans would be in a much more derogatory vein than it is today.

Russians just as Americans, are capable of having "diplomats." To scrutinize people because they are Russian or any other race for that matter is an attitude that leads to and very often causes cleavages between races. It is logical that if there is differences between peoples they can only be solved through attempts to lessen or bridge that gap. Russia's industrial and agricultural progress amounts to steps over the years towards closing the economic and ideological gap between the United States and itself. In short, Russia is becoming capitalistic. The ideological differences cannot be denied. The basic difference being that the American policy is pluralistic while the Soviet Union's is mainly monistic. But this is not the place to begin an explanation of the dialectics of either system. That is the purpose of books and I suggest you explore one or two Miss Hight.

The Soviet Union believes its system of government is best for the world just as the United States government believes in its superiority. Both governments suffer from ethnocentrism. I am ethnocentric to a degree for I believe our system of government and our values are superior. A war like Vietnam lessens the degree of that feeling yet on the whole it remains.

My doubts rests in you Miss Hight. I question the degree to which you believe in our government. You lack a definite conviction that democracy is more appealing than communism. And you seem most dubious about the high school student's ability to discern and evaluate ideas other than or contradictory to their own and those they have been taught. Frankly, it appears you have more of a problem at this than they. It is my basic optimism and faith in America that causes me to feel that high school students and any other group or person of comparable maturity and intelligence should be exposed to Communist propaganda. And it is also this confidence that spares me any fear of overnight subversion or subversion over any length of time.

If Vallejo is truly an "All American" city then what safer place to listen to Communists speak? Your logic seems to reflect your whole attitude — backwards . . . or perhaps backwards would be more appropriate.

I laud the instructor at Hogan who was "responsible enough" to invite the Russian engineering professors to Hogan. Indeed he is anything but naive about communism Miss Hight.

The University of California has a motto, "Let There Be Light." It is apparent that this instructor subscribes to that idea. For in the light of comparison, in the light of knowledge



IN THE VERY BACK OF THE BOTTOM DRAWER!

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Attention—Vallejo Planning Commission:

I am a parent, whose children attend a day care center. My children are receiving good care and are at all times well supervised. A year ago I was ready to quit work and stay home, as I was unable to find proper supervision for my children in my home.

Some of my previous experiences with baby sitters have been, baby sitters not arriving on time. This is real good when you are trying to make the right impression on the boss, by not being late for work. Baby sitters who prefer to watch daytime TV and let the kids go unsupervised.

Children who attend Day Care Centers play in the yards of the "House Mother." She is in attendance at all times. She is not running out to have a cup of coffee with this neighbor or to chat with that one. Children are not running as free as they do when they are at their own homes.

I take my children to the center at 8:00 a.m. I am now able to work a full 8 hour day with the assurance that when I arrive at 6:00 p.m. to pick them up, they have had good care, good

Anyone in the Greater Vallejo Area is privileged to send letters to "Opinions of the People," an open forum of public opinion. Opinions in this column, however, do not necessarily represent the policy of the publisher. Letters must be confined to 200 words or less and addressed to The Editor, Times-Herald. You must sign your name and address, but your name will not be published if you make such a request.

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I have a friend who offers, in her home, day child care. For this reason, I attended the last Planning Commission meeting, in which this matter was discussed and an ordinance placing certain limitations on these homes was proposed.

As a mother, and as a teacher, I cannot agree more with the letter which was read from the Well re Department stating that any more than four foster children in a home is not conducive to a "home" situation. The foster child remains in his home day and night, seven days a week. Every bit of love and emotional security that his child is to receive from a parent is placed upon the shoulders of the foster parent.

The Planning Commission, however, lumped day care situations with foster homes in their action. This, I am certain, was never the intention of the writer. It is the Welfare Department itself that both licenses and inspects the day care home. In cases where they feel the facilities offered and the care provided warrant it, they can and do license a home for up to ten children. Why? Because the licensed day care center is not a foster home in any sense of the word. No care is provided during the evenings or on weekends; the parent places his child for his working hours only. If a comparison is to be made, the day care home can be much more closely compared to a nursery school, but even here it has the advantage of having less children will also provide care for many youngsters who are excluded from nursery school eligibility.

But let us consider the possible consequences should this ordinance be passed. What is going to happen to the many children of public school teachers who are enrolled in care centers? If each home can only take up to a maximum of six children, then how can women who provide this care afford to keep children they will only have nine months out of the year? I know of two teachers who have said they would have to quit work because their children have allergies and would not be accepted in a nursery school, and another whose child is under two and therefore would not be accepted. Doesn't Vallejo have enough of a teacher shortage without adding an additional stumbling block to those who are willing to teach as long as they are certain that their children are provided with loving and responsible care?

And what, then, about the mother who is the sole support of herself and her children? If her child's care is terminated by this new ordinance and she cannot find another place for him, will she, too, be forced to give up her job? Doesn't this mean that a mother who is not only willing, but also able to support herself and her children might be forced to apply for welfare?

It seemed, the night of the meeting, that several of our commissioners felt that more than six children are always accompanied by noise, inconvenience for others and poor behavior . . . as though these were inevitable. I wish these fine gentlemen could see the conduct of the children who are placed in the care of my friend, and the close supervision and loving care they receive.

It is right and it is fair that those living round about these day care centers should not have to suffer in any way because of them. But

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

In regard to the letter of Miss Hight in the February 12 paper she doesn't know what she is talking about.

When the Russian students, they were students, and they are studying at Berkeley, were asked about the Communist party they would not answer. They said they did not want to discuss their party. Even if they had, you would have to want to be a Communist to be influenced by their speech.

These two men were invited to Hogan to talk about Russia not their party. They would not talk about Vietnam or any of their leaders, nor would they criticize the government of the United States.

Miss Hight said they were "diplomats." Webster's New World Dictionary states that a diplomat is a representative of a government who conducts relations with another government in the interest of his own country. If these men are diplomats, then the American student in Russia are diplomats. She also says the Communists want a peaceful coexistence with the rest of the world, this is what they themselves want.

together, says Associated Press religion writer George W. Cornell, there are more than 100 Hindu teaching centers in the United States, many of them started in recent years. Mahesh's International Meditation Society now has 50 centers around the world, with headquarters at a "plush center" in Uttar Pradesh, India, where meditation rooms have soundproof walls and indirect lighting.

The appeal of Oriental philosophy to students, says the Rev. Richard R. Russell, Catholic chaplain at Yale University, "seems to come from a kind of frustration with social activism, a sense of despair at trying to change the ghettos or stop the war, and a turning to a more inner search."

Among the benefits of this "inner-search" reported by students are more self-reliance, more self-pride, better grades and happier relations with parents and others.

For these reasons alone, transcendental meditation would deserve a sympathetic hearing. But Mahesh is also strongly against the use of drugs and has turned not a few young people, including the Beatles, away from experimentation with LSD and marijuana and other allegedly "consciousness-expanding" substances.

However, in philosophy, as in other things, one should consider the source. About all that Hindu meditation has accomplished for India over the centuries has been to enable generations of swamis to remain serenely oblivious to the human misery around them.

A little meditation and introspection probably never hurt anyone. But if, as the Rev. Russell thinks, American students' interest in passive, private meditation stems from despair and frustration at trying to improve the world, this is not an encouraging development.

Whatever their excesses, we will take the social activists over the navel contemplators any day, and in exchange for all the wisdom of the East, one sentence from Edmund Burke: "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."

Space For Quiet Types

The meek will not only inherit the earth; they may be the best bet for the conquest of outer space and the inner oceans.

In the latest of the Navy's Project Argus isolation experiments, volunteers were confined alone in a small room in complete darkness and silence.

Actual conditions will never be this severe, of course. The deprivation experiment only accelerated reactions that could eventually occur in the monotonous, confined environment of a submarine or spacecraft.

Of the original 40 volunteers, only 21 lasted the full week. The 19 dropouts, some of whom pressed the panic button as early as two hours after the experiment began, showed stress symptoms roughly equivalent to those of soldiers under artillery fire, says Dr. William H. Haythorn of the Naval Medical Research Institute.

comparable maturity and intelligence should be exposed to Communist propaganda. And it is also this confidence that spares me any fear of overnight subversion or subversion over any length of time.

If Vallejo is truly an "All American" city then what safer place to listen to Communists speak? Your logic seems to reflect your whole attitude — backwards . . . or perhaps backwoods would be more appropriate.

I laud the instructor at Hogan who was "responsible enough" to invite the Russian engineering professors to Hogan. Indeed he is anything but naive about communism Miss Hight.

The University of California has a motto, "Let There Be Light." It is apparent that this instructor subscribes to that idea. For in the light of comparison, in the light of knowledge and in the light of a few basic convictions about democracy, communism appears its own worst enemy.

CURTIS E. HEIKKILA
Senior — University of California, Berkeley.
Former Student Body President
Of Hogan Senior High and Vallejo Jr. College.

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

As a student of Hogan High School, and as an interested American citizen, I am greatly disturbed over the recent letter from Miss Robin Hight, who contends that the recent visit of two Russian students was an attempt by the Communists at indoctrinating our youth.

She states that the person who invited the two students to Hogan must be extremely naive. The person who invited the foreigners to come from their studies at the University of California was a person of similar political persuasion as Miss Hight, with one major exception. He is an OPEN-MINDED person who realizes that school kids should reason for themselves, and not accept the beliefs of their parents without question as the law of the land never to be questioned.

The Communist countries decide for people that all people shall be Communists and if they harbor one idea that is American, they are considered a traitor and Yankee sympathizer. Although she has good intentions, Miss Hight believes that all Americans should be 100 per cent American, and if they try to meet someone of the other side to talk and find out things, they are Communist sympathizers out to attack motherhood, apple pie, and the status quo. According to Miss Hight that leaves two alternatives: you are either Communist or anti-Communist with no questions asked. But there is a happy medium, and that is to UNDERSTAND and learn about both sides. In 1945, the Soviets were able to settle the Pakistani-Indian conflict. But because this was a Communist effort for peace, I suppose Miss Hight would term it a "bad peace." Miss Hight must realize that there are two sides to a story.

If the Communists are as bad as she says they are, then the students will have no trouble reasoning and deciding that way.

I met both the Russians and I understood something that Miss Hight obviously seemed to miss. And that is that these two students were human beings that eat, sleep, and miss their wives in the Soviet Union, not the vague identity of a Communist that Miss Hight seems to harbor—a person dressed in black that declares the United States is bad.

These two students were proud of their country and Miss Hight obviously is in her letter. Yet she denounces the two Russians for the same thing she does herself.

I am not a Communist, never have been, and never will be. But because I seek to defend the birthright of every American to think for himself, and consider both sides of a question before taking a stand, Miss Hight will undoubtedly brand me a Communist.

JOHN LAIRD

Some of my previous experiences with baby sitters have been, baby sitters not arriving on time. This is real good when you are trying to make the right impression on the boss, by not being late for work. Baby sitters who prefer to watch daytime TV and let the kids go unsupervised.

Children who attend Day Care Centers play in the yards of the "House Mother." She is in attendance at all times. She is not running out to have a cup of coffee with this neighbor or to chat with that one. Children are not running as free as they do when they are at their own homes.

I take my children to the center at 8:00 a.m. I am now able to work a full 8 hour day with the assurance that when I arrive at 6:00 p.m. to pick them up, they have had good care, good food, and a good time.

I recommend that the Planning Commission allow Child Day Centers to exist in residential neighborhoods.

City ordinances should be modified to make the operation of Day Care Centers legal within residential neighborhoods.

MR. and MRS. P. BRACKETT
849 Ashwood Avenue
Vallejo, Calif.

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

PROFILE OF A MAILMAN:

He is a public servant who puts in a minimum of 30 years before he can retire at 65. Most die before then.

He is the most eagerly awaited visitor to your home each day.

He delivers in all kinds of weather. He dies the most horrible of deaths (rabies) from that harmless pet.

He has saved life in complete disregard of his own.

He starves so he can provide for his family. The maximum he can earn is \$7,500 a year. It takes an act of God to give him a raise or overtime.

He can't strike, is secretly inspected, checked and rechecked.

GOD PROTECT AND BLESS HIM.

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

In regard to the Child Care Centers' issue before the Vallejo Planning Commission, I would like to ask where democracy enters the picture when several (no knowledge of exact number) people or peoples are penalized by complaint of one disgruntled neighbor.

Child Care Centers are a necessity so mothers may work to earn a livelihood for themselves and their children. Or would the Planning Commission rather have these mothers apply for welfare dependency instead of working willingly for their bread?

My opinions are based on my own experience plus the fact that two of my grandchildren are now under the care of one of these centers, and I can vouch for the proper care they receive.

Someone should also inform Dr. Seymore Marcuse that the children in these licensed day care centers are not placed there by any welfare department, but by choice of the mother, father, and/or grandparents.

RUBY VITO

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Vallejo is so lucky to have so many experts on communism who lack confidence in democracy.

How many citizens of the U.S. are likely to prefer communism to democracy? I don't think many people will desire to go from an income of \$10,000 a year to \$3,900 a year under communism.

If you want to do something to stop communism, write an article on the causes of communism and how to eliminate the causes.

CHIL PANCINGO

would not answer. They said they did not want to discuss their party. Even if they had, you would have to want to be a Communist to be influenced by their speech.

These two men were invited to Hogan to talk about Russia not their party. They would not talk about Vietnam or any of their leaders, nor would they criticize the government of the United States.

Miss Hight said they were "diplomats." Webster's New World Dictionary states that a diplomat is a representative of a government who conducts relations with another government in the interest of his own country. If these men are diplomats, then the American student in Russia are diplomats. She also says the Communists want a peaceful coexistence with the rest of the world, this is what they themselves want.

I attended the speech of the two Russians and I did not think they were trying to make me or anyone else a Communist. All they did was answer our questions as best they could.

If they were at Hogan to try to make us Communists I'm sure Mr. Dean wouldn't have let them come.

Sure some of the students who attended their speech will become Communists, some will become murderers, or senators, or one may even become president.

So Miss Hight if anyone becomes a Communist it won't be me.

By the way are you a Bircher?

A Student Concerned
About People Knowing the Truth.

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Regarding comparing people to dogs by "R.R." dog lover. I shall quote as listed in your newspaper dated 12 Feb. '68:

Question: How many dogs get picked up for drunken driving?

My answer: Dogs do not drive.

Question: How many for breaking into stores and holding up clerks?

My answer: Dogs do not need money.

Question: How many desert their families?

My answer: Dogs do not go through divorce courts. They are the first one to leave their pups.

Question: How many are hippies, etc?

My answer: Dogs do not go into barber shops.

Question: How many commit murders?
My answer: Have seen murders by them with little children and kill each other.

Now take a walk up the hills of Mill Valley, Calif., and after a few hours walk, "Dog Lover" will have a different opinion about dogs — I know I received a good bite — or does my flesh have the flavor of a "mailman's leg."

WAND D. BURKE,

M.Sgt. U.S.M.C. (ret.)

★ ★ ★

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Attention: City Planning Commission and City Council:

Regarding your recent discussions on day care homes. Why are you making such a fuss over one complaint? I have stayed with the children at 133 Winchell Ct. on several occasions and can assure you they are not a nuisance to the neighborhood. They never set foot on the neighbors' property. Neither are they destructive. The yard in which they play has beautiful flowers and shrubs which are never bothered.

What will working mothers do without a place to leave their children? How many will have to quit work? Reducing the number from 10 to 4 leaves 6 children without a place to stay. Surely you can see this involves a lot of people.

I myself was once licensed for foster care and later adopted 4 of the children I cared for. Full time foster care and day care are two completely different things.

MRS. ESSIE W. SADLER

And what, then, about the mother who is the sole support of herself and her children? If her child's care is terminated by this new ordinance and she cannot find another place for him, will she, too, be forced to give up her job? Doesn't this mean that a mother who is not only willing, but also able to support herself and her children might be forced to apply for welfare?

It seemed, the night of the meeting, that several of our commissioners felt that more than six children are always accompanied by noise, inconvenience for others and poor behavior . . . as though these were inevitable. I wish these fine gentlemen could see the conduct of the children who are placed in the care of my friend, and the close supervision and loving care they receive.

It is right and it is fair that those living round about these day care centers should not have to suffer in any way because of them. But by the same token, why should the good day care homes (and all the parents and children involved) suffer for those which are not . . . If indeed there are any in existence!

JACQUELINE P. DONALD

★ ★ ★

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Parents where are your children? What are they doing and who are they with?

Years ago this question could have been easily answered because in those days parents and their children were much closer together. Family discussions were the "in" thing, problems between the teenagers were always brought to the head of the family to be discussed with the utmost zest.

But looking back I find that those days are gone forever, swept away with the wind. The new day has approached and with it comes tangible problems such as robberies, burglaries, mugging and what have you. It all boils down to the mere fact that parents and children are so far apart they have become strangers.

This, of course, is not good because where love is absent, depression has a way of creeping in. When this happens, usually some demon takes over and usually it is the dreaded drug called narcotics.

JOHN L. L.

★ ★ ★

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

May I take this opportunity to thank all of the teenagers in the College Park area who assisted me recently in the March of Dimes Drive. These young people were only too willing to help this worthy cause. Teens helping were Misses Rita Dion, Dianne Liberman, Michele Garcia, Leila Cayayab, Rochelle Lemelin, Butch Prudente, Stephanie Gray, Janet Blackwell, Christine Snider, Sharon Parcel, John Ramos, Reginald Garcia and Eugene Magalong. Many thanks also to the mothers, young at heart, who continue to march year after year with little or no recognition from the many organizations they march for. My sincere thanks to one and all who participated in this drive.

MRS. NANCY C. GUEVARA,
Area Chairman

★ ★ ★

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Senator Gibson:
On behalf of my husband and myself thank you for two fine newspapers.

I especially enjoy the society section and the amount of room given to our Travis AFB women's activities. We have been here two years and our publicity has been great.

My husband loves your sport section. He loves box scores in baseball. He also is a golfer and we both loved the paper's coverage of the Kaiser Golf Tournament.

The Times-Herald reporting and pictures of the big fight last Saturday was almost as good as being there, too.

AN A.F. WIFE

PRAYER FOR TODAY

Our Father, we thank You for such a sacred trust as today, for the opportunities and relationships it affords. Help us to quit whining about yesterday or borrowing trouble from tomorrow. May we rather make the most of it today, thereby redeeming some lost yesterday and preparing for tomorrow, which is still Yours to give; in our Savior's name. Amen.

—T. V. Warnick, Murfreesboro, Tenn., pastor.

First Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

EDITORIALS

Curb Enmity For DeGaulle

Merely to write about it may be to exaggerate it, but there does seem to be a growing anti-French feeling in this country. Its sources are obvious, chiefly:

Our frustration with the Vietnam struggle—and President de Gaulle's gratuitous judgments delivered from his own private Olympus; our frustration with the dollar drain—and De Gaulle's apparent plan to transfer Ft. Knox ingot by ingot to France; our concern over the unity of Europe—and De Gaulle's hard-nosed attitude toward NATO and Britain's entry into the Common Market. In a word: De Gaulle.

The reaction has taken two forms: Sporadic attempts to organize a consumer's boycott of French goods and a tourists' boycott of France itself, and calls for the government to make France cough up its World War I debt of nearly \$8 billion (including interest and unmatured principal). Even a number of congressmen, who should know better, are involved in the latter campaign.

The trouble with a boycott is that it can cut two ways. Anything that would inspire the French to stop buying American would please De Gaulle, for France buys much more from us than she sells to us.

And rather than discourage Americans from visiting France, the emphasis should be on encouraging Frenchmen to visit America.

As for the debt, the matter is not as simple as it seems. France is not the only country that owes us money from World War I, nor are we the only country that is owed.

All these debts became largely academic when the worldwide depression struck in the 1930s. Ger-

Opinions Of The People

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Attn: Planning Commission.

I am writing concerning your recent proposal to limit the number of children in a home day-care center at 133 Winchell Court from 10 to 6 or 4. This proposal was made because of one complaint from a neighbor, who said the children were destructive to other neighbors' property. Since the lady who cares for these children's ability to supervise and control the children is being questioned, I would like to say in her behalf that the care and supervision she gives her charges is better than most children receive in their own homes.

This lady has two beautifully equipped, clean playrooms and a fenced backyard for the children, and this is where they spend most of their time, constantly being supervised.

This lady has done this type of work for the past 18 years here in Vallejo and has never before received a complaint. I personally have left my young daughter in her care, and in coming and going have never ever seen any of her children any farther from the house than the driveway and always on her own property playing quietly with their trikes and toys. Both she and her husband maintain a beautiful home and yard which is a credit to their neighborhood. There is not the slightest evidence of destructiveness in or about the property.

I hope the planning commission uses good judgment by not decreasing the number of children in their care. There are already too few good home day-care centers in our community where a working mother can leave her young children satisfied in the knowledge they will receive the type of loving care she wants for them.

Sincerely,
MRS. JAY ASHBURN

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

The North Bay Amateur Radio Association of Vallejo is planning a spring rummage sale to be held the weekend of May 31-June 1 to raise money for the club's emergency equipment fund.

Any and all kinds of rummage is needed. Anyone having rummage for pick-up may call one of the following numbers:

In Fairfield: 425-4042 (after 5:30)

In Vallejo: 643-7757, 643-3985, 644-3431.

Proceeds from the sale will be used to buy field equipment for use in Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service. Public assistance is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

NORTH BAY AMATEUR
RADIO ASSOCIATION

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I am writing in reply to the letter by Ase McBride who asked ARE OUR TEACHERS PAID TO TEACH LIES?, upon hearing a young man say that he saw nothing wrong with the Communist way of life and that the Berlin wall was built to keep us out.

I am a student and I once told a teacher that I saw nothing wrong with the communism in other countries, and even after a long discussion I still believe that the essence and the idea of communism is beautiful. No, our teachers aren't teaching lies. They don't teach us enough about communism for fear of being attacked by people



BATTLE CASUALTY!

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Recently I took our dog, on a leash, to Dan Foley Park and while there securely fastened the leash to a table precluding any possibility of the dog running loose. An employee on duty at the park informed me that no animals were permitted within the confines of the park and showed me a paragraph in some sort of a book which spelled out the above provision. Upon leaving the park I paid particular attention for signs which would inform the public of the ban on dogs, they were conspicuous by their absence.

If animals with or without leash are prohibited then in all fairness signs should be posted at the entrance to the park informing the public of the restriction.

G. W. TAYLOR

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I am writing to express my concern about the City Planning Commission's proposing the limiting of day care centers to four to six children.

I am a working mother and leave my small son in a day care center. He is well cared for

Anyone in the Greater Vallejo Area is privileged to send letters to "Opinions of the People," an open forum of public opinion. Opinions in this column, however, do not necessarily represent the policy of the publisher. Letters must be confined to 200 words or less and addressed to The Editor, Times-Herald. You must sign your name and address, but your name will not be published if you make such a request.

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I feel it most important to answer the two people who were most concerned, and critical of the social studies program at Hogan High School. Both of these people and others less concerned about the content of our teaching and the resources we use to make that teaching interesting and effective.

At Hogan High School, thanks to our principal, Mr. Dean, who has dynamic ideas for the development of student interest in the social studies program, we are trying to use all the resources of the "Bay Area" at our disposal. A list of some of these resources that have been used over the past two years is listed below to show any possible critics our intentions.

Judge Randall, Speaker for Governor Brown.
A speaker for candidate Reagan.
Two speakers from the John Birch Society.
Supervisor Kilby, County Government.
Vice Mayor Brown, City Government.
Reverend Lewis, Vietnam War.
Reverend Tuft, The Death Penalty.
Two "Hippies," Philosophy of the Hippy.
Warden, The Death Penalty.
Elluna Beckett, from England, Education in England.

Our Social Studies Department is constantly working to enrich the experiences of our students in all points of view. We, at all times, invite anyone from the community to come in and participate in our program.

In regard to the two Russian students from the University of California who were brought into Hogan by our most conservative teacher, praise should be heaped upon him for digressing from his own philosophy to present other viewpoints in order to improve relations between peoples regardless of different ideological beliefs.

As for students who report about their teachers, I would remind you that teachers generally are misquoted. Comprehension is not always the best trait in all students.

Administrators, teachers, and students generally have enough faith in our present form of government not to let a speaker, who has their attention for about fifty (50) minutes, alienate them from thirty (30) years of faith in their own government system. Then again it is also informative to hear other viewpoints that differ from some of the time-worn phraseology about other countries' ideology voiced by people of extremely limited knowledge.

It is felt by our administrators and teachers that experiences given to the student in formulating judgments is a very worthy experience.

ROBERT R. ROBINSON
Chairman, Social Studies
Dept., Hogan High School

★ ★ ★

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Regarding your excellent editorial "Mobilize Against Crime," of 2-16-68. Many of us would be glad to be of assistance to our law enforcement bodies. The people who in large measure are morally responsible for the current, to quote your editorial: "Mounting, insidious disregard and disrespect for law and order" — are unfortunately, the very ones on whom we the rank and file citizenry have to depend to give us

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Whenever your paper, and others, carry a story of a power failure, the quotes from the utility officials always refer to it as an "outage."

This is an innocuous term. It may be a word, but it is not in my dictionary, and it leaves the impression of a natural phenomenon like the rise and fall of the tide.

Let us not add to the credibility gap by accepting pseudo-words from company spokesmen.

(On another occasion I may attack the advertising copy writers' phony phrases, i.e., "Free Gift," "Full Quart," etc.)

Sincerely yours,
CALVIN PAIGE

★ ★ ★

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Attention: City Planning Commission and City Council

I was concerned when I read the paper that the City Planning Commission was considering limiting the number of children to four or six in a Day Care Center. I have baby-sat on several occasions at a Day Care Center home and was amazed at how quiet and well disciplined the

FOR FRANCE BUYS MUCH MORE FROM US THAN SHE SELLS TO US.

And rather than discourage Americans from visiting France, the emphasis should be on encouraging Frenchmen to visit America.

As for the debt, the matter is not as simple as it seems. France is not the only country that owes us money from World War I, nor are we the only country that is owed.

All these debts became largely academic when the worldwide depression struck in the 1930s. Germany still owes France World War I reparations, which France more or less wrote off at the same time. Reviving all the debts everybody owes everybody from World War I could open up a real can of worms.

Looking at the balance sheet of history, it is ridiculous to try to decide which country—France or the United States—is the more indebted to the other.

America helped save France in two world wars, yet French aid during the Revolution made the existence of America possible in the first place. Compared to the real value of the Louisiana Purchase, France's World War I debt shrinks into nothingness.

It would be tragic if our present impatience with De Gaulle led us into a nasty hair-pulling fight with a traditional friend which could sour relations between our two countries long after the Sun President has left the scene.

Indeed, remembering the instability that plagued France (and us indirectly) before De Gaulle took over, we might someday find ourselves wishing he were still around.

Forbidden Fruit Moral

Dirty book publishers in Denmark are longing for the good old days—when it was against the law to sell pornography.

In an experiment that only the adventurous Scandinavians would dare try, Denmark recently abolished all censorship of the printed word. As expected, the nation's presses groaned mightily and poured forth a torrent of pure pornography.

But as was not expected, the bottom soon dropped out of the market. (Neither has there been any noticeable increase in sex-motivated crimes.) Now that the stuff is freely available, it simply is not avidly sought after.

It is, of course, the old story of the forbidden fruit that loses its appeal once it is no longer forbidden.

Those who want to make money in the pornography racket had better stick to countries like America, where we still have some moral standards.

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I am writing in reply to the letter by Asa McBride who asked ARE OUR TEACHERS PAID TO TEACH LIES?, upon hearing a young man say that he saw nothing wrong with the Communist way of life and that the Berlin wall was built to keep us out.

I am a student and I once told a teacher that I saw nothing wrong with the communism in other countries, and even after a long discussion I still believe that the essence and the idea of communism is beautiful. No, our teachers aren't teaching lies. They don't teach us enough about communism for fear of being attacked by people like Asa McBride who believe that communism is the worst thing in the world.

Yes, we do want to hear both sides; socialist and democratic. The people of Cuba and other countries don't die trying to get away from communism but from a dictator who used communism to get into power. Most of the teachers I have had do spread propaganda; but not the Communist kind but the American kind. And we, the young people of today, must seek other forms of information, other than teachers and school books, in order to find the whole truth and make up our minds for ourselves.

Furthermore, I believe that when there are no protestors, no draft card burners and demonstrators, and etcetera there will be no America. We will merely have become "a nation of sheep." Protesting is not un-American it is a most important part of our democracy. I only wish that there were more people with the nerve to protest instead of stupidly accepting everything that comes from Washington.

MISS ELEANORA PORTER

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

(Miss) Robin E. Hight: When I first read your article in OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE my first thought was that you were a student, but upon rereading decided that you are just a fuddy duddy who is afraid of her shadow but presumes to tell anyone who will listen how to live his life.

Of course the Soviet Union wants peace. Their government, as ours, is a governance of people. Their object is to advance their country to the same status as our country. Being a one party political system with a limited membership to that party and all power in the party makes it a dictatorship, but still a governance of PEOPLE. They can do things that our politicians cannot do, but would like to be able to do. One is to control the press and the news. With all their power they cannot furnish their people with the abundance that our private enterprise system of profit and waste has produced.

The thing our students must learn and understand is that they, the Soviet Union, are on the way up as a nation, while we are on the way down as a nation. And they must be taught why this is so. There is not space here for details, but governance of people is obsolete in North America. If that is not true, then why so much trouble with crime, drugs, health, education, welfare, labor, etc., etc.

In a recent magazine article one of our well known politicians stated that we need a larger and better paid police force. Were it not so serious it would be laughable. What we need today is governance of things not of people. That way things can be arranged so that people will not have to do the things they should not do. Impossible? No! Our youth must be given a chance for human survival in decency that is made possible by intelligent use of technology. Technocracy has had the answer for a long time, so let's get organized for something.

Another fuddy duddy
J. SEWARD

on dogs, they were conspicuous by their absence. If animals with or without leashes are prohibited then in all fairness signs should be posted at the entrance to the park informing the public of the restriction.

G. W. TAYLOR

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I am writing to express my concern about the City Planning Commissions' proposing the limiting of day care centers to four to six children.

I am a working mother and leave my small son in a day care center. He is well cared for and looks forward to spending the day with the other children. Before I brought him to this day care home I had already had two baby sitters and the thought of interviewing and seeking references to ensure that my son would get good care again is not in the least appealing. My son is a more happy and well adjusted child since he is in the atmosphere of a home setting in this day care center.

Good day care centers are very much needed in our community and provide a most valuable service to the community and to families in which both parents work.

The day care center that I take my son to is licensed by the State of California. The lady is a charming and intelligent person and in my opinion is more than able to take care and satisfy the needs of ten children.

Just what does the Council think working parents are to do with their children, if they can think of limiting such a valuable and worthwhile service to the community?

MRS. SUE CONLEY

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

ABAG has been a mystery to most of us. I thought ABAG was a commission which had a certain amount of money to spend and that we would all benefit by its studies and surveys of the Bay Area.

Now we learn this organization had half a million cash and that the fund was readily accessible to a 26-year-old employee who is now missing along with \$400,000 of the funds.

Do we citizens sit back and take this loss without a whimper? What was the amount of the surety bond? Who investigated this man without complete thoroughness before hiring him? Who devised the office procedures which practically encouraged this defalcation? What "friendly" bank blithely cashed the checks or other forms of withdrawal without a word to other forms of withdrawal without a word to some responsible member of the commission?

The rumor is that our reverse-Horatio Alger character whiled away his time and the people's money at Las Vegas. Transporting stolen funds into Nevada does not purify them. Can a racino watch some punk drop \$100,000-\$200,000 on the tables in a matter of months and not become suspicious? And if it is suspicious, does not the casino have a duty to inquire and perhaps report to the lawful owner of the money?

This matter cries for investigation and, I trust, a taxpayers' suit. See everyone possibly culpable and let each work his way out — if he can.

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Recent pictures of President Johnson show him wearing a pin in the buttonhole of his left lapel.

Someone told me it was a Temperance Society badge but I doubt that.

Do you, or do any of your readers know, what the pin represents?

Thank you.

NORRIS PALMER

(On another occasion I may attack the advertising copy writers' phony phrases, i.e., "Free Gift," "Full Quart," etc.)

Sincerely yours,
CALVIN PAIGE

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Attention: City Planning Commission and City Council

I was concerned when I read the paper that the City Planning Commission was considering limiting the number of children to four or six in a Day Care Center. I have baby-sat on several occasions at a Day Care Center home and was amazed at how quiet and well disciplined the children were. I have baby-sat for two nephews and one niece and found that they played better in the Day Care Center than in my own home. The Day Care Center I sat for is on an orderly schedule that keeps the children busy and interested in varieties of activities with limited amounts of noise. The children arrive at a variety of times ranging from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. They watch television and play with games until mid-morning, then if the weather is nice they play in the play centered backyard. They are not allowed to get over boisterous with loud games such as shoot-em-up-bang, bang, but are encouraged to play in a sandbox, ride tricycles on cement patio or gull each other in wagons. I was amazed to see how quietly the children play together. From 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. the children are in the house having their lunch and naps. At this time there is no noise at all. I feel the number of children in a Day Care Center should be based on the capabilities of the house mother and her facilities. It is my opinion that the Day Care Centers should be dealt with individually rather than as a whole when a complaint is issued.

MRS. L. A. BROWN

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I do not wish to disagree with Mr. and Mrs. Richard Blaisdell or with M. and Mrs. L. E. Sherry, as I concur generally with their remarks. However, I am amused by some of the details of their statement — my own child; I am amused; I am writing; it is entirely conceivable to me; etc. This is a writing phenomenon I have often observed. Obviously, the opinions of only half the signers are expressed, but they are good. Why share the credit? Maybe Mrs. Mere does the same, but I don't know. When I write my own ideas, I say I, my, me. When I have consulted her, I say we, our, us. Every time I open my mouth in print, I put my foot in it. Why should hers be too, unless she wants it that way?

MERE MAN

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

A complaint has been filed against a lady in Winchell Court, who cares for pre-school age children. This complaint alleges that this lady allows her little charges to run wild in the neighborhood, disturbing the residents.

We, the undersigned, for eleven years lived across the street from this lady before she changed her residence to Winchell Court, and we can truthfully state that none of her little charges ever crossed the street or bothered us in any way. They were kept in perfect control at all times, riding their tricycles and pulling their little wagons in the driveway, but mostly playing in the back patio, which was furnished with good, strong playground equipment, swing, sandbox, benches, etc. The children who are running free in Winchell Court are the children of other neighbors.

Sincerely,

MRS. AND MRS. FRANK COSTA
MRS. BERT C. WHITELEY

ROBERT R. ROBINSON
Chairman, Social Studies
Dept., Hogan High School

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Regarding your excellent editorial "Mobilize Against Crime," of 2-10-68. Many of us would be glad to be of assistance to our law enforcement bodies. The people who in large measure are morally responsible for the current, to quote your editorial: "Mounting, insidious disregard and disrespect for law and order" — are unfortunately, the very ones on whom we the rank and file citizenry have to depend to give us proper law enforcement. Almost every day we read and hear of instances where law enforcement is impeded or breaks down due to decisions of this or that governmental body to enforce only certain portions of a law or to select those against whom they will enforce a law.

Then others elected to, in part, enforce law, finding their wishes thwarted because they cannot get enough votes to legally have what they feel is "best for the people." Instead of taking legal steps to change the law, ask the opinion of some lawyer if they can get away with taking an action without getting legal voter approval. Then, still others, appointed to positions in the judiciary, although they too have taken oaths and/or affirmations to uphold the supreme laws of the land, take it upon themselves to make decisions that go directly contrary to that Constitution they have sworn to uphold and defend. You are so right, Mr. Editor, our lives, the lives of our loved ones, the life of our nation, hang in the balance. We the people will do what we can, but our actions really would not be necessary if the people we elect to office would live up to their oaths. Take ABAG for example. I seriously doubt that Vallejo's participation in that loosely run body citizenry. Yet, here we are faced with the possibility of having some federal court holding us liable for a share of monies allegedly gambled away by a dishonest employee.

W. B. SIMMONS

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

The National Park Service convened a public hearing in Fresno last week to elicit suggestions on the best way to reserve Yosemite National Park. As might be expected, it produced little agreement.

The arch conservationists were all for closing the park to anything more high-powered than a pack mule, while the concession-minded all but advocated high-rise campsites.

The real problem was put succinctly, and well, by Rep. B. F. Siak (D-Fresno), when he said:

"The real danger is that we might love Yosemite to death."

There is no question that the valley itself is over-used at present. Campsites there should be thinned out, and if it should become necessary, resort activities such as boats, golf, theaters and the like, should be discontinued.

There should be greater emphasis placed on development of campsites in the high country, away from the valley proper. The scenery there is spectacular enough to satisfy even the most base, and there is ample room for expansion. Yosemite Valley actually comprises a minute portion of Yosemite National Park, though this fact is not too widely recognized, nor is it emphasized by the National Park Service.

GILBERT MILLER