

PRAYER FOR TODAY

Loving Redeemer, accept our daily rejoicing in this Advent season. It is difficult for us to rejoice in our troubled times until we remember the difficulties of the circumstances into which the Christ Child was born. Give us strength and guidance to be a part of Your redeeming action in our world today. In His name we pray. Amen.
—Gertrude Little, Anderson, Ind., professor of Christian education, Anderson College.

EDITORIALS

Welfare Honor System

Uncle Sam wants to introduce the "honor system" in the federal welfare program by doing away with elaborate investigation of relief applicants and substituting their statement that they are needy enough to qualify for assistance.

The proposal, which could become effective in a month, marks a sharp departure from the old, hard way in effect throughout most of the country whereby relief applicants are checked to make sure they're poor and not Aristotle Onassis in disguise.

The plan may be noble in its purpose, but it must be viewed with caution to make certain the proposed relaxation of eligibility does not become an open invitation to the unscrupulous to take advantage of it.

We believe those unfortunate persons entitled to welfare should receive assistance, but we also hold that the same aid should not be made more easily available to the unqualified. Relief already has become a way of life for too many recipients who find it easier to live on welfare than work for a living.

Whatever chance the new plan has of succeeding largely will be determined by the local welfare agencies which will implement it. They must assume the responsibility for making certain aid is granted on merit alone. Unless integrity is maintained in the distribution of welfare aid, the new plan—or the present system for that matter—will be subject to abuse that ultimately will defeat its purpose.

Government officials have conceded that the new plan could add to the relief rolls but said they expected "little abuse" from relief applicants who would be placed in somewhat the same position as persons filing income tax returns.

The temptation to cheat would be strong, but the applicant would be "deterred" from filing false statements of need because of the

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.

NOTICE

Letters submitted to the Opinions of the People page have, in many instances, exceeded the 200-word limit set for such letters. Editors of this page probably have been remiss in not insisting earlier that the length be observed.

From now on, contributors are asked to please limit the length of their letters to the 200 words as prescribed in the rules for publication at the top of this page. Letters on hand and still unpublished will be published as soon as possible.

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Teen Pages, Times-Herald, Paul Mattiuzzi article Nov. 23, 1968.

I am sorry for you. When you state that the "forces of purity have been foiled," you belittle purity.

Your lack of understanding of the situation is apparent in your article. I do not know your age, but presume from your statements that you are an adolescent.

You resent the fact that I sought the opinions of a cross-section of my city before questioning the library trustees regarding the filthy book, thereby you evidently do not favor a democratic approach to a problem.

I hope every adult in Vallejo reads the "Hippie Papers" and they will all agree with me. I am sure, that it is not a book they wish placed in the hands of their young people.

The word "censorship" does not enter into this controversy.

I agree with you when you write that our librarian is "Liberal Homer Fletcher" and that Sweden has little censorship. Do you know the conditions in Sweden since this happened?

We have medicines for adults with lesser doses for children.

We do not allow children to drive cars until a certain age.

We do not allow minors to enter taverns and purchase liquor.

We treat minors differently than adults when they become involved in crime.

We try to teach youth to have a clean body and we must see to it that youth has a healthy mind.

When you are older, you will realize that all of these regulations are done for the benefit of you young people and after you grow up you will offer the same safeguards for your children.

Youth has always thought it knows all, but time alone shows them how little of real life they really know.

Youth is a wonderful time of life! Enjoy it! Don't try to be an adult until you have experienced the responsibilities of an adult.

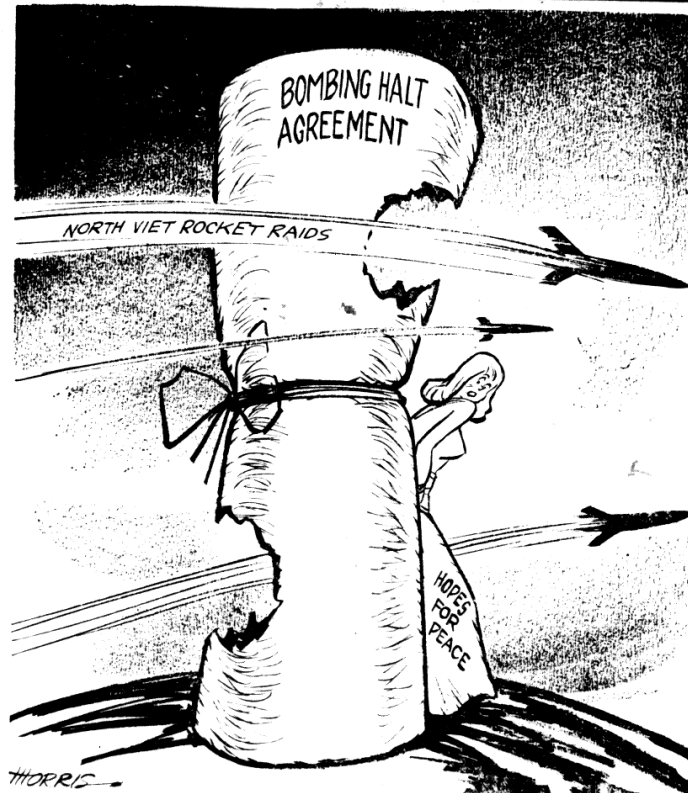
And remember it costs nothing to be courteous and respectful to others and reflects credit upon those who practice these graces.

Mayor Florence E. Douglas

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I have followed the Vallejo and Hogan football teams with interest ever since they split into two schools and would like to comment on the recent big game.

It was OUTSTANDING. The only thing that would have made it better was if both teams could have won. They both deserved to. Hogan outplayed Vallejo all season but it was Vallejo's game all the way on Friday night.



SOMETHING SHORT OF PERFECT!

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

The Vallejo Public Library Board of Trustees is to be commended for its courageous stand against the misguided forces of censorship in our community. I strongly concur with its decision to remove no book from the library's shelves because its content is offensive to a pressure group.

It is the business of the professional librarian to select books for the entire community. The librarian is highly trained for this function. If a parent wishes to restrict his teenager's reading, it is certainly the right of the parent to do so, but he must not be allowed to restrict the reading of other people's children to what he deems appropriate for his own child.

The public library is not offering pornography to teenagers. There are strict laws against this action. If the pro-censorship group had a legal case, it would not need to resort to a talk campaign.

Although I have no connection with the Vallejo Library except that of avid user, I am a professional librarian specializing in teenage literature and in education. My experience gives me the background to evaluate our

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In reply to the letter signed "Curious," I have a few things to say.

I disagree with you, that the only houses available to most black people are shacks and run down barns. Thousands of fine, Negro people in Vallejo are living in lovely, well furnished homes, in nice neighborhoods.

If there are people living in overcrowded homes, infested with rats, in need of roof repair or plumbing, they should do everything in their power to better themselves if possible. They should take any kind of work they can get and make the improvement themselves.

As for the elderly in our city, they are well cared for. They have Social Security, Medicare, old age pension and there are plenty of senior citizens groups with adequate meeting places and they have a good time.

As for our teenagers, I think there is a lot the parents can do about this themselves. Why should the city play nurse maid to your children? Most churches have an excellent recreational program for their young people.

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I am a fifth grader and I am willing to do something about the people in Biafra. They are starving and have nothing to eat. I am willing to do some jobs and raise money so that I can help them. Please call 642-0925, 220 Edgemont.

The people in Biafra need help fast and have six weeks left to live if they don't have any more food to eat. Soon they will be dead if they don't have help. The drive for raising money is from Dec. 7 to Dec. 14.

They don't have much more time to live, so they need your help. We will be thankful to you if some live. And if they don't, we will still be thankful to you for helping and trying.

Thank You,
Yours Truly
KAY EWING

Catholic Released Time
Highland School—GR5

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

For the past month I have followed with keen interest the mayor's crusade against "filth." It has occurred to me that the mayor has a different purpose in mind than simply to rid our city of what she considers unsuitable literature. Since when has our mayor campaigned for cultural advancements in this city? I can think only of her opposition. She was, is, and always shall be staunchly opposed to the new library. She wishes to keep our present Victorian structure. Not only that, she wishes to retain Victorian standards of literature.

This "decency campaign" is merely a ruse to "get at" the library, to give it as bad a time as she possibly can. She did not have strong enough power to crush the new library, so she now proposes to put the library under city control — her control. What would Madam Mayor do if she were given control of schools? Would she ban all Family Life courses, biology, anatomy, art, perhaps literature? Who knows?

I expect this idea would go over well with her followers (cronies?) who shout, "Save our children from filth!" If these parents have done a good job of raising their children, "objectionable" literature should cause no problems.

I was in junior high school when I read Lolita, with my parents' knowledge. If such literature corrupts young minds, why am I not molesting children? Why am I not on dope? If a book contains those shameful four-letter words (those which Junior has known since second grade) I am able to read them without using them. I can read of a rape without going out and committing it. My parents are not worried about me. If you, as a parent, are worried about your child, I am very sorry for you. You have done a poor job.

So, I say, "Mayor Douglas and members of the Mayor's Committee for Decency, please go home and leave the running of the library to the capable hands of the Library Trustees." With more emphasis I say, "Don't tell me what I can and cannot read!"

Richard Whitfield
Solano College Student

making certain aid is granted on the condition that **Unless integrity is maintained in the distribution of welfare aid, the new plan—or the present system for that matter—will be subject to abuse that ultimately will defeat its purpose.**

Government officials have conceded that the new plan could add to the relief rolls but said they expected "little abuse" from relief applicants who would be placed in somewhat the same position as persons filing income tax returns.

The temptation to cheat would be strong, but the applicant would be "deterred" from filing false statements of need because of the possibility that their cases might be investigated under the spot checks permitted by the proposed new system.

This theory assumes that the relief check thief either is honest or fearful of apprehension, despite a record which proclaims otherwise. It ignores the hallmark of the thief that he will take a chance on getting away with his larceny. And yet the Department of Health, Education and Welfare now proposes to make his gamble enormously more attractive by abolishing the odds against it.

It's also a gamble the taxpayers should be reluctant to take.

Be Sure To Vote

Solano County voters will go to the polls tomorrow to cast ballots in a special school election designed solely to permit compliance with a state law that requires all school boards to be composed either of five or seven members.

In this instance, the special election was necessitated when the governing board of the Solano County Junior College District was reduced from seven to six members by the loss of the Rio Vista trustee area through a court decision.

Voters tomorrow will be faced with a short ballot on which appear only two propositions. One calls for the rearrangement of the district's trustee areas to include an additional trustee from the Fairfield-Suisun-Travis area and the other provides for the election of a seventh member to the present board as a replacement for the former Rio Vista trustee.

A "Yes" vote is recommended on both propositions inasmuch as any other vote would necessitate another election on the same two proposals.

So be sure to vote tomorrow for without your approval of the two ballot propositions, the Junior College District trustees cannot become a legally constituted governing board.

They really know.
Youth is a wonderful time of life! Enjoy it! Don't try to be an adult until you have experienced the responsibilities of an adult.
And remember it costs nothing to be courteous and respectful to others and reflects credit upon those who practice these graces.
Mayor Florence E. Douglas

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I have followed the Vallejo and Hogan football teams with interest ever since they split into two schools and would like to comment on the recent big game.
It was OUTSTANDING. The only thing that would have made it better was if both teams could have won. They both deserved to. Hogan outplayed Vallejo all season but it was Vallejo's game all the way on Friday night.
Just how many people realize the work and time and effort that is put into those entertaining half time performances. Both band leaders and band members should be highly congratulated on the performances they did all season. Also, all of the pom pon girls, yell leaders, baton twirlers, mascots, etc. And the drill teams. I have never seen such an improvement in any drill team as Hogan's this season. Their perfect marching and timing Friday night made them look like professionals. Their leaders deserve a lot of credit as I'm sure many, many hours went into the superb drilling. The crowd was tremendous, school spirit in abundance, and the two principals' talk and dedication to the boys, who had attended both schools but had been killed in the Service, was a nice gesture, sad as it was.

Vallejoans who missed the "big game" missed a lot. And everyone who participated to make the night so successful should be truly congratulated. Especially the coaches and football players who have been out there every night after school for hours getting banged up and bruised so they could entertain Vallejo and Hogan fans like me.
Again I say CONGRATULATIONS to both schools, and everyone in them.
And I'm already looking forward to next football season.

A Hogan and Vallejo Football Fan
★ ★ ★

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

This is to the person who signed themselves as a tired and disgusted cab rider.
Did you ever stop to think that there might be other calls for cabs which just might have come in before yours?
It sure gripes me, having been in the taxi business, as a driver and dispatcher for many years, to hear people who call a cab about once a month, when their welfare or social security checks arrive, complain about the service they get.
They expect the driver to carry two or three boxes of groceries up several flights of stairs and then don't give him the common courtesy of even a "Thank you."

These people should go to some other cities I have been in and wait twenty or thirty minutes for a cab and then maybe not get one at all.

Also as to calls from supermarkets, it sometimes happens that the store personnel have more important things to do than call a taxi the exact moment that you ask for it, and how many times do the people who call walk off, or get a ride with a friend, and leave the driver without a fare. If the general public, especially people like yourself, knew a little more about the cab business and showed a little common courtesy, they might appreciate the good service they get, and this might be a little better world to live in.

A TIRED AND DISGUSTED TAXICAB DISPATCHER.
★ ★ ★

It is the business of the librarian to select books for the entire community. The librarian is highly trained for this function. If a parent wishes to restrict his teenager's reading, it is certainly the right of the parent to do so, but he must not be allowed to restrict the reading of other people's children to what he deems appropriate for his own child.

The public library is not offering pornography to teenagers. There are strict laws against this action. If the pro-censorship group had a legal case, it would not need to resort to a talk campaign.

Although I have no connection with the Vallejo Library except that of avid user, I am a professional librarian specializing in teenage literature and in education. My experience gives me the background to evaluate our public library's collections and services, particularly for the youth of the community.

In my opinion, the Vallejo Library is doing an outstanding job of selecting and displaying its literature for young people. I say this after careful examination of the collections in the main library and the bookmobile. Let me also mention that I have read nearly every book shelved in the teenage section.

It would be a tragedy for the young people of this community if their present fine library service were hampered by restrictive selection, display, or loan policies. I feel confident, after attending the board's Nov. 7 meeting, that this tragedy will not occur in Vallejo.

Mrs. Thomas C. West
★ ★ ★

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

It seems to me that it is time we taxpayers realize that we are involved in a cooperative effort. As a taxpayer I cannot expect that the total taxes that I pay be spent only on things that I want and not on things that someone else wants that I don't. I would imagine there are books in the library which would be of interest to our Mayor which would not be of the slightest interest to me but I certainly would not expect the library board to eliminate those books just because I didn't care for them. A self interested way to look at it would be to say that my tax money buys the books I like and the mayor's tax money buys the books she likes.

It seems to me also that it is time for some of the people of Vallejo to stop insulting the great majority of the young people by insinuating that they are going to hell because of books with dirty words. These young people are not so stupid or immoral that they cannot discriminate between good literature and trash.

KENNETH D. DUGAN
111 13th Street
★ ★ ★

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Librarian president Mrs. Joseph's letter was very interesting and she made her point well — and I am convinced that it is this type of undisciplined, permissive thinking which is responsible for the upheaval and chaos on our college campuses, this thinking which promotes lawlessness, and this guide which is governing the so-called authors and movie makers to get away with the garbage they force on the American public.

Our country is turning into a horrifying jungle because some people have decided to play the game by their own rules. Now how can one have a game by a hundred rules? If this type of irresponsible thinking continues it will be the fall of the Roman Empire right here in America. Please God — send us some responsible people who are more concerned with integrity than "freedom."
J.F.

THROUGH

If there are people living in overcrowded homes, infested with rats, in need of roof repair or plumbing, they should do everything in their power to better themselves if possible. They should take any kind of work they can get and make the improvement themselves.

As for the elderly in our city, they are well cared for. They have Social Security, Medicare, old age pension and there are plenty of senior citizens groups with adequate meeting places and they have a good time.

As for our teenagers, I think there is a lot the parents can do about this themselves. Why should the city play nurse maid to your children? Most churches have an excellent recreational program for their young people. And why not furnish entertainment for them at home? Most houses have a room large enough for their youngsters to have a party. Or why not turn your kitchen over to your youngsters and their friends for a hot dog feed? Is it because the parents don't want the responsibility? Just want them out of the house while someone else entertains them?

It is not the responsibility of the decency committee or the city to see that every family in town has what you call "decent living conditions." Most families can provide these for themselves if they just put forth the effort. If you could go to Biafra, Vietnam, China or Mexico and see the way people live there, you would think the worst home in Vallejo was a mansion. We had better appreciate the wonderful blessings that are ours in America and thank God we live here instead of some other nation where things are really bad.

A CITIZEN
★ ★ ★

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

It is regrettable that the Mayor of Vallejo has chosen to make the library a tool for her own personal political ambition. It is perfectly clear that her motivation in raising the issue of "The Hippie Papers" was not a beknighted attempt to guard the morals of the young people of Vallejo, but rather an attempt to gather a following for future political gain. She well knows that the Library Board meets monthly and that the meetings are open to any citizen including the Mayor. If her interest were untainted, she could have sought recourse at the meeting without the calling of committees, press conferences, and the issuing of radio interviews.

Such publicity can only imply that Vallejo is still in the intellectual "Dark Ages".

If the Mayor complains about "outsiders" at the meeting, she has only herself to blame as she is the one who chose to raise the issue in the mass media. The Mayor claims that the issue is not censorship. Of course the issue is not whether or not there will be censorship, but rather who will be the censor.

Everytime a library book is purchased by the library a judgement is made that the book so selected has literary merit, and by this very process the librarian is acting as a censor. Is it more fitting that a self-appointed committee act as a censor rather than a man who has devoted his life to the selection of books? The issue is whether any group of lawless intellectual vigilantes can disrupt the orderly process of library book selection by virtue of their own narrowmindedness.

The City Librarian is responsible to the Library Board and to no one else as set forth in the City Charter, as the Mayor well knows. She seems unable to abide by the orderly process of government but rather prefers to do her utmost to disrupt it with personal government by self-appointed committee.
THROUGH

literature corrupts young minds, why am I not out molesting children? Why am I not in dope? If a book contains those shameful four-letter words (those which Junior has known since second grade) I am able to read them without using them. I can read of a rape without going out and committing it. My parents are not worried about me. If you, as a parent, are worried about your child, I am very sorry for you. You have done a poor job. So, I say, "Mayor Douglas and members of the Mayor's Committee for Decency, please go home and leave the running of the library to the capable hands of the Library Trustees." With more emphasis I say, "Don't tell me what I can and cannot read!"

Richard Whitfield
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★ ★ ★

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I see in the tabloid section, on the Teen page, that once more we are brought up short by the superior wisdom of the young. I refer to an editorial by Peter Glick on gun control...

I regret that society is such that I must pay extra taxes to support a police department whose effectiveness is severely limited by soft-headed judicial decisions, molly-coddling of law-breakers and ultra-liberal legislation. If the Police Officer were permitted to perform his function, and the judges were forced to perform theirs, it would not be necessary for me to spend money needed elsewhere to purchase a gun and ammunition to afford my family some measure of protection. I state to one and all that any prowler discovered inside my home will be apprehended, tried and brought to judgement without benefit of legal counsel, constitutional guarantees against self-incrimination, parole and probation hearings, or mush-headed judge.

As for the number of lives lost in this country from misuse of guns, does this refer to the number of accidental shootings caused by idiots who play with guns or handle them without first learning how, it does it refer to the number of victims of hoodlums who have no fear of prosecution in our courts?

I suggest that Glick cease to concern himself with the deaths of some of the leaders of the liberal-pacifist new-left ideology, and concentrate on a serious study of the probation, parole and judicial aspects of justice now being practices.

D W KING
Vacaville
★ ★ ★

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

This is in answer to "a high school student's letter" in the Monday, Nov. 4, paper.

I haven't read "The Ground is Our Table" by Steve Allen. However, the title expresses my own feelings. I think all garbage should be returned to the soil from which it came. The City of San Francisco has a proposition under consideration now which you probably saw in Mr. Wyman Riley's "Review of the News". This was on Wednesday, Nov. 6. I think this is a very good idea; instead of burning it for the sake of additional electricity. Perhaps if all large cities could transfer their garbage to the nearest desert, in time the deserts might really "blossom like a rose".

Referring back to the grape boycott, that is and has been a big attempt to get control of the vineyards. The facts I have read are: since they are being paid \$2.00 an hour, they not only do not need the so called union, they do not want it. You have been taken in by the pressure tactics which to my way of thinking are un-American.

I'm afraid some of our unions are being infiltrated by subversive elements whose real concern is not the welfare of the workers, but to get control of their money. The tactics they stoop to are subject to question!
Mrs. Ruth E. HARDING

PRAYER FOR TODAY

Little things bug me, Lord, and I fight them as if they were giants. Keep me from making grievous wounds out of gnat bites; and when something really hurts, keep me from yelling so loud that my hurt involves another. Help me to bear hurts — great and small. Lord, and, when possible, to share another's pain or grief; in Jesus' name. Amen.

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

EDITORIALS

Gov. Scranton's Mission

President-elect Richard M. Nixon has demonstrated his concern over the festering Middle East situation by dispatching one of his key foreign policy advisers, former Pennsylvania Gov. William Scranton, on a fact-finding tour.

At the same time, the United Nations' Middle East mediator, Gunnar Jarring, opened a new round of negotiations with Israel, Jordan and the United Arab Republic.

Both Scranton's tour and Jarring's talks were given new urgency by a resumption of hostilities between Israeli forces and Arab guerrillas which, if permitted to continue, some U. S. diplomats fear will make another Middle East war inevitable.

Thus, the current diplomatic effort is considered crucial and, in a sense, prematurely forces Mr. Nixon to grapple with one of the most critical problems he and his administration will face after taking office next Jan. 20: How to keep peace between Israel and its traditional Arab enemies who are being rearmed by the Soviet Union.

During the presidential campaign, Mr. Nixon declared that Israel must be guaranteed a technological superiority to offset the Arab superiority and endorsed the sale of 50 Phantom jets to Israel.

He also advocated taking the lead in a negotiated settlement between Israel and the Arab nations that would result in world access to the Suez Canal; that the Soviet threat in the Middle East should be countered by the United States; and that attempts be made to restore U.S.-Arab communication lines.

It reasonably can be assumed that Governor Scranton's current mission may be to determine if the worsening situation in the

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OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Herbert Fuller remarks in his letter (OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE, Nov. 18) that "We merely ask that our tax money not be spent on this book" ("The Hippie Papers"). Is not "our tax money" the tax money of all the people of Vallejo a lot of whom seem to think that some miniscule portion of it should be spent on books of this type as a matter of making, and keeping the library" . . . a place open to all beliefs, inspirations and impressions;" as Eleanor Porter expressed it in her letter of the same date?

Yet the objective of the Mayor and her Committee for Decency is to compel that no tax money at all be spent on such material. Is not that true? And is not his unjust and unfair to those (taxpayers) who think that a due portion of library funds should be spent for such materials as a matter of public information about one" . . . of so many different ideas and sides of various issues;" to quote from Eleanor Porter again? And if it isn't library censorship that they are trying to impose, what is it?

"Why are you trying to force your values and morals on others," Eleanor Porter asks. That is a good question and a fair one for Mrs. Douglas, the Decency Committee, and all who sympathize with their efforts to ban "The Hippie Papers" and like materials from the library. Why? In order to prevent the corruption of the young, they have said. Have they any concrete examples of any well informed young persons who have been corrupted by reading such? Have any among themselves been corrupted by reading the like? Will learning the truth about both sides of the coin of all reality harm any well informed, open-minded youngster? And if they aren't well informed and open-minded whose fault is it? Is ignorance of what is considered bad a safeguard against erring? Let us have the truth whatever it may be, and let us bring our views to the test of all truth that we can discover. To refuse to do so is to be merely sentimental about our convictions and emotionally dishonest with ourselves.

FOY W. RAGLE
534 San Carlos Dr.

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I am very happy with the response I have received from the volunteers who so graciously give their time to help operate our thrifty store for the retarded. As this is strictly a non-profit organization we are unable to pay these generous people.

I feel very fortunate to know these warm-hearted and kind people, so thank you from the bottom of my heart.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the people for their donations of money and usable items to our store.

At the present time we are in need of furniture, dishes, clothing and the usual items that are needed to operate our store.

Once again, thank you for your interest in our children.

CHAIRMAN



OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

In reply to the letter signed "Curious," I have a few things to say.

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As for the elderly in our city, they are well cared for. They have social security, Medicare, old age pension and there are plenty of senior citizen groups with adequate meeting places and they have a good time.

As for our teenagers, I think there is a lot the parents can do.

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE

Most mornings I can fight back the wave of nausea induced by your editorial cartoons, but the recent one depicting the student stereotypes holding signs reading "minor gripes" and "imagined grievances" was too terrible to let pass without comment.

I certainly share the cartoonist's admiration for the "Czech students risking their very lives for their country's freedom". But Russian tanks and troops are not the only means by which freedom can be obliterated. The "reasonable" actions of "responsible" men such as the University Regents and the State College Trustees may in the long run prove to be as disastrous to liberty as any Russian armored division.

What is "minor" about the Regents' interference with academic freedom at U.C.? What is "imagined" about the Trustees' . . .

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

This letter is addressed to all the fine people of Vallejo who are so up-in-arms about maintaining their right to the first amendment to the Constitution. To Mr. Silverman, Mrs. Porter and the many other such people this letter is especially addressed.

Hogwash! If you really think that the Mayor of Vallejo or any other member of her Decency Commission is really going to parade through the sacred halls of our great libertarian library on Virginia Street, you're either suffering from delusions of grandeur or you see a censor under every bed.

Since when is filth to be excused as literature? Since when are taxpayers obligated under moral conscience to pay for a commodity that neither in the stretch of any imagination would or could be called educating, scholarly, or even interesting? After four years of college and a "liberal" education I have never failed to draw a line between commercial garbage and progressive sane growth. And since when are scholarly men like Mr. Fletcher going to stop pretending to everybody but themselves that such "literature" is required of a cultural and literate society.

Gentlemen, freedom of press does not mean that our library must stock anything. It means that the presses shall record the facts without control of this government. What we chose to read is up to us. I sir don't need to scream "book burnings" or "censorship," I've outgrown such childishness. But there will continue to be those who for all time will twist history and politics just enough that some will believe the worst. And the press will help. Gentlemen, isn't an honest press across America worth more concern than some piece of garbage that our library seems content to call learned? Isn't morality still more precious than our illustrious library? Isn't knowledge a little higher than the pigpen?

Sincerely,
ROBERT PAUL HENDRICKS
400 Cima Drive, Vallejo

* * *

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE

I read in the paper that Suisun City was going to build a NEW teen center, and a city as big as Vallejo doesn't even have an OLD one for their teenagers. I think this is terrible, we should have something for the young people, a place to go and have fun and just sit around and talk.

When I was a teenager we lived in Chabot and we had a Recreation Building and it was great. Kids of all ages used the facilities and got along fine. I was told the night of the special council meeting, Oct. 2, that the young people of today are different and don't want something like we had. I have two teenagers myself, and there are always four or five more young people that are in and out with were then; they need something to do, a place of their own with adult supervision.

So please, let's get on the stick and get something for our young people, before they

negotiated settlement between Israel and the Arab nations that would result in world access to the Suez Canal; that the Soviet threat in the Middle East should be countered by the United States; and that attempts be made to restore U.S.-Arab communication lines.

It reasonably can be assumed that Governor Scranton's current mission may be to determine if the worsening situation in the Middle East may preclude an ultimate solution to the problem within the framework of Mr. Nixon's proposed foreign policy and to find a position on which this country can stand during an indefinite period in which there is no settlement.

If there is no prospect for a comprehensive package settlement of the Middle Eastern situation, Governor Scranton still may find a basis for partial settlements that could be attempted to resolve troublesome disputes and open the way to broader agreements later.

Whatever policies are called for in the near future, the crucial requirements will be imagination, steadiness and highly competent diplomacy.

Thankfully, President-elect Nixon is doing his "homework" early.

Featherbedding Again?

Most of us thought the question of costly, wasteful featherbedding on the railroads had been pretty well settled in favor of the public back in 1963. That was the year Congress passed legislation barring for two years a national rail strike designed to retain unnecessary jobs.

Subsequently the supreme courts, legislatures or the voters threw out full-crew laws in nine of the 14 states, including California, that had such statutes on the books.

Now, however, the U. S. Supreme Court has reaffirmed in an Arkansas case that states have the right to legislate on crew sizes, and the whole vexing dispute is open again. In effect, the Court denied that Congress had preempted state legislation in traincrew matters, and gave a vote of confidence to rail unions seeking reinstatement of the lost jobs.

Having already won from the Court the right to make train crew demands on each railroad, rather than treating them as a national bargaining issue, the unions are now even more strongly armed in their negotiations with individual roads and in efforts they undoubtedly will make to obtain legislative restoration of state crew regulations.

Featherbedding is an expensive and long-outdated luxury paid for by the railroads and the shipping and traveling public. The Court's past record in overriding states' rights makes this form reversal especially significant and worrisome.

heard and kind people, so thank you from the bottom of my heart.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the people for their donations of money and usable items to our store.

At the present time we are in need of furniture, dishes, clothing and the usual items that are needed to operate our store.

Once again, thank you for your interest in our children.

CHAIRMAN
S.C.R.C. Thrift Store
725 Marin Street

This is directed to the mayor and various other people who sign themselves as taxpayer, etc.

People are being killed in such "filthy" ways as wars and the chair. If there is anything the Committee for Decency should fight against it is this killing, because if somebody doesn't hurry up and do something about it we won't have any body or mind to be corrupted!!!

Did you know the Holy Bible mentions some of these "indecent things" in it's New Testament.

I have read that the mayor wishes to take money from the library so they will not purchase a 50c paperback, while the Bible often costs \$20!!

I have also read that if the majority of the people do not want a book to be available it should not be. If this was true then all minority races and religions would be inferior. We would longer have the democracy our country revolves on. The freedom to know. Is majority rules a democracy??

ALICE ADEE
1065 Orchard

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I can't help wondering why the decent people of Vallejo who decry the wasting of their tax money for such "worthless" material for the library as the much-mentioned HIPPIE PAPERS might not also consider the removal of all newspapers and magazines in an effort to keep our innocent children from noticing the horrors and obscenities mature adults perpetrate against humanity (with 60 per cent plus of their tax money) outside the privacy of the bed chamber. Is not a picture in the newspaper of a child burned with napalm a bit more obscene than any underground news article? Or is obscenity really in the eyes of the beholder after all?

Very Truly Yours,
(MRS.) LAUREL CLINTON

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Open letter to Vallejo Garbage Service: You have received permission to raise our garbage rates. You receive something; the employees receive something. Now, how about something for the customers who have to pay so that everyone profits.

The something would be to have the garbage men put the lids back on the cans. That's the least they can do in exchange for the raise for which we pay.

It's frustrating to go out and find our garbage cans wet and then we have to turn them upside down and wait 'til it dries. That's not too quick in weather like this. It only takes a second to replace the lid.

Please give the customer a break!
FRUSTRATED

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Bravo! Just read your article in today's paper, "I've Had It" with dissidents by Bob Roberts. Please reprint this article in your column — someone might have missed it. All I can say is, "It is great!"

MRS. EARL M. GOSSETT

repair or plumbing, they should do everything in their power to better themselves if possible. They should take any kind of work they can get and make the improvement themselves.

As for the elderly in our city, they are well cared for. They have social security, Medicare, old age pension and there are plenty of senior citizen groups with adequate meeting places and they have a good time.

As for our teenagers, I think there is a lot the parents can do about this themselves. Why should the city play nurse maid to your children? Most churches have an excellent recreational program for their young people. And why not furnish entertainment for them at home? Most houses have a room large enough for their youngsters to have a party. Or why not turn your kitchen over to your youngsters and their friends for a hot dog feed? Is it because the parents don't want the responsibility? Just want them out of the house while someone else entertains them?

It is not the responsibility of the decency committee or the city to see that every family in town has what you call "decent living conditions." Most families can provide these for themselves if they just put forth the effort. If you could go to Biafra, Vietnam, China or Mexico and see the way people live there, you would think the worst home in Vallejo was a mansion. We had better appreciate the wonderful blessings that are ours in America and thank God we live here instead of some other nation where things are really bad.

A CITIZEN

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I have followed with interest, Madam Mayor's crusade against "filth". Madam Mayor, I have a few questions I would like to respectfully submit to you and the City of Vallejo.

(1). What is your reasoning in trying to prohibit the book "Hippie Papers" from the City of Vallejo?

(2). If you do successfully forbid that book from the library shelves, will you not have to censor parts of the Bible as being somewhat sexually arousing? Will you not have to prohibit books that have lasted as literary classics for hundreds of years, such as Shakespears, "Romeo and Juliet", "The Taming of The Shrew", or Casanova's Memouirs?

It is my opinion that until the time of the Madam Mayor's crusade, that no more than 10 per cent of the City of Vallejo even knew about the "Hippie Papers". Madam Mayor, you have accomplished the exact opposite of what you were trying to do. You have exposed the populace to the "Hippie Papers", declared them obscene and sexually erotic, and giving the people of the City of Vallejo an incentive to read this book in the wrong way, with the wrong attitudes, not as a valuable research book outlining the life of the Hippie, but as a "dirty book" Madam Mayor, my congratulations!

P. W. H.

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

People in Biafra are starving. They are sick and are dying. I'm writing because I care. I go to Religious Education. We are going to start making money for these people in Biafra who are starving. They boys and, maybe, girls will mow lawns or dust furniture. Phone 644-4511 for help.

Sincerely,

LAURA WONN
Highland (Catholic)

Religious Training, Grade 4

for our country's freedom. But Russian tanks and troops are not the only means by which freedom can be obliterated. The "reasonable" actions of "responsible" men such as the University Regents and the State College Trustees may in the long run prove to be as disastrous to liberty as any Russian armored division.

What is "minor" about the Regents' interference with academic freedom at U.C.? What is "imagined" about the Trustees' power play for the Associated Students' funds? There is nothing minor nor imagined about such issues as the S.F. State administration's foot-dragging on the Black studies program, police invasions of the campus, and the basic problem of the quality and purpose of education. I will agree that "our home-crowd looks pretty silly", but I don't think that crowd is the students.

ROBERT H. CLINTON

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

We are in the process of being very keenly susceptible to stimuli, of having or showing keen sensibilities, and of being easily offended and touchy. How? Well the word that fits the above description is "Sensitive". We are going to be "sensitized". Here are a few ways: "Sensitivity Training" (Group Criticism) will be foisted on the citizens of Vallejo in the cause of race relations.

"Sensitivity Training," "Group Dynamics," "Human Relations," "Class in Group Counseling," "Management Development," "Self-Honesty Session," "Self Examination," "Interpersonal Relations," "Interpersonal Competence," "Group Therapy"

There are others and there will be more. Steps are being taken now to impose such classes in our schools. How successful the authors of this plan are to be will be determined by the citizens of Vallejo. Inform yourself about "Group Therapy," and then act in a constructive way to keep it out of our schools and remove it from our city.

Vallejo TACT Committee
(Truth About Civil Turmoil)

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I would like to take advantage of this means to publicly commend the editor of the Times-Herald for printing two very pertinent articles. The first is the article "Lest We Forget" by the Rev. Robert B. Watts. The second is "I've Had It" by Mr. Bob Roberts.

It seems that the "silent majority" has to be hit between the eyes before standing up to be counted and I believe articles of this kind are sorely needed! I hope enough eyes can be opened before we get hit too hard!

I will proudly stand with the Rev. Watts and Mr. Roberts! I will also stand with Mr. D. W. King of Vacaville as he said it for me.

A. J. HOLMBERG

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

In this mornings Times-Herald I read where a builder wants to build more apartments in our beautiful Marina Vista's most choice property. Vallejo being the All American City, I thought surely by now there would be some kind of consideration going towards a Recreation Center with ice and roller skating, etc. This is very much needed as our Youths in Vallejo have no place to go to be entertained.

Our Marina Vista is indeed quite beautiful and a Recreation Center would surely add to it.

Interested In Our' Youths.

reaction during and it was great. Kids of all ages used the facilities and got along fine. I was told the night of the special council meeting, Oct. 2, that the young people of today are different and don't want something like we had. I have two teenagers myself, and there are always four or five more young people that are in and out with were then; they need something to do, a place of their own with adult supervision.

So please, let's get on the stick and get something for our young people, before they are too old to enjoy their youth.

If Sonoma and Suisun can do something for their teens, Vallejo (The All-American City) can do at least half as much.

Mrs. J. W. Gaul Jr.

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

If Dr. S. I. Hayakawa is able to out-guess the immaturity of those lame brains at San Francisco State, I think it will be due to his ability to think things through.

After reading his book, "Language in Thought and Action" and re-reading it, and chewing away at his quotations from time to time, it finally became clear to me that the nonsense I was hearing before the recent election was invariably due to unawareness of the basic habitual errors exposed in Dr. Hayakawa's chapters.

About thirty years ago, an outstanding psychologist gave a series of lectures in Berkeley that opened the way to better understanding of the differnet facets of human personalities.

At that time I became accustomed to making allowances for the great variety of moods and reactions I observed in others, and I began to train myself to project one image as much as possible.

Believe me, it will take thirty years before a large number of those in school now become adjusted to the multi-orientation described in Hayakawa's book.

It will take an indefinite time for the man-in-the-street to break through the kind of "yes-or-no" attitudes that make computers useful.

We are geared to a habit of mind that breeds conflicts.

We are too apt to suppose that a person who is a Democrat is necessarily anti-Republican.

Yours truly
ALETH: BERRY

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I should like to congratulate you on two recent editorials. One was in the Nov. 19th Chronicle and the other was in the Nov. 20th Times-Herald. In both you courageously tackled the outrageous situation tolerated at both San Francisco State and Solano College, and "told how it was."

There is no doubt in most peoples' minds that things have been allowed to get completely out of hand.

Colleges and universities are built with tax payers money and administered by people paid with taxpayers' money, for the purpose of educating their children and grandchildren. NOT to teach them rioting, sedition, defiance of authority, arrogance and violence, or to force earnest students to submit to such things.

Be they white, black, born or yellow, NO small group should be allowed to disrupt the orderly procedures of any educational establishment and sabotage the administration buildings and classrooms of the vast majority of students who are in the college to get an education.

This is not democracy, but anarchy, and must be stopped!

A LOYAL AMERICAN
TAXPAYER

PRAYER FOR TODAY

We are grateful, O God our Father, for the storehouse of wisdom in Thy Word. Incline our hearts this day to read it creatively and so to meditate upon it that it will become the life of our lives. Through the enlightening of the Holy Spirit, impart to us insight and guidance. So too may Christ, the living Word, possess our minds and motivate our wills, enabling us to meet the issues of the day acceptably in His sight. Amen.

—John Marvin Rast, Columbia, S. C., Methodist religious editor.

EDITORIALS

A Most Excellent Choice

The Cabinet selected by President-elect Richard M. Nixon to serve as his chief administrators after he takes office next month appears to represent a competent team with unquestioned loyalty and ability that should serve Mr. Nixon well in charting the course of his new administration.

The fact that Mr. Nixon's Cabinet appointments have been accepted warmly by Democrats, who will control Congress, as well as raising no major dissent in the capitals of the world is a tribute to Mr. Nixon's astuteness in naming an advisory team which at present has every indication of maintaining a cooperative rapport both at home and abroad.

It has been observed that although Mr. Nixon has chosen men of leadership and imagination for his Cabinet, the new President nevertheless will "call the shots" in forming most of the policies of his administration—particularly in the State and Defense Departments where he feels he has well defined goals to achieve.

Thus, his selection of Rep. Melvin R. Laird of Wisconsin as his Secretary of Defense must be regarded as one who shares Mr. Nixon's philosophy and views in this critical area and can be expected to implement them. We believe Congressman Laird is an exceptionally good choice to head the Defense Department.

Mr. Laird has accumulated an impressive knowledge of the Defense Department and how it works. As the ranking Republican on the powerful Defense Appropriations subcommittee, he has gained a reputation as his party's most astute legislator on military affairs.

Mr. Laird's published views on how he believes the Navy should be developed are espe-

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:

Perhaps a further word should be said concerning the matter of decency, freedom, and our library. The concluding article by this writer will appear next week.

Anyone who has read any appreciable amount of history knows the constant threat that exists to the freedom of speech and of the press, and should be on guard against any such encroachment against our liberties. That is one thing. But that is not all, for, surely, we should be as assiduously on our guard against the encroachments of the lewd, the filthy, the impure, and the indecent that constantly threaten the wellbeing and character of our children and youth, and even our young adults, and everybody, as well as our freedoms. Really, our freedom to live wholesome and decent moral lives is being seriously threatened by the patrons of evil in all of its deeply entrenched forms and sinister attitudes, which, in addition to the unmoral and immoral effects, are creating severe crises of financial burden to carry in taxes and other ways in order to control these giant forces of evil and to protect ourselves from them!

Therefore, I would like to say to the members of our Library Board that I believe they should be respectfully censured (not censored) for what it seems to me is a failure to make a distinction, which they could have done, between that which is indecent, obscene, and licentious on the one hand, and that which, apparently, in their own minds, had slipped into the realm of the imaginative, or unreal, or dreamy, and on further into the realm of the vague, and thoroughly imaginative, who knows? — some new valued "culture" that might accrue from these "valued" Hippie Papers, and which we might miss, i.e., if they were not on our library shelves, as stumbling-blocks to immature minds of helpless children, and developing minds of teenagers! I fear their failure was one of moral dullness or of spiritual apathy.

How pitiable is this loose thinking of those who are supposed to be partners in the giant, cooperative task of the training of our children and youth, jointly, with the home, the Church, the school!

REV. RAY M. LAWRENCE
A member of the Mayor's
Committee For Decency

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I would like to answer the letter that was addressed to me last week by the Mayor. My reply will be paragraph by paragraph.

1) My statement, "the forces of purity have been foiled," was meant as sarcasm. This was not a belittling of purity, but instead, a literary form.

2) Yes, I am an adolescent. This is obvious from the fact that I am a high school student. There are many adults in Vallejo who do not agree with you, and so my statements should not be used as a measure of my age.

3) When you say you say that you consulted a cross section of the town, don't you mean that you consulted the members of your Decency Committee? It is obvious that you did



IT'S A DOUBLE MEASURING STICK

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Some people consider money to be more important than life. Not enough thought toward other people's feelings is given by these money-happy people. These people think that they can get along better in the world with money than with people. An example of this is the fact that killers are paid MONEY to destroy LIFE. Hurt feelings should never be a reason for destroying or injuring life. Life is a very precious thing. Life had begun much sooner than the use of money. Before the use of money had come into existence people had been very compassionate with much candor. But now, with the evils of money within their grasp, people have forgotten how to be compassionate toward other people. These people do not appreciate life as much as they should.

This may be one reason why people do not get along with each other so well. They do not appreciate one another enough to understand how precious life can be. If we, the people, were dependent upon one another, this might

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

It is only three weeks until Christmas and once again, as in other years, I am asking people to please visit the Pound and adopt a pet.

In so doing you save a life. I wrote to the editor of the Times-Herald when they held a survey to determine what features were most popular. I suggested that when the Pet Exchange appears in the paper, as a special feature they might mention the forgotten animals at the Pound.

Many animals could be saved by advertising them. Last Christmas the Times-Herald printed a picture and many people responded. There was a long line of generous people adopting these poor unfortunate dogs and cats.

We are their only voice. This should be the job of the Humane Society, but they are not doing anything. They don't hold any meetings or give any consideration to helping these poor animals.

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Mayor Florence E. Douglas' article Dec. 2, 1968.

In your open letter to Paul Mattuzzi, you stated that you felt "sorry" for him. Well, I feel sorry for you. Moreover, I feel sorry for the citizens of Vallejo; myself included.

The reason for this is that, through a shortcoming of a wonderful American institution called democracy, we have been subjected to the reign of a veritable Queen Victoria, who, in her day, the day of the feudal system, was fine.

But her day is gone. Americans are ruled by no one; we rule ourselves.

Your remarkable intellect was well demonstrated by your supposition that Paul is an adolescent. You read his article in the Teen Page; which would tend to indicate that he is a teen-ager.

Mayor Douglas, I realize that your motives were probably sincere; you wanted to protect Vallejo's youth. But we don't need that kind of protection. We're not that vulnerable to Communist influence.

I am, at present, 16 years old. I attended Saint Dominic's throughout my grammar school years. I spent the first two years of my high school life at Saint Vincent's. I might add, these are two years I'll never, EVER, forget. I am now a junior at Saint Patrick's. I am a member of our newspaper staff, a cheerleader for our Bruins and a member of the Saint Vincent's Key Club. I was also a paperboy for the Vallejo Times-Herald for seven years.

Paul has and still does share in most of these activities and we have become good friends.

My point in saying all that is to illustrate the fact that I am not a hippie, Communist, or perverted maniac.

I know how to make up my mind and will not allow myself to be influenced by Communist propaganda or immoral trash. I would, however, like the chance to evaluate these and other issues myself. I would like the chance to exercise one of my God-given and constitutional rights: my

FREEDOM TO READ

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

In regard to Mayor Florence E. Douglas' letter in "Opinions of the People" Dec. 2.

Perhaps I misunderstood the context of your letter, Mayor, but it sounded as though you were telling youth to submit their judgment to parents and other authorities.

You stated, "Youth is a wonderful time of life! Enjoy it! Don't try to be an adult until you have experienced the responsibilities of an adult." Your statement seems rather ambiguous since you are trying to deprive the youth of Vallejo of their right and privilege to judge for themselves, presumably an adult responsibility. If we are not given adult responsibilities now, it may be a sad story if we have to face them at age thirty for the first time.

As for the "Hippie Papers" — this book is a chronicle of a fascinating phenomenon in

Mr. Laird has accumulated an impressive knowledge of the Defense Department and how it works. As the ranking Republican on the powerful Defense Appropriations subcommittee, he has gained a reputation as his party's most astute legislator on military affairs.

Mr. Laird's published views on how he believes the Navy should be developed are especially noteworthy in assessing his total concept of our defense posture. We wholeheartedly endorse them as a reassuring departure from the "cost-effectiveness" and "parity" doctrines of former Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara that largely determined America's policy during his tenure in the Pentagon.

Mr. Laird reportedly is in favor of increasing America's present 69 nuclear attack submarine force to 105, adding more Polaris missile subs to the currently approved fleet of 41 and converting the surface Navy into a nuclear one. He also favors military supremacy over Russia as well as further expansion and sophistication of our ballistic missile program together with the development of our military space weapons.

In an editorial published Dec. 3, we observed that it is essential that the United States reject the doctrines of parity in nuclear armament with the Soviet Union and McNamara's static concept of defense. We maintained America must return to an insistence that the U.S. be first in nuclear strength, first in space, first in sea power and first in all the other systems and components of national defense in an age of Communist expansion.

We are convinced the new Secretary of Defense shares these views as evidenced by his espousal of a stronger nuclear Navy that reflects a move toward primary dependence on the sea in maintaining our strategic position in the Mediterranean and Southeast Asia.

More importantly, Mr. Laird's avowed defense outlook will return America to a policy of initiative and not the policy of response advocated by McNamara which Mr. Nixon claims largely has dissipated U.S. superiority over our potential foes in strategic nuclear capability, conventional sea power and a space program better related to our military needs.

We believe Mr. Laird's defense concept will be good for the nation and, when implemented, will produce an invigorating effect on Mare Island Naval Shipyard and the economy of the local community. A century of experience has proved the two are reciprocally related.

In our opinion, the appointment of Mr. Laird as Secretary of Defense is a most promising one. We are sure he will prove a credit to his beliefs.

- replied to paragraph by paragraph.
- 1) My statement, "the forces of purity have been foiled," was meant as sarcasm. This was not a belittling of purity, but instead, a literary form.
 - 2) Yes, I am an adolescent. This is obvious from the fact that I am a high school student. There are many adults in Vallejo who do not agree with you, and so my statements should not be used as a measure of my age.
 - 3) When you say you say that you consulted a cross section of the town, don't you mean that you consulted the members of your Decency Committee? It is obvious that you did not consider the opinions of those who are opposed to your actions. You are the one who is being undemocratic.
 - 4) It has already been evidenced that not all the adults in Vallejo agree with you.
 - 5) This is Censorship! You are attempting to keep a book out of the hands of a segment of the population. The only other name it can be given is suppression.
 - 6) I do know what happened in Sweden. There was a sharp decline in the sales of pornography.
 - 7, 8, 9, 10, 11) Your analogies are not related properly to the subject. A youth develops faster mentally than physically. Your analogies deal with the body, not the mind.
 - 12, 13, 14) It is unfair that you judge my degree of responsibility and intelligence by my age. Not only is this unfair to me, but to all teenagers. Youth has a great sense of awareness of the world. Rather than looking at problems such as morals from up against the wall, they look out at them objectively.
 - 15) I apologize for being discourteous.

PAUL MATTUZZI

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

On behalf of the Cordelia Fire Department and the Womens Auxiliary, we would like to thank you for all your publicity and pictures your paper gave us for our annual Harvest Dance. It was because of all your publicity our dance was a huge success.

Again thank you for your generosity which was greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
OSCAR LANG and MARGARET
DAVIEAU
Chairmen

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

It is an appalling fact that violence and the pursuit of destruction command far greater attention in their press than such constructive programs as operation creative art. The Exchange Club of Vallejo recently sponsored Operation Creative Art, with Mr. George Fenton as Chairman.

How can we expect Vallejo's best youth to carry the burden of progress alone? We should at least let them know of our appreciation. I wonder how many people even knew of this program? Where were the reporters, when the grade and high school students were "doing their thing," so magnificently, on the fence surrounding the new library building?

Rod Boschee, who helped Chairman Fenton, is to be commended for excellent performance. I would like to be able to give the names of those whose artistry adorns each section of the fence. I do not know them. But we all ought to bless them for their constructive participation in this Civic activity. AND, give them much more recognition in the future.

Students, we love you!
JACK

(Editor's Note: The Times-Herald published four pictures and two stories about the project, including pictures and names of the winners.)

very precious thing. Life had begun much sooner than the use of money. Before the use of money had come into existence people had been very compassionate with much candor. But now, with the evils of money within their grasp, people have forgotten how to be compassionate toward other people. These people do not appreciate life as much as they should.

This may be one reason why people do not get along with each other so well. They do not appreciate one another enough to understand how precious life can be. If we, the people, were dependent upon one another, this might tend to bring us together so as to strengthen the pride and integrity which was the foundation of this country when established in 1776. Just as the links in a chain are dependent upon one another to keep it strong, the people of this country, and any country, are dependent upon one another to keep it strong. Furthermore, the people must be able to communicate with one another. By this, I don't mean to communicate such as on a telephone, but to be able to speak with one another freely so as to express their views and ideas toward bettering the country. I believe that people who can speak freely on a common level with respect for others might ease the tenseness and insecurity in this country. Without minorities speaking out, the United States could not TRULY be called a democracy. Just because these people do not agree with the majority doesn't mean that the majority is right. If a majority of people rob a bank, that doesn't mean they are right in doing so. I believe that people should look on both sides of the problem before judging it.

P.A.R. (Hogan High Student)

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Why do we have in our library, a minimum of four copies of such controversial books as "Tropic of Cancer," "Tom Jones," "De Cameron," "The Valley of the Dolls," etc?

Why are paperbacks with titles that include such words as "sex-drugs-sin-orgy-teenage revolt" etc., prominently displayed in the young adult section of the library?

Why is it that most of the reference books in our library were published before 1960 and in many cases, before 1950?

Why is it that books critically acclaimed and national best sellers dealing with subjects such as religion, psychology, mental illness, children, etc., are not found on the shelves of our public library?

Why then, was there enough money for at least three copies of "Myra Breckenridge" almost as soon as the book was published?

Why, if our theaters have to show such trashy pictures because they are under contract, does this newspaper accept their scandalous ads? . . .

Why do the three most popular women's magazines feature on their November covers headlines of articles contained inside entitled "Why Most Doctors Can't Help Women With Their Sex Problems," "When Couples Disagree About Sex," and "Why Three Million Women Have Given Up the Pill"?

Why are the millions of people who make up the population of this country, thought to be interested in all this filth that barrages them daily in the newspapers, or radio, television and in movies?

Why is anyone who protests against this sort of sensationalism immediately attacked as advocating against "free press and free speech"?

How are parents expected to raise their children to be fine, young adults in this contaminated atmosphere?

MRS. JOHN COCCI

feature they might mention the forgotten animals at the Pound.

Many animals could be saved by advertising them. Last Christmas the Times-Herald printed a picture and many people responded. There was a long line of generous people adopting these poor unfortunate dogs and cats.

We are their only voice. This should be the job of the Humane Society, but they are not doing anything. They don't hold any meetings or give any consideration to helping these poor animals.

It's about time Vallejo had something better than an Animal Pound where the animals are given 72 hours to live. There are many animals dying between Christmases. So how about it Vallejo! Help our animal friends now.

E. L.

Previously, we, at Saint Vincent Ferrer High School wrote an article asking for names and addresses of graduates before 1957. We mistakenly thought records before this time were not available.

Contrary to this, records before 1957 have been made available to us — but again we face the problem. We need the names and addresses of those graduates who have gotten married or moved. If you have any such information please call Diana Lee, 642-4265 or Terrie Sousa, 745-1599.

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I am writing this letter to the person or persons who stole my three children's Christmas presents out of my "locked" car last Saturday night in the parking lot of Miracle Bowl on Tennessee Street.

Whoever you are — why didn't you just steal the car? Why my children's Christmas presents? Along with these gifts, you also got my son's birthday presents. He will be 10 years old Friday.

I hope that whoever you are, you have read this letter. Sleep well and have a very "merry Christmas."

I would also, at this time, like to personally thank our Vallejo police force for their quick response to our call. It is quite reassuring to know that our officers are doing their very best to catch these kind of people.

MRS. S. B. SOLAS

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I just put my three crying children to bed, and believe me I know I too, will cry myself tonight. Right now I have the feeling that people aren't the same as they used to be, or is it just me, like many others who are still soft headed?

The reason that we all feel so bad is because some careless driver didn't stop when he hit our pet poodle tonight. I stood in my driveway and saw what happened. I myself knelt in the street and not one car would stop for me. They all just drove around me. Bo Bo was a house dog and had just been put outside, while I stood and watched as I always did.

If we lived on Highway 80, I could see and understand the speed and neglect, but right in front of our home! Bo Bo never ran after cars, just other dogs, so this is how he got to the middle of the street. I know Tuolumne Street is a busy street especially the 1500 block by the hilly curve, but why all the speed, right there where there is a 25 mile sign? I do hope whoever the speeder was who hit our pet will also stay awake as my children have tonight. You were speeding and you know it. This is a great loss for us, as loved our pet very much.

THE HANNOLD FAMILY
1534 Tuolumne St.

As for the "Hippie Papers" — this book is a chronicle of a fascinating phenomenon in our society — the hippie culture. If one reads the book with any other purpose in mind than that of understanding the aspects of the hippie culture then the fault is in the individual — not in the book.

J. D. Salinger's "Catcher in the Rye" was banned for years, obviously because of the presence of those nasty four letter words. Readers were so engrossed in the fact that those certain words were actually in print that they failed to see the social significance the book offered. Let us look at the "Hippie Papers" on the whole and not judge it by the presence of objectionable words.

You mentioned in your letter that it costs nothing to be respectful — please respect the ability of youth to make judgments concerning the reading material they choose.

ANNE TIGAN
6 El Camino Real

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I think that the mom who stays home and loves it had one too many coffee royals when she wrote her letter.

I am not a working mother myself, but many of my friends are and they all have well adjusted children and well run homes. They are able to give their children much more than material things. Some take ballet lessons, attend concerts and go with their parents on weekends to special places such as skiing, Disneyland, etc. Plus, maybe they get better food than many children get.

I know women who should not be home with their children because they are frustrated and miserable homemakers and would be better off working.

Anyway, I think MOST of the working mothers would rather be home with their children, but with the cost of living so high they find it difficult to live on one salary. Not all moms are working for the glamour of it.

And you are wrong about the kids in colleges who are causing trouble because they come from a home where mom worked and they ran loose. Most came from homes where mom was at home but used too much of the new school permissiveness in raising them. She should have been out working.

A MOM WHO'S HERE
AND KNOWS

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:
I'd like to express my appreciation to the merchants of the Safeway Stores, Mayfair Market, Albertson's, Lucky Store and Marketown Store for their donations of hams and turkeys for the wounded servicemen's dinner, which was held at the Solano County Fairgrounds on Dec. 7, 1968.

I went to many different stores in Vallejo looking for donations for the dinner. The above mentioned stores were more than cooperative and I'd like to convey my own personal thank you to these stores for being so courteous and generous. Thank you again for myself and also for the wounded GI's from Vietnam.

BETTY WAGNER
Servicemen's Appreciation
Committee, Inc.
P.O. Box 551, Vallejo

PRAYER FOR TODAY

Save us, our Father, from self deceit, from the pursuit of selfish pleasure. We protect ourselves with insurance to cover every eventuality and still live with inner fear. Our affluence results in greater indebtedness, and our habit of charging everything is no sounder than our known ability to pay. Teach us, wise God, that to gain life we must lose it, that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and that the worship of Thee is true understanding. Enable us above all to be of good cheer because Jesus has overcome the world. Amen.

—John H. Piet, Holland, Mich., professor, department of English Bible and Missions, Western Theological Seminary

EDITORIALS

A Matter Of Urgency

In the profusion of testimony on area-wide needs and problems presented by Solano County officials at a legislative workshop held last week by State Sen. John R. McCarthy and Assemblyman John F. Dunlap; a matter of considerable importance affecting both Solano and Contra Costa counties quietly was raised at the close of the session.

It concerns the proposed peripheral canal, a multi-million-dollar project designed to transport large volumes of water from the Sacramento River Delta to meet the growing water needs of Southern California and particularly the Los Angeles area. The project, despite years of study, still is in the planning stage, but many experts believe its ultimate construction is a certainty.

James Coakley, Rep. Robert L. Leggett's field representative, told the workshop conferees that the Vallejo congressman is concerned about the apparent apathy of local area interests regarding the canal and its potential effect on water quality control and availability of water to meet the needs of future industrial expansion.

Except for the Humble Oil Co., which will require large quantities of water when its new refinery at Benicia goes into operation, and the residents of Antioch, who use river water for domestic and industrial purposes, Mr. Coakley said few people in Solano County are objecting to the canal project. In

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:

Would you like to adopt a friendship child? These are retarded children at the Idaho State School and hospital, Box 47, Nampa, Idaho.

They are teen-aged children who have no families to remember their birthdays or Christmas. At their school these children have a small community run as a farm. They are advanced enough to know what it is to be left out at Christmas.

It will cost you one dollar per month, which they receive to spend at their small canteen.

If you answer this letter please be sincere enough to carry through. You may not receive a reply at once. As in all state hospitals, they are under staffed. You will receive the name, sex, age, and clothing sizes, as they rarely receive new clothing. You will also be told what the child is capable of doing.

For more information you may call me at 643-0203.

MRS. F. HALL
87 Cypress Ave.

* * *

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

The morals of the human race are below the level of wild animals. So, why try to control those morals by trying to control the trash they wish to read? We make it profitable for a writer to write the trash in the first place.

—Animals do not war against their own kind. They protect their young until grown and able to take care of themselves. They do not destroy food that they can not use.

Humans by contrast war against themselves. They draft their young and healthy to fight and allow producers of war materials to make profits at their (the fighting men) expense. They destroyed tons of milk, hogs and cattle just a short time ago while many of our own people were undernourished, to keep prices up.

With all the Christian sects (and I cannot see why so many are required) in this country we have not made much headway toward living as Jesus Christ, quite simply, taught. We are blessed with a beautiful and bountiful land where too many are content with things as they are and too many do not know what to do about making a change. Too many expect too much from politicians and I do not envy the man who was elected our next president.

JUSTA SAPPE

* * *

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Referring to my comments in last week's issue pertaining to the matter of decency, freedom, and the library, it seems to this writer that it is also most pitiable, and yet so timely, that one of the apparent and expected offspring of this defense of indecency and the obscene, which the mayor's Committee for Decency has been opposing, should suddenly and surprisingly spring forth in this meeting at the city hall a few weeks ago and appear before these her apparent "champions," or at least her apparent protectors — the members of the board! This young, self-confessed doer of immoral deeds, bold, boasting, and con-



More Than One Kind Of School Drop-Out!

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

The Vallejo Volunteer Bureau is making a special effort to see that our senior citizens who are spending Christmas in rest homes and convalescent hospitals will be visited with Christmas caroling and decorations this season. Response from organizations and churches has been enthusiastic and gratifying. But there can never be too much.

So, if your group wishes to brighten the lives of the elderly and sick this Christmas season, call Mrs. Ruth Chorley at 644-9403 or Janet Bullock at 642-7386 to find out where help is most needed.

For more information about the Volunteer Bureau and its activities and how you might be of community service call Mrs. Marian Bullock at 644-8597.

Thank you and Merry Christmas.

Janet Bullock
Vallejo

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

The International Hospitality Services, Inc. wishes to thank all the Vallejo, Napa and Benicia residents who responded warmly to the appeal in the "It's Rich" column for Thanksgiving entertainment for the overseas students, therapists and Naval trainees in our area. Every overseas visitor was in an American home and many hosts were disappointed because there were not enough guests to meet the invitations offered.

The International Services is a year around program. Therapists will be leaving in January as a new group arrives. This situation also exists at the Naval Command on Mare Island. However, Solano College is more stable.

It is our hope that the community will become aware of this constantly changing pattern of our overseas guests and will call Mrs. Richard Corbett, 643-5407, throughout the year and arrangements will be made for whatever entertainment the host or hostess

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Today I am poorer than yesterday, for today I gave up a friend to the Grey Coachman, death, who carries us from this life to that land from whose bourne no traveler returns.

I wonder if he really knew how much I treasured his friendship, and esteemed his simple and humble wisdom? Did I ever tell him so, in so many words? I knew; but did HE?

Friends are to be highly esteemed, to be held in affection and respected. Yet, in reflection, did I tell him so while he was here? Have I lived so confined within this "shell" of mine that I did not let him know? I know how difficult it is — living as an individual, experiencing life really alone in this body — to recognize and understand that others are also experiencing their own feelings, thoughts and are also just as alone in their individual "shell" or body.

Knowing this, did I call out to him, extend my hand and say "Jim, I'm glad for your friendship — glad we met, and for the things you've given me — comfort when troubled, comradeship when together, the advantage of your advice as needed. Jim, I appreciate you!"

I feel sure that Jim Mayfield knew my respect, affection and esteem for him as a friend and I hope that I do not get too wrapped up in myself to tell those others of my friends — "I appreciate you!" For all too soon the Grey Coachman comes, and, one by one, we move away — to meet again across the Valley of Shadows.

Won't you also stop, today, just for a moment, beside a friend and just say "I'm glad I know you!" Then you won't wonder later:

HERBERT FULLER
222 Carrillo Ave.
Vallejo

* * *

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I wish that those of you who read this letter would take heed of what I'm about to say.

To those of you who drive, will you please do me a favor when you alight from your car downtown or on the highway. Please do so from the right side of your car, not from the left.

Now, to those of you who are in the habit of parking near the end of a curb, this is wrong. A driver has to pull out in the middle of an intersection before he can see if anything is coming, so please park away from the end of the curb. It puts others in danger.

To those of you who drive down Whitney Drive, please do me a favor and stop throwing your litter all over the place. Beer cans, bottles, old clothes and what have you. If there is anything I dislike it is driving down a street that is filthy.

JOHN L. LEE

* * *

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

The statement by Assemblyman William Brown, Jr. of San Francisco, concerning a

availability of water to meet the needs of future industrial expansion.

Except for the Humble Oil Co., which will require large quantities of water when its new refinery at Benicia goes into operation, and the residents of Antioch, who use river water for domestic and industrial purposes, Mr. Coakley said few people in Solano County are objecting to the canal project. In fact, he said Congressman Leggett has not had any pressure brought to bear for him NOT to support the canal.

It was Mr. Coakley's considered opinion that construction of the peripheral canal will deteriorate the quality of water which many Solano cities—particularly Vallejo and Rio Vista—now are enjoying. He indicated Congressman Leggett believes continued procrastination in taking a stand on the canal proposal irrevocably may commit Solano County to a project inconsistent with its best interests.

Mr. Coakley indicated time is running out as the canal issue is destined to become one of increased urgency now that a strong possibility of peace in Vietnam exists—a development that well could make funds, now committed to the war effort, available for construction of the peripheral canal in the near future.

It was his recommendation, made at the suggestion of Mr. Leggett, that Solano County and all its cities should display an aggressive interest in this project, even to the point of entering into an agreement with Contra Costa County to pay for some water quality engineering studies. Participation with landowners and other agencies also is desirable, he added.

"Looking to the future of the shoreline of Solano County and possible development of future industry locating in this area," Mr. Coakley declared, "it is important that we maintain our present quality standards and not permit the construction of any project which will lower such standards. Solano County should come up with alternate plans."

We agree with Congressman Leggett and Mr. Coakley that continued complacency on a matter of such vital concern is a luxury Solano County and its cities cannot afford.

We concur that all interests concerned must act with all dispatch—in cooperation with Contra Costa County—to take a firm, united position so our congressmen in Washington—Representatives Leggett and Jerome Waldie—may pursue our cause in the knowledge they represent our convictions.

Referring to my comments in last week's issue pertaining to the matter of decency, freedom, and the library, it seems to this writer that it is also most pitiable, and yet so timely, that one of the apparent and expected offspring of this defense of indecency and the obscene, which the mayor's Committee for Decency has been opposing, should suddenly and surprisingly spring forth in this meeting at the city hall a few weeks ago and appear before these her apparent "champions," or at least her apparent protectors—the members of the board! This young, self-confessed doer of immoral deeds, bold, boasting, and confident, said that she knew all about how it was done. Undoubtedly she was not aware of the scriptural injunction that no adulterer should enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Poor young girl, brazen though she was, in her revelation to the library board and to the public, that in the board, apparently, she could rest contentedly for the moral backing which she knew she needed from some direction, some source. How pitiable! How pathetic! How tragic! Surely, somebody, or some group or groups have failed her! Yes, the library is supposed to help bring up our children, our youth! Whether seemingly agreeable to them or not, from the very nature of the case, they are in "cooperation" with the home, the church, the school! They are in this high and exalted business and stewardship of character-building, and woe to any one of those agencies if it fail in its godgiven opportunity and stewardship!

REV. RAY M. LAWRENCE
Members of the Mayor's Committee for Decency.

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

In Monday morning's Times-Herald, Opinions of the People, dated Dec. 9th, there was an article in reference to the "Sensitivity Program" about to be taught in our schools.

I say "Sensitivity Program," although there are many names that this program is hidden under. As soon as the people become educated as to exactly what this means, there are those who are ready to call this program something else, i.e., T-Group Training, Human Relations, Self-Honesty Session, etc. Nevertheless, the ideas and purposes remain the same.

I could not hope to, in two hundred words, tell you exactly what this program is intended to do. The idea, basically, is to overcome our children's resistances.

I am not a member of any group with an axe to grind. I am just an interested mother, who says to you "if you care about your children, find out what our School Board administrators and Mr. Cecil McDonald have planned in the very near future for your children." Attend all School Board meetings so that you will become informed as to what is going on. (Dec. 17th at 7:30 p.m. for a meeting that concerns you and your children.)

Stop sitting back and complaining and doing nothing.

A MOTHER WHO COMPLAINS,
BUT DOES SOMETHING

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

The Occupation Home Management class of Vallejo Senior High School. We will like to thank all the people for their time and their donation to work the Christmas party out of the pre-school. It was about 75 children who attended the party at the school. I would especially like to thank all the parents for letting their children attend the party. Also I would like a special thanks to Mr. McDonald and Santa Claus Rick.

Written by
LINDA AUSTIN

So, if you group wishes to brighten the lives of the elderly and sick this Christmas season, call Mrs. Ruth Chorley at 644-9403 or Janet Bullock at 642-7386 to find out where help is most needed.

For more information about the Volunteer Bureau and its activities and how you might be of community service call Mrs. Marian Bullock at 644-8597.

Thank you and Merry Christmas.

Janet Bullock
Vallejo

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Tuesday December 10th at 2:45 p.m. I went into the main branch of our Post Office to buy some 6 cent Xmas stamps, as they were out of same at the Amador Branch, and to my surprise found just ONE WINDOW open to accommodate the public.

There were two women with two or three packages each then several men in front of me and after standing in hopes one of the other windows would open for 15 minutes, I told the gentleman in front "I don't need stamps this bad."

My question is why do we need such a big fancy building when we can go to either Amador or Springtowne small branches where you will always find two windows open, and receive such excellent service.

We have been reading so much about USE ZIP CODE TO SPEED THE MAIL, is it any wonder so many people don't bother with treatment like this at our largest Post Office Branch?

Service such as this harms our wonderful Carriers who are out in all weather doing their utmost to get the mails delivered on time.

If all in the Post Office Department were like our wonderful Mail Carrier, with his cheery "Hi" to all, no matter whether the weather is 41 or 91, rain, hail or shine, it would be a better place to deal with.

A DISGUSTED CUSTOMER

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE: WHEN WILL THE PEOPLE OF VALLEJO AND BENICIA WAKE UP?

Take a look at your front yard or back yard—depending on the direction you approach it.

I mean the area along the entrance road and around the garbage dump at Columbus Parkway near the Benicia end. It is an eyesore no matter from what angle you view it.

Besides being an eyesore, it is a health hazard. The burning done in the expanded area resembles the atomic mushroom cloud.

Now, the owner and operator of the dump is applying for a permit for a liquid waste disposal area for chemical wastes, etc., at this very same site. This application for permit is coming before the county planners at their next meeting.

If you don't see your county planner or your supervisor IMMEDIATELY, you are not concerned about your health or your countryside.

DEEPLY CONCERNED

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

In answer to "A Citizen." This may come as a complete shock to you but all of the elderly in Vallejo are not well cared for. They do not receive Social Security or Medicare and are not always physically able to join senior citizens groups and have a good time.

JUST ME

pointed because there were not enough guests to meet the invitations offered.

The International Services is a year around program. Therapists will be leaving in January as a new group arrives. This situation also exists at the Naval Command on Mare Island. However, Solano College is more stable.

It is our hope that the community will become aware of this constantly changing pattern of our overseas guests and will call Mrs. Richard Corbett, 643-5407, throughout the year and arrangements will be made for whatever entertainment the host or hostess wishes to provide.

We also hope family activities can include some of the strangers in our midst during the Christmas season. The holiday spirit of sharing adds to the happiness of everyone.

Currently there are two Spanish officers on Mare Island who are interested in sight-seeing. If you are taking a drive throughout our beautiful area, these men would truly enjoy seeing sunny California.

To all of you who offered gracious hospitality to our friends from overseas, the International Hospitality Services, Inc. extends deep sincere appreciation and thanks.

BEULAH CORBETT

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

If you want to make someone happy this Christmas, besides your family, remember a child in an institution who may not get anything. Those in charge of county and state hospitals, juvenile halls, youth guidance centers, orphanages, etc., do all they can, but their budgets usually don't allow for presents. Some of the children's parents are dead, in prison, ill, or just don't care. Most of the children need a sturdy toy, or something to cuddle.

Instead of having school children bring gifts to trade at school, some schools have them bring a gift for a child in an institution, if they want to. These kids are proud and happy when they get to, and are very enthusiastic about helping.

If people could inform the newspaper readers of what is needed and where to take it, many, many would be grateful, both the givers and the receivers.

Dorothy Willis

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

In response to Mrs. Cocci's letter of Dec. 12:

What is your definition of "fine young adults?" What is a "contaminated atmosphere?"

Would you shelter your brood, insulate them from the harsh realities of a world where four-letter words are hardly uncommon? Would you have them remain ignorant of the fact there exists sex deviates and perverts? Would you have them grow under your watchful eye until they reach an age where you are ready to release them into a world where their rose-colored glasses and ear plugs have ill-equipped them to handle?

Did you bother to read the three "scandalous" articles in those top women's magazines? Might they not conceivably have been helpful to those for whom the articles were written? Have you read "Tropic of Cancer?" Did you understand it? Was there nothing at all worthwhile in it?

I am one of the million in this country interested in the "filth" that "daily bargages us" via papers, radio, TV, and movies. Why? Because I am alive, vitally interested in all aspects of this marvelous creation—life!

Think positively, Mrs. Cocci. There is some good, as well as bad, in everything.

WILLIAM H. SCHLUETER

coming. It puts others in danger.

To those of you who drive down Whitney Drive, please do me a favor and stop throwing your litter all over the place. Beer cans, bottles, old clothes and what have you. If there is anything I dislike it is driving down a street that is filthy.

JOHN L. LEE

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

The statement by Assemblyman William Brown Jr. of San Francisco concerning a possible fatality at San Francisco State College is the result of extreme misguidance.

If we are to agree with the Assemblyman then we might as well close all of our establishments and give succor to the anarchists. His fears should not be for the perpetrators of these violent and outrageous acts, but for the defenders of his and our peaceful ways. There can be no condonation for their behavior. They have behaved in a willful and unconscionable manner as shown by their gibes, obscenities, deprivation of freedom of movement of college officials, bomb threats, arson and other destructive acts.

Can these dissidents be called men of rational or logical reasoning? Not in any context of citizenship and democracy! If a munificent grant of amnesty is offered to any of these affronters of decorum, I would label it a travesty of justice.

Matthew Silverman
Vallejo

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

This is in regard to the many letters that you have received about places for teenagers to go. People say "Why should we have a place for them?" Well, why not??

Adults have places to go, such as night clubs, bars, etc. They can go where they want to, teenagers aren't allowed to.

They say that we can go to our friends' homes. But many of our parents don't allow this. They are afraid that if we make too much noise the neighbors will call the police. But when adults drink and get loud, it doesn't matter. They have their rights. Well, what happened to ours?

We have only one walk-in theater. We don't have any place for dancing or just getting together and talking with our friends.

When we held dances last summer, did we cause any trouble? The answer is NO. So why can't people give us a chance? If we are trusted we won't let you down. Many of us teenagers like to have fun. We don't want trouble, so why not give us a chance? Please!

A TEENAGER

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

What better time than at Christmas to let people know how much we appreciate all the help and support that they have given us to maintain our Thrift Store for the retarded in our community.

My sincere thanks to all the volunteers who so generously give of their time, also the people who donate furniture, clothing and many other useful articles. And last, but not least, to the people who shop in our store. May I also say that during this holiday season we have many useful gift items for sale.

For any donations that need to be picked up please phone 642-3917 after 4:30. Or, you may leave them at our store at 725 Marin St.

THANK YOU
CHAIRMAN OF THE STORE

PRAYER FOR TODAY

Forbid, O God, our Father, that we should take Thy gifts for granted. Not merely, once a year, once a week, or once a day would our prayer of thanksgiving rise to Thee, but day by day through all life's experiences. May ours be the attitude of gratitude, perceiving Thy presence, Thy grace and benediction in common paths and routine tasks, in the spirit of the Master. Amen.

—John Marvin Rast, Columbia, S. C.,
Methodist religious editor.

EDITORIALS

Is Truce Inevitable?

Despite the fact the Paris peace talks still are bogged down in procedural disputes, many informed observers are convinced a cease-fire in Vietnam is inevitable and that the future of South Vietnam no longer will depend on the outcome of a shooting war but will be determined by a political showdown.

Their appraisal is based on the observation that both the Communists and the Saigon government now are tossing aside the caution learned through years of warfare and are moving ahead with programs aimed at wresting political control of large areas where they now have gained a military foothold.

The Viet Cong, for example, are surfacing in many contested areas to convince a war-weary population into voting for a "revolutionary administration" aimed at legitimizing the Communists in areas where they long have claimed dominance.

On the other hand, the Saigon government is vastly over-extending itself in a program labeled Accelerated Pacification Campaign which aims at grabbing a maximum of contested terrain with a minimum of operatives to bolster government claims of population control.

In view of these developments, the possibility of a breakthrough in the Paris peace negotiations raises some serious problems in the event that a cease-fire is a part of the agreement.

For one thing, there is no well-marked front line in South Vietnam. If there were, a cease-fire would be much easier to arrange. Each side would continue to hold its ground while the shooting dies away.

Opinions Of The People

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

In answer to the letter signed E. L. on Dec. 16, concerning the animals at the Solano County Animal Shelter.

E. L., it is commendable of you to write an article each year at this time concerning adoption of animals at the Solano County Animal Shelter and it is indeed in the true spirit of Xmas but to so severely criticize the Solano County Humane Society and in a sense place the responsibility of the Society to find homes for all animals at the Shelter is completely out of line. The Shelter is for the purpose of animals that are unfortunately without homes and I can assure you, E. L., that our Society recommends to dozens of persons each month to go to the Shelter for the purpose of adopting pets and hundreds of animals are placed each year thru our recommendation and efforts.

Also, E. L., most animals that are taken to the Shelter are kept alive longer than the recommended 72 hours as even the pound men have a heart and are human. It is only when animals are sick or deceased or beyond hope of getting well that they are put to sleep immediately and certainly this is more merciful than having them suffer as the method used for this purpose is painless and quick.

The animal shelter personnel has worked and is constantly working in full cooperation with the Humane Society in a common effort to find homes for as many animals as possible.

E. L. is also misinformed as to the duties of the Humane Society as it is not their duty to find homes for all animals that are taken to the animal shelter but to prevent cruelty to animals and pets and teach humanity to be kind to their pets and all animals.

Since E. L. is not a member of the Solano County Humane Society and has never attended a meeting, it is out of order for her to be so direct in her accusations of their neglect in their duties. I would like to inform E. L. that our Humane Officer makes from 60 to 100 calls per month on cruelty cases and assistance to injured animals. Many times he has been called out of bed in the middle of the night when even he didn't feel well or away from the dinner table to assist an injured animal.

If E. L. would reconstruct her thoughts in the true spirit of Xmas, perhaps next year she will not be so positive in her opinions.

E. M. and P. W.

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

In an issue of both the Register and the Napa County Record of last week it was reported that Assessor George Abate had appeared before the Napa Board of Supervisors and outlined the added cost that the passing of Proposition 1-A would cause the taxpayers of the County. His estimate was a 1/2 cent raise in the tax rate. As far as this goes this was reporting the news of the minutes of the Board for the benefit of the taxpayers. You should have quit while you were ahead.

The whole gist of your (Napa) news coverage was that the people in their search for tax relief had voted themselves a pig in a poke that was going to become very costly.

Nowhere in either paper did I see any reference to the part the local news media played in the dissemination of the propaganda against proposition No. 8 and in favor of proposition No. 1-A.



Cheap At The Price

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

There is something new under the sun! **TECHNOCRACY.** The frustrations and problems facing us, individually and collectively, are becoming more numerous as time passes. The older generation does not understand the younger generation. The younger generation does not know how to get where they want to go. The rules of the past do not seem to work as they used to. Politics have reached a new low in our country. There is no MAN in politics to lead us out of our country's dilemma.

Most people do not and will not understand Technocracy before physical trends make its institution mandatory. The best they can do, then, is to make sure they keep the essential technology operating and take direction from social engineers. They know how to turn on their TV or radio and adjust them. How many understand them? How many people work at machines in business, shop or factory and do not understand them?

Technocracy is one organization that does not seek to propagate itself. It is all

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:

An open letter to 1968:

"First of all, I must admit that I am not very good at "good byes."

This is especially in regard to those that I have learned to love and I must admit that I have grown very fond of you over the months because you have been a gracious lady with the utmost aplomb and the grandest charm.

I must confess that some of us have not been very kind to you, some of us have seen fit to take you for granted, some of us went so far as to call you names. But you being the grand lady that you are you didn't see fit to retaliate. Thus, I'm grateful for now and ever.

I know that you being the lady you are, you would want us to greet the new lady with wide open arms. I assume she will be a lady, and give her our best. Well, I can assure you I'm going to do my part to make her welcome. So, dear lady of '68 I salute you.

JOHN L. LEE
Vallejo

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

What do you do when persons close to you die? How do you accept it? How do you accept the fact that two great people who never did anything really bad were gunned down for no reason at all? I wish someone would tell me because I don't know, I really don't know.

Calling them great is an understatement. They were outstanding. The joy they brought into my life, as well as countless others, cannot be expressed in words. I never saw a time when Betty Lou wasn't laughing or trying to make someone else laugh. It was as if she lacked sadness.

And Dave, he was always smiling, always happy and always had a big hi for me.

I'll never hear that laugh again or see that smile but I will remember them, along with all my other precious memories of Betty and Dave. Above all, I was and am proud to know I was their friend.

A PROUD FRIEND

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

"Anarchy — (1) The state of society where there is no law or supreme power; a state of political disorder. (2) A state of confusion or disorder. Syn.—Anarchy, chaos, lawlessness, means a breakdown in law and order. Anarchy implies total absence of suspension of government; chaos, the utter negation of law and order; lawlessness, a prevalent or habitual disregard of law and order." — Webster

I believe there is no such thing as civil disobedience. There is anarchy.

When shooting policemen or civilians, fire bombing, beating, looting, etc., are allowed to go on, with no real arrests and no hard convictions anarchy prevails.

I believe that no one who is not 100 per cent self supporting or maintained has any right to demand of either a college curriculum or of government.

If a person is helped by parents, any branch of government, any organization, then he has no right to demand. In fact, I believe even taxpayers and sponsors of such people have only a right to petition.

I believe it is for a common good of the people, a reasonable sized minority group, they could petition and gain popular acceptance. If certain courses are desired and

In view of these developments, the possibility of a breakthrough in the Paris peace negotiations raises some serious problems in the event that a cease-fire is a part of the agreement.

For one thing, there is no well-marked front line in South Vietnam. If there were, a cease-fire would be much easier to arrange. Each side would continue to hold its ground while the shooting dies away.

In Vietnam, however, there is no clearly demarcated area belonging to each of the combatants. In some of the 44 provinces, the government holds little more than the province capitals and district capitals. According to U.S. Pacification figures, 3,962 of South Vietnam's 12,500 hamlets are controlled by the Viet Cong and 3,858 are contested. American advisers say that only about six million persons live in these two categories of areas, compared to roughly 11.5 million living under government control.

If a cease-fire suddenly were announced, the National Liberation Front undoubtedly would claim all those hamlets under its control and a great many others—plus thousands of square miles of uninhabited territory in between. In fact, the NLF conceivably even could claim a great geographical chunk of South Vietnam on this basis.

It is not likely that the Saigon government would sit still for such a formal division of the land of South Vietnam. It is one thing for Saigon to observe a de facto recognition of enemy control as is now the case in some areas of the Delta, but quite another matter formally to cede to the enemy vast pieces of territory scattered throughout the country.

Whether Saigon will be successful in its effort to counter such a situation by a concerted attempt to establish its presence in as many areas as possible before any cease-fire is arranged remains to be seen.

But it seems clear that a cease-fire if negotiated, will be a much more complex matter than a simple agreement to stop the shooting. It is a foregone conclusion the Saigon government hardly will agree to any cease-fire formula that leaves the Viet Cong in control of a substantial geographical portion of the country.

Thus, while Hanoi and Saigon still are fighting each other with bombs and bullets, they now also are resorting to flags and banners in an attempt to gain dominance over a non-existent "no man's land." Truly, this has been a frustrating war that well may be prolonged by an unavailing peace.

appeared before the Napa Board of Supervisors and outlined the added cost that the passing of Proposition 1-A would cause the taxpayers of the County. His estimate was a 1/2 cent raise in the tax rate. As far as this goes this was reporting the news of the minutes of the Board for the benefit of the taxpayers. You should have quit while you were ahead.

The whole gist of your (Napa) news coverage was that the people in their search for tax relief had voted themselves a pig in a poke that was going to become very costly. Nowhere in either paper did I see any reference to the part the local news media played in the dissemination of the propaganda against proposition No. 9 and in favor of Proposition No. 1-A.

Now, of course, it is the voters fault the news media conveniently forgetting the scare tactics involved in their presentation of their arguments in favor of No. 1-A and the blind trust they put in the information put out by the California Taxpayers Association and the California Teachers Association. It would appear from published news items since the election that the Teachers Association was suckered into supporting the proposition heavily enough financially that they will now enjoy a raise in their dues.

This is not the first time that information has not been as factual as it should be in a free press but never have I seen a retraction admitting error.

Of all the area newspapers the only one I read that correctly editorialized was the Vallejo Times-Herald and the only other one that gave opposition coverage although the editor in his editorials was against No. 9 and in favor of No. 1-A was the St. Helena Star.

It does no good to say I told you so but I think it is self evident that a responsible press should admit to error when it is made and not try to shift all the blame to the voters it has misled.

I doubt if this will be printed but it's worth the time and effort to find out.

Yours truly,
M. B. BENSON
Napa

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Evidently Robert Clinton hasn't taken time to look at all sides of the college issues.

After the actions of these demonstrators, the regents and the college officials are doing the correct thing in bringing in law enforcement officers to protect non-violent students and teachers and to protect public property. This action should have been taken in 1964 at the University of California at Berkeley.

Students demonstrating like this in a Communist country would have been shot, don't forget it. Students in Mexico were shot down and Mexico is a democratic country, but as of now, no further violence has occurred.

Assemblyman Willie Brown's silly statement: "remove the police before someone is killed." Who is going to protect the law-abiding students and teachers from missile throwing through windows and fire setting? These things happened before the police were called in and would have continued. Remember that police do not use their pistols as a club, since their billy club is much more effective.

Afro-Americans demand African dialect and history classes, and also soul food. How about all the other descendants of foreign birth, give it to them too? What a mess that would be and of course no academic requirements. Just a fast runner and dissenter.

J.E.S.
Vallejo

low in the snow windows of Marsan Fields, in Chicago, it was a bit too cold to spend too much time looking at them from the sidewalk.

Most people do not and will not understand Technocracy before physical trends make its institution mandatory. The best they can do, then, is to make sure they keep the essential technology operating and take direction from social engineers. They know how to turn on their TV or radio and adjust them. How many understand them? How many people work at machines in business, shop or factory and do not understand them?

Technocracy is one organization that does not seek to propagate itself. It is all American, is not connected with politics, is non-sectarian and non-profit. It is kept going by members dedicated to the belief that all Americans should be able to live as humans should live. That hate, prejudice, crime, drug peddling etc. can be done away with without force.

Most people do not understand the economy under which they presently operate any more than they understand the mechanics of the vast technology which they take a part in operating. So, if you are not satisfied with the books in your library, your taxes, the way your Govt. spends your taxes, the other people moonlighting and the many other things that disturb you and me, then you had better start LEARNING MY FRIENDS — about TECHNOCRACY.

America can and must show the World how to have peace throughout the world by setting an example and not by using force.

J SEWARD
523 Wilson

* * *

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

This isn't the only time in history when things seemed to be chaotic, stupidly managed, criminally advised and hopelessly entangled.

As generations die out and their descendants become the replacements, the people are new but the genetic deficiencies again and again emphasize the truth that there is basically nothing new under the sun.

When Winston Churchill warned the British people of the dangers of a Hitler invasion, he was repeating the words of another prime minister, who about a century and a half previously had warned of the impending invasion by Napoleon.

When we read of the incredulous delays at the Paris peace talks caused by differences over the size and shape of the conference table, we must remember that such insignificant delays also caused deaths during the bloody medieval conflicts and the horrible religious wars of centuries ago.

But, of course, our greatest current headache is our younger generation including students. Listen to this analysis of the new generation:

"Children today are just too soft; they have bad manners, contempt for authority, disrespect for their elders; talk too much, and work too little. Rather than helping out around the house, they give everybody orders. They haven't even the courtesy to stand up when their elders enter the room. They contradict their parents, monopolize the conversation in front of guests, have miserable table manners, a slouchy posture, and they tyrannize their teachers."

Oh, yes — who said it?
Plato in the 5th Century B.C.
Hopefully,
ALBERT SCHWITZER

bombing, beating, looting, etc., are allowed to go on, with no real arrests and no hard convictions anarchy prevails.

I believe that no one who is not 100 per cent self supporting or maintained has any right to demand of either a college curriculum or of government.

If a person is helped by parents, any branch of government, any organization, then he has no right to demand. In fact, I believe even taxpayers and sponsors of such people have only a right to petition.

I believe if it is for a common good of the people, a reasonable sized minority group, they could petition and gain popular acceptance. If certain courses are desired and are not against all public well being, they are not put into effect.

Some minorities demanded integration, reasoning their schools and instructors were inferior and that equal education was a right. And so it is. But immediately, when the integration demand was met, they wanted their own instructors back.

They cry racist, but they advocate racism themselves.

Blackmail has never paid off yet. Promiscuity and pay for not working can't be anything but blackmail.

People who have no business on school campuses, but to stir up unrest, are anarchists.

People with no or little academic background have no business instructing our young people. Minority, majority, immaterial. People with criminal backgrounds have no business instructing our young people.

People who preach anarchy and overthrow of government should be in front of the court awaiting sentence, not hailed as saviors.

Mesa, Tempe, and Phoenix, Ariz., did themselves proud, and they were worth going miles to see. Even the Giant's ball park looked good.

Well, what I started out to say, was that Christmas may be commercialized, but it is still that time of the year, when we all remember the story of the Babe Born in the Manger, the beauty and simplicity of the story, that has touched human hearts down through the ages, and of the Babe grown to Manhood, who gave us the key to a wonderful way of life, if we but follow His teachings in our daily lives!

We haven't gotten back to Vallejo yet (Dec. 18) but we know it will be beautiful, and beauty is where we seek it, and home is where the heart is, and that's where our hearts are, in good old Vallejo, Calif.

Alton E. Bunker
643 Annette Ave.
Vallejo, Calif. 94590

* * *

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

In reading today's (Dec. 19) paper I was struck in particular by two different articles. The one on the front page reported, in a somewhat shocked tone, that a group of local teachers refused a raise in favor of other school needs. The other one told of the reelection of Jimmy Hoffa as president of his local union — while in prison serving out a sentence for jury tampering!

The incongruity of these two groups hit me strongly. Why does one group put the desperate need of our children for a good education above "personal" gain, while the other openly supports a man who obviously believes his personal "success" is the most important thing in the world?

I feel this juxtaposition of ideals typifies our time. How can we encourage the civilizing influence of the first organization, and discourage the blatant misuse of power as demonstrated by many of our "super unions." Maybe the answer lies in being a little more like the former and a little less like the latter in our own actions.

L.H.

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May there soon come a day when we can all say "here come de judge."
ROBERT A. MILLER
2278 Santa Fe St.
Fairfield

P.S. Sacco and Vanzetti saw the judge — and were comparatively much less guilty.

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE

As a member of the Veteran's Organization I have held many offices and listened to many stories about who, why, or how things should be done on the subject of veteran's property tax exemption.

When I joined the Veteran's Organization there were 350,000 veterans in California. Membership in veteran's organizations was well over 200,000. Today there are over a million veterans in California and about 175,000 are members of veteran's organizations. Only around 30,000 members benefit. The remainder are not eligible.

This land of ours requires certain things to make laws and uphold them. Lobbyists, letter writers, and groups that call on legislative assemblies help do this. Veteran's organizations have done these things for the past fifty years, spending millions of their memberships' dollars and hours. I have expressed the idea of returning this money to the membership in dinners, entertainment and other activities which would interest the veterans and their families.

If the odd 800,000 veterans have enough interest, they will take over and protect their rights. Tax exemption amounts to a saving of \$60 to \$125 a year. I would not back this law any longer. The veterans don't care in any way. 75 per cent of the shoppers on Veteran's Day were veterans. I would say "shame! shame!" on veterans who failed to join a veteran's organization.

Veteran
Vacaville