

PRAYER FOR TODAY

Eternal God, as I face the privilege of a new year, I would first thank You for Your providence. Help me to walk humbly into this year with prayer and faith, that all things may work out for the best. Be my guide and strength so I may give a good account of my stewardship. And if my time on earth should end, grant that I may find that eternal morning through Christ, Who is the resurrection and the life. Amen.

—Gordon A. Stoltz, Yorba Linda, Calif., minister, Yorba Linda Moravian Church.

EDITORIALS

Gold In Them Waves

The Great Gold Rush of 1967 appears to have petered out.

Gold-buying fever among speculators, touched off by Britain's devaluation of the pound, continues but at greatly diminished pitch. The United States, in co-operation with seven "gold pool" nations of Europe, remains firm in its policy of buying gold at \$35 an ounce and no higher.

Through it all, the average American is left knowing about as much about the yellow metal as he did before — that it makes excellent dental fillings, that it is illegal to hold it (except in one's mouth) and that in some mysterious way it is flowing out of this country.

Although there is a serious balance of payments problem, very little gold actually leaves our shores, says News Front magazine. When it is used to pay a foreign bill, it is merely a matter of moving it from the New York Assay Office (having previously been sent from the Fort Knox Depository) to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

There the gold is simply stored again, five stories below the street and 50 feet below sea level, in 120 compartments leased to 70 foreign nations. A foreign nation can have its gold transferred to its own soil but rarely does so (France is an exception).

As a result, some 13,000 tons of gold belonging to other countries rest on solid Manhattan bedrock.

There is an estimated \$64 billion worth of gold in the world today, says the magazine, and more than 41 per cent of it is in the U.S.A. Some \$8.5 billion of it is in Fort Knox and another \$13.5 billion in the Federal Reserve Bank of New York — the two greatest concentrations in the world.

Private gold holdings worldwide are esti-

Opinions Of The People

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

A very interesting and informative film has been secured and will be shown in Vallejo during the first weekend of January. The film is entitled "HEAD START IN MISSISSIPPI" and was obtained through the Solano County Economic Opportunity Office, Vallejo.

The film portrays the onset, growth, and productivity, of the Head Start program in a small rural community in Mississippi. Further, it shows how the programs funds were cut off through the application of political pressure. The roles of the citizen, the church, and the political structure, are all apparent in the ensuing struggle to have the funds restored.

The film will be followed by a discussion, open to all. It will focus on the different aspects of interest brought out in the film. The film will be shown by the following schedule:

Jan. 7, Sunday:

Friendship Baptist Church, 1905 Florida St. starting at 4 p.m.

The First Presbyterian Church at 1350 Amador St. starting at 7 p.m.

The content and intent of this film makes it a MUST for every citizen of community consciousness and goodwill. The showing of this film is in no way meant to entertain, but rather it is an effort to inform those who attend. Attendance and active participation are encouraged and will be greatly appreciated.

JOHN RAY

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OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

In reply to both Mr. Seward and Mr. Hagwood opinions on my article "Poverty Within The United States Can Be Eliminated," and for the benefit of those who may be inclined to misunderstand the intent of my article I wish to clarify the following points.

Nowhere in my article did I indicate the opinion, as expressed by Mr. Seward, that our current economic system should be substituted for a new one if poverty is to be eliminated. On the contrary, I believe that of all known or advocated economic systems ours offers the best for its people. For example, the price system has two outstanding features which are considered necessary in our democracy. First, it is the most efficient system known to mankind. Second, it affords the maximum of individual freedom in that goods and services are distributed to individuals according to their free desire, and ability to pay. In this respect, if any change is necessary to our system it is the factors dealing with the purchasing power or ability to pay. Personally, however, I still feel that the real solution to the problem must derive from the sincere intent of the American public as a reflection of the value we attach to human dignity and our belief in humanity.

As to the reply to Mr. Hagwood's opinion, I can only say: How naive can one be? If we followed his line of thinking he would have us to believe that doctors may as well forget about healing the sick, because sickness will always be with us; that law enforcing agencies may as well forget about crime prevention programs, because criminals will always exist; that our international efforts to eliminate wars is to no avail, since wars will always exist; and that ministers may as well forget about providing the religious needs of its people because men are born in sin. To be sure Mr. Hagwood for



OFF WITH A BANG

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Since the rugged Aussies are not a people to let Communist aggression in their part of the world go unchallenged, Australia's tough attitude on Vietnam won't diminish as the result of the untimely death of Prime Minister Harold Holt. Even so, the United States has lost a great friend.

Holt did far more than endorse the American intervention in Vietnam; he supported it with an outspoken enthusiasm seldom displayed even in Washington. For example, when U.N. Secretary General U Thant claimed that Vietnam was strategically unimportant to the West, Holt did not leave it to his foreign ministry to make a polite reply. He took sharp issue himself, as the head of government. Said Holt:

"We consider the outcome in Vietnam vital to the security of countries in Southeast Asia, the Pacific and Asia generally. . . we regard the contribution made in particular by the United States to the security and progress of this area as fundamental to our prospects for security and national growth."

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:

The situation in the Middle-East has prompted the Editor of our local newspaper to write an article entitled "Why The Feet Dragging," dated Dec. 23, 1967. The Russians and the French are supplying the Arabs, Russia for the Naval Base rights at Egyptian ports, and France for economic advantages.

Israel is willing to pay cash for equipment, seeking from us, 50 modern jet bombers to build up its 250 airplane force. She needs these weapons to offset the tons of equipment the Russians are pouring into the Middle-East. One wonders if perhaps Israel were Communist would efforts be speeded up to aid this little country.

Why such a statement? In 1964 President Johnson said his administration wishes to "build new bridges to Eastern Europe." Bridges of ideas, education, culture, trade, technical cooperation and mutual understanding for world peace and prosperity. Here are just a few of the items this administration is trading with, and aiding an enemy that has sworn to bury us . . . crude and manufactured rubber, textiles and textile fibers, metal ores and scrap, petroleum, gas and derivatives, chemical compounds and products, metal products and machinery, plastic materials, and scientific and professional instruments.

How much of the above items are going into the equipment and firearms that are killing our men in Vietnam and could likely do so in other parts of the world, such as the Middle-East or perhaps Africa and Latin America? I think this administration is guilty of feet dragging but only when it comes to helping our friends.

VALESKA CHANG
Vallejo, California

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OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I want to thank the Times-Herald and the photographer Gordon Shaffer who took pictures of the unwanted animals at the Pound this Christmas. The response was very gratifying and the people in Vallejo responded as they always do. One picture is worth a thousand words, but Christmas won't be here for another year. So how about it? Why not help them all year around. It brings money into the county. The Times-Herald has the Pet Exchange every Monday, free of charge. So why not place a picture once a week in the paper of the dog and cat of the week available for adoption. And you people that have pets, why wait until they are four years old and give them away. They grieve when they are shut out of your life and home, and please, please, don't let your dogs and cats breed. Be born into a world that has no room for them. I believe there our pills put out by Sergeant's available. If for some reason you have to find a home for a dog or cat check it out. Be sure a dog has a fenced yard. I've seen people keep their dogs tied out in the cold on a short rope night and day. No wonder some animals get mean and attack children. They probably have been mistreated. People get puppies for their kids. As long as they stay small the people take care of them, but as soon as they grow up, they let them run the streets or tie them up and forget them. It's up to Vallejo to take care of their animal population. You Supervisors, have you paid a visit to the

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Christmas and a presidential political campaign have one thing in common aside from the tinsel: both seem inevitably to come upon us before we are aware that it's really that late.

They're heating up the New Hampshire primary campaigns already. In a couple of weeks Richard M. Nixon will announce that he is a candidate for the Republican nomination. Powerful Liberal forces on the eastern seaboard, calling themselves "moderates," are more and more promoting Nelson Rockefeller for the GOP nomination.

And Rockefeller is supplying much of the money that keeps George Romney's implausible bid for the nomination going. This is a factor that makes for speculation. Is Rockefeller really serious in his support of Romney? Does he actually believe the Michigander has a chance? Or is he merely using Romney as a kind of stand-in to keep any other Liberals (Charles Percy, for example) from getting too serious before the right moment comes for Rockefeller himself to say, "Oh, well, fellows — okay?"

Private gold holdings worldwide are estimated at about \$17.5 billion, as against \$43.1 billion held by central banks and governments of non-Communist nations, and approximately \$3.5 billion held by Communist governments.

Men have literally just scratched the surface of Mother Earth's horde of gold. In all recorded time, they have mined no more than .0000186 of one per cent of the estimated total.

In unplumbed recesses of the earth's crust, in low-grade ores, in the sea remains no less than \$30,184,943,790,000,000 worth of it.

That's \$30 quadrillion for those who like round numbers.

There is an estimated five cents' worth of gold in every 277 gallons of sea water. If all the water in all the seas were processed they would yield something like 10 billion tons of gold. Trick is how to get it out at a profit.

Even using conventional methods, gold mining in the United States is generally unprofitable today. Since 1934, when the price of \$35 an ounce was set, miners' wages have tripled, the cost of mining timber has quintupled and the cost of dynamite has more than doubled.

In 1966, Congress appropriated \$9.5 million to the U.S. Geological Survey for research into new methods of extracting gold and other rare metals from low-grade deposits. Meanwhile, a strong "gold lobby" in Washington urges a gold subsidy bill to aid domestic producers.

Another school of thought would like to see this "barbaric" metal abandoned altogether as the underpinning of the world's currencies and replaced with something like human productivity and natural resources.

Washington Shell Game

After intensive study of pecans in the shell, the Agriculture Department has come up with nearly four pages of standards, including charts, as a guide to classifying the nuts according to quality.

All this work is not as nutty as it may sound, says the United States of America Standards Institute. These standards are of multimillion-dollar importance to growers and packers.

ministers may as well forget about providing the religious needs of its people because men are born in sin. To be sure, Mr. Hagwood, for those who hold no belief in humanity or obligation toward their fellowmen there is an endless list of things which can be forgotten. But for those who sincerely believe in humanity, any effort which can minimize or eliminate human suffering becomes a matter of grave concern and they cannot, as you would have them to do "give up" and forget.

JOEL C. HENDRICKS
933 Porter Street (Apt. 281)
Vallejo, California

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I wish to take this opportunity to thank all who contributed so generously with their time and gifts toward making the Community Action Committee Christmas Party the wonderful affair that it was.

The party, held Saturday, December 16, at the Vallejo CAC Center, provided toys, fruits, candies, cakes, games, and surprises for over 300 children.

The party could not have been the huge success that it was without the untiring help and cooperation of so many wonderful people from our city.

Again, thank you for your help and the very happiest Christmas to all.

Sincerely,

J. D. MCTIER, Coordinator
Vallejo Community Action Committee

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

May I congratulate the Times-Herald, its owner, editor and staff on the very fine Christmas Edition, especially the front page Christmas display, and the edifying Editorial.

Such observance by the press (a standard practice with the Times-Herald) of national and religious occasions keeps our thinking on a higher plane, and is a welcome antidote to the trivial (and only too often) immoral tone of the "passing literature of the day."

Thanks once again, and a Happy New Year to all of you.

AUSTIN O'MALLEY
632 Mariposa St., Vallejo

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

We wish to most sincerely thank everyone who helped put on the Alumni Scholarship Basketball Game, last Friday night.

Mel Mello and his Alumni team.

Dick Valois, Chet Carr and their teams.

The Benician, The Benicia Herald and The Vallejo Times-Herald.

Phil Goettel and the students who worked in a number of capacities.

The Alumni and Benicia High School Pep Bands.

Members of the PTA who sold tickets. Alumni and Benicia High School Yell Leaders, Pom-Pon Girls and Pantheretts.

Then we say THANK YOU, to the wonderful people who purchased tickets.

Benicia High School PTA
Ed Lecair, chairman
Arloine Stoner, president

this area as fundamental to our prospects for security and national growth."

After Prime Minister Harold Wilson of the mother country deplored U.S. bombing raids on Hanoi and Haiphong, Holt, replied curtly that Australia would continue to be an "admiring friend that will be all the way with L.B.J."

Holt had served not quite a year as Australia's prime minister before he died, as he lived, making the most of things as a bold individualist. He took to the treacherous waters on a swim just as he plunged with courage into the tempest of international politics. Had he lived longer, he would have assumed an increasingly important role as the champion of freedom in Asia.

MONROE SILPIN

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

What is our government doing about The Gall - de Gaulle? Twice in this century have the American people come to the aid of the French people, with a great deal of sacrifice in both lives and money. I know the French people are both cordial and friendly toward us, based on my direct contact with them this past spring, but how long is this big-mouthed, senile old monstrosity going to continue to interfere in world affairs? The French people are doing nothing about either removing him or telling him to mind his own business.

He is supposed to be a statesman and a diplomat, but in my opinion he is certainly neither one of these. His utterances in Canada, his attitude toward England and other countries on the Common Market, and his withdrawal of gold from the United States leave one to wonder where we got this dictator. He sure is a big talker; just let him pay some of the billions he owes this country, and maybe that will shut him up just a little. My own opinion is that no gold should be paid to him for any reason, until the French debt is paid in full.

I also think this government should ask the people to please exclude France from their European travels and see how big-mouth reacts.

AARON GECKER

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

During World War II Japanese Americans were placed in concentration camps merely on the ground that their nationality might make them risks to national security if permitted to be at large, and this was perhaps proper.

Today during the Vietnam war we have a Supreme Court ruling that self-avowed and self-proclaimed traitors — who openly announce their support for the enemy with whom we are at war and their determination to help the enemy win — may be allowed to work in our defense plants, where they may be at liberty to sabotage defense production. The court didn't rule that they have this right to sabotage — but they might as well have said so, as this certainly is implied and what naturally follows.

PAUL G. OXLEY

Rockefeller himself to say, "Oh, well, fellows — okay?"

With the nominating conventions still — or only — half a year away it is impossible as a practical matter to make a sound prediction as to who will and who will not be in the running when Republican delegates gather in Florida next summer. It is, however, entirely possible to make a good guess based on known factors.

One compelling factor is the eternal Liberal determination that neither party shall nominate anyone even moderately Conservative if the Liberals can help it. If they cannot put Romney across, as it begins to seem that they cannot, they won't ride his bandwagon to disaster. They'll switch. And their first choice will be Rockefeller. My guess is that he'll say, "Oh, well—okay."

JOHN LEWIS

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Recently I watched a CBS program about Gov. Reagan of California.

What I saw was frightening. In a news conference concerning sex perverts in the governor's administration, the governor made a statement and a reporter then gave his interpretation of what he, the governor, said. Reagan became angry and I do not blame him, for what the reporter said was as different as day and night from what the governor said.

To get to the reason for the conference, I remember in 1964 a member of the President's staff, who was also a very close friend of the President, had access to all highly secret information and attended top-level meetings. He was arrested and convicted of sexual perversion and also had a record of previous arrest for the same charge.

Yet I cannot recall the press confronting the President publicly and his being asked to account for this.

ROLAND MONTAGE

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Where were you on Christmas Day? Visiting with family and loved ones? Isn't that how Christmas should be?

Now stop a minute and think of the people who were not with family and friends because of a service they must do.

For example. They left home early and did not return for 24 hours. They did not spend Christmas Day with their families at all. Christmas was the day after or the day before.

They will not complain, perhaps their family will, but the firemen themselves will not — it's all part of their job. I tell my husband that it seems that he works all the holidays. His answer for that — "They still have fires on holidays."

So this year in your Christmas prayers just remember these men who are at your service day and night. Try to make their jobs easier this holiday season by having a safe and happy holidays.

'A Fireman's Wife'

Vallejo to take care of their animal population. You Supervisors, have you paid a visit to the Pound lately? If not do so.

May 1968 be a good year for the animal kingdom. It's up to us.

E. L.

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Would someone at the Cine 21 Theater please "stand up and be counted"! On Thursday afternoon, Dec. 21, I escorted our three youngest children and three of their cousins to see the most enjoyable "Sound of Music." Somehow between the ticket window and the ticket-taker we were one children's ticket short. As the gentleman retrieved the missing ticket from the window I started my group through the lobby, putting my billfold into my coat pocket instead of into my purse where I always carry it. Sometime during the course of the show—unknown to me—it fell out of my pocket. After 11 p.m. that evening a Mr. Doug Hernandez came to the door returning my billfold. I'd like to express my appreciation to him and anyone else responsible for this kind deed.

We hear and see and read of so much unrighteousness, unkindness and all manner of evil deeds these days that I think we should not let the good deeds go unsung. I intend to pass this good deed along to someone else when the opportunity comes my way. I'm quite sure Mr. Hernandez could have used the money therein almost as well as I.

Thank you for sustaining my belief in the basic goodness and honesty of the greatest percentage of people. Also I'm fully convinced that there are "Angels Watching Over Me."

Sincerely,
MRS. MARGIE SHALLENBERGER

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I want to congratulate the courageous, manly person who stole my 3 year old son's tricycle from the side of our house the day after Christmas. If your intent was to hurt someone, you succeeded quite well.

Our Christmas was rather lean this year and the trike was his favorite toy. It is hard to explain to him why he can't have another. Perhaps you can explain where his toy is!

MARTHA JO BREUNIG
104 Muller St., Vallejo

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Our news informs us today that "President Johnson arrived at his ranch for a lengthy stay."

We need President Johnson about as much as we need the (long gone) Dodo bird.

So I wish I could make the suggestion that our Congress present L.B.J. with a one way trip to the rice paddies of the Vietnam jungles.

We might try Dean Martin or Frank Sinatra to replace him.

Very truly yours,
J. R.

PRAYER FOR TODAY

Before Thee, eternal God, the author and sustainer of our lives, we humbly, gratefully bow. We praise Thee for the gift of life in this time of opportunity and responsibility. May we be mindful that it is a time of judgment, that in the light of Thy revealed truth we must labor and wait. Gird us for our Gethsemanes. Whatever the tests may we in the spirit of the Master, be confident of the divine indwelling, of the fulfillment of Thy purposes through our fidelity. In the Savior's name we pray. Amen.

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

EDITORIALS

Hippies Lack Humor

The remarkable thing about the hippie phenomenon, the psychedelic movement, the whole youth revolution bit, is the almost total absence of the element of humor.

Anybody who takes himself and his beliefs too deadly seriously all the time, who can't laugh at the mirror occasionally, who is unable to appreciate the essential ridiculousness of the human condition, is just asking for life to give him a hard time.

If he affects beads, beards and sandals as well, he is fair game for the fun-pokers.

The flower children are really blooming bores.

They have discovered God within themselves, they announce with egocentric condescension, but to an outside observer it looks more like a case of mistaken identity caused by "acid" indigestion.

LOVE is what the world needs, they preach joylessly while making themselves as unlovely and unlovable as possible.

Something called Process '67, a conference sponsored by the University Christian Movement, drew 3,000 youthful delegates to Cleveland recently to discuss what's wrong with the world and how to make it right.

One 19-year-old delegate talked about his project, which involves feeding data about people's interests into a computer as a solution to the dehumanizing threat of other computers.

It is, he said with a straight face, "proposed as part of a long-term commitment to build a Movement infrastructure, linking on-campus student power struggles, experimental colleges and free universities and the larger community."

For the noncognoscenti, a "free" university is a place which offers 'voluntaristic education and has no authoritarian structure.' In other words, where everybody just sits around and talks and thereby discovers TRUTH.

Something like Process '67 itself, which one attendee described as 'a rare, open-minded dialogue where there is love, where there is no power

Opinions Of The People

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Throughout our great civilization there have been many great men. Men of leadership and courage, men that we have counted on to keep this country free. Today we are faced with a danger of losing our freedom far more ominous than we have ever faced before in our young history. More so because many refuse to see the danger signals and tend to cast them aside with a "it just can't happen here" attitude.

Security is high on the list of intellectuals and pseudo-intellectuals to further the socialization of what was once a great republic. Who can say today that we are absolutely free to conduct our lives as we see fit. Because of false promises of security we are slowly selling our birthright.

There are still some brave men in our country that will forge forward without counting the cost in time, money, or personal humiliation. Such a man is former governor of Alabama, George C. Wallace. There are wives of these brave men that must face ultimate sacrifice to stand by their men. These women should command our eternal gratitude.

But what about George C. Wallace? A farm boy who worked his way through very hard times. Became a lawyer. Served in the Army Air Corps as a flight engineer. In 1945 Mr. Wallace returned to Alabama, and because of his outstanding law school record, was appointed assistant attorney general by Gov. Chauncey Sparks. Later he returned to his home county to run for the Legislature. He won over two opponents in the 1946 primary. His record in the Legislature is a remarkable one. Needless to say it would take much space to list his achievements. In 1952 Wallace ran for and won the Third Judicial Circuit Judgeship. The people describe his ruling as fair and without partisanship. In 1958 Wallace ran for governor of Alabama along with 14 other candidates. He did not win this election. A man of fighting courage, he ran again in 1962. His opponents were an attorney general, a lieutenant governor, a state senator, and a reputed "unbeatable" two-term governor. In the primary he led his nearest opponent by 46,000 votes and went on to win the highest seat in the state. His career is marked by great courage in the face of tumultuous acts by his adversaries. Here is a man not easily dissuaded when it comes to fighting for America.

VALESKA CHANG

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Pfc. Robert W. Linville is the son of Mrs. Mary Linville, 155 Lain Dr., and a graduate of Hogan High School with the Class of 1965. He is a member of Operating Engineers and joined the Army in February, 1966. Following is a letter he wrote from Vietnam which was reprinted in the union newspaper & "Engineers News." Dear Friend,

I guess you thought you'd never get a letter from a brother in Vietnam. Well, I've had your address here at base camp, and this is the first time I've been back since I've been here. I'm CQ runner tonight, so I've got time to write. I'm an F.O. (Forward Observer) for the mortar platoon. I'm out on line most of the time so I see anything good or bad that happens. Our base camp is located at Phuoc Vinh. Our company is in for awhile now, so we can get a little alcohol in our system and rest up a little. I take the Vallejo paper and Playboy so I'm pretty



THE WAY IT SOMETIMES SEEMS

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

As a friend of India, I was indeed glad to see the news item in your paper on Nov. 21, from Indian Consul Dhar that Lisa Hobbs' book "India, India," has not been banned in India.

I, however, noticed the various stories that you had about Mrs. Hobbs' lecture at the Highland School Auditorium on Nov. 6, 1967, on the "Question of India," which you covered in the issue dated Nov. 8.

Vis-a-vis her observations on India, as in the lecture, I would like to make the following points:

Mrs. Hobbs was good enough to point out in her address that India is "the largest democratic experiment on the face of the earth" but she has "no hope for India." India's "struggle for democracy" is not "idle talk," as Lisa Hobbs would have it in her book. The preservation of democracy in India is the best guarantee to the free world that the values of a free democratic society will continue in Asia and the rest of the world. "India's chains are indigenous to India, as is the force to break those chains . . . they would never be broken by democratic means," she wrote in her book. This

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OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

There is too much sex being publicly displayed throughout our land these days and someone ought to put a stop to it. Everywhere you look it's sex, sex, sex. It's in magazines — right on the front cover, bold as brass—in TV movies, newspapers, even book match covers have naked ladies on them.

What is this world coming to? We worry about our youngsters getting in trouble. Well, we ought to worry about their sex life instead of their dope life if what we see all around us every day means anything.

And mini skirts! When I see these brazen young things running around half naked I am ashamed of my sex.

We need a Puritan revolution. Instead of burning draft cards our youngsters should be burning magazines displaying half-naked women, and mini skirts.

OLD FASHIONED GIRL

★ ★ ★

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

If the Reagan Administration (which in my opinion has done a number of fine things) is seriously considering extending the sales tax to cover food purchases, it shouldn't.

Admittedly, a sales tax on food would be a dandy producer of revenue, but as with the entire sales tax structure, the burden of payment would fall on those least able to pay.

This is the age-old argument against the sales tax, period. But it will stand a lot of scrutiny — more so, I believe, than any argument in favor of adding a collect-at-the-source tax on food.

Fortunately, the proposal, if submitted, probably won't have a ghost of a chance of getting through the Legislature.

But the thinking behind it is ominous. We should be vigilant.

WATCHFUL

★ ★ ★

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Several months ago, right after all the furor over the closing of some streets in Hillcrest Park because some kids wanted to play baseball on public property there, there was some talk about trying to get Hillcrest Park annexed to the city.

I know the streets are substandard and there may be some other difficulties in connection with annexation. But it seems to me our young city manager should give this annexation proposal a high priority as he sets out to do a job for our community.

Vallejo should be united — and although much was accomplished toward that end eight or nine years ago when 19 annexation elections were successful — there still are some unrealistic boundaries that need to be erased.

The people of Hillcrest Park are Vallejoans and they should have a voice in city elections. At the same time they should pay city taxes to help the rest of us keep up municipal services which they enjoy as much as we do. Actually, with water rates higher outside the city, they probably would be better off inside, anyway.

Another even more glaring example of an

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I've been more than a trifle distressed recently in reading in the paper of what seems to be a disproportionate number of purse snatch robberies.

My sympathy of course goes to the victims, few of whom are physical matches for the powerful youths who stalk them and grab their handbags, sometimes using force to accomplish their deeds.

The trouble here, it seems to me, is that purse-snatching is a pretty lucrative business, far more so than it ought to be.

If the profit were taken out of it (there is practically no risk of being caught since most of these jobs are nocturnal affairs and the victim never gets more than a glimpse of the robber's features), the practice might be stemmed.

Too many women carry too much money. Who needs to travel around with sums of money ranging to and beyond \$200? Some stores don't carry that much in their tills for the perfectly obvious reason that if they are robbed they won't be giving up much.

So the suggestion here is that women put

PRAYER FOR TODAY

Eternal God our Father, out of the turbulence of the world lead us into Thy peace. Forgive our selfish ambitions, our dullness of reasoning, our pettiness. Deliver us from excitement over little things and anger over insignificant matters. Lift us this day into a share of Thy greatness, through Christ, our Lord. Amen—Stuart LeRoy Anderson, Berkeley, Calif., president, Pacific School of Religion.

EDITORIALS

Doubts And Dreams

The United States may be on the verge of another depression — a depression of the spirit.

So contends the National Committee for an Effective Congress in a recently released, 3,600-word analysis of the national political situation. The committee is a nonpartisan organization which supports those candidates for the Congress who it thinks will raise the legislative sights of that body.

"At all levels of American life," the committee finds, "people share similar fears, insecurities and gnawing doubts to such an intense degree that the country may in fact be suffering from a kind of national nervous breakdown."

America has suffered two great internal crises in her history, says the committee: the Civil War and the economic Depression of the 1930s. "The country may now be on the brink of a third trauma, a depression of the national spirit."

If memory serves, 107 years ago the nation was actually breaking up. The exodus of the Southern states from the Union had begun, with the blessing of not a few Northerners. It was becoming more and more apparent that war was inevitable — actual, full-scale war, the killing of Americans by Americans.

Thirty-seven years ago the nation again seemed headed for the trash heap of history, not by pulling apart but by collapsing inwardly upon itself. The entire economy was moribund, 11 million men were unemployed, widespread poverty stalked the land.

To rank the current "depression of the spirit" alongside these national traumas seems to be, at the very least, somewhat of an overstatement.

The 1968 elections, the committee believes, "will be more deeply affected by the psychological mood, by intangible things that touch the emotions, such as a candidate's inner calm and confidence, his appearance of credibility, than by such things as pork chops, property taxes and farm

Opinions Of The People

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Dear Sir:

Following is in answer to the diatribe of one Paul Oxley of recent date regarding concentration camps and traitors.

If Mr. Oxley's precision and attention to detail were as good as his interpretive efforts he would know that: (1) "Japanese-Americans" were not placed in concentration camps during World War II. "Concentration Camp" stirs up ugly memories of the hatred of Hitler who really did have concentration camps. By no stretch of the imagination could the Relocation Centers of WW I be compared to the German WW II detention units. Even today some of the facilities of the Relocation Centers are unequalled.

For example, the medical and surgical centers were excellent. The food was administered by expert dieticians and with exception of their "relocation" I doubt if any of the persons in the centers fared worse than they had previously.

The center at Tanforan Race Track was an excellent example. Mr. Oxley has evidently forgotten all about Major Gen. T. L. DeWitt, USA, who published the original order regarding the establishment of the centers. I suggest he either read it or remember it. It shouldn't be difficult to do since there was a copy of this order on practically every telephone pole in the Bay Area during early World War II.

(2) Mr. Oxley's implied definition of "traitor" leaves something to be desired since the word "traitor" is properly defined by the U.S. Constitution as (Article 3, Section 3) "One who makes war against them (the U.S.) or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort." Also, Article 1, Section 8, No. 11, "congress shall have power to declare war."

Technically, if war has not been declared by Congress, then who is the "enemy" defined by the Constitution or does Mr. Oxley have some other supreme law of the land in mind? Even though the President is "Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy of the U.S." (Article II Section II) he cannot declare war. Therefore, any commitments of the Armed Forces that the President makes without a declaration of war constitutes something less than war-like action. So therefore the Supreme Court has not and cannot "condone traitorous actions" as Mr. Oxley stated.

"The enemy with whom we are at war" . . . really, Mr. Oxley, we may be engaged in a treaty guaranteed police action in a foreign country but war? No! So in the words of one less educated, "Leave us be more accurately correct."

The next thing we know, Mr. Oxley will be telling us there is such a thing as the "GI Bill of Rights" or the "Lend Lease Agreement." Don't bother to look up these last two items, Mr. Oxley. No official U.S. government documents ever contained these titles! Accuracy first.

Thank you,
G.H.M.

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Our son Mark Lewis, who is serving with the Army in Germany, has asked us to thank all those who sent him Christmas greetings from home. He was surprised and delighted to be remembered by the city officials, as well as several individuals and organizations. Since



STAIRWAY TO THE STARS

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Evidently by your newspaper liquor stores in Vallejo seem to be "easy pickins" for the thugs. The recent series of liquor store robberies were marked by the sadistic beatings of the store clerks. I should hope the liquor store owners would get together and organize a rotating armed guard. The guard would rotate in the various stores and would be behind a curtain concealed from the front of the store. The guard would be armed with the largest double barreled shotgun available, and with orders to use it, in case of armed robbery. Most of the hoods, punks, and thugs that commit these crimes are on parole or probation due to the "slap the wrist" attitude of the courts. The recent punishment meted out for killing two policemen was a good example of what can be accomplished by our courts. I am sure the person who killed two policemen was on parole or probation many times and if he had been where he belonged, in prison, the crime would not have happened.

I heard of a liquor store in Richmond, Cal., that obtained a vicious German police dog and had this dog on a long leash in the store for protection and it is supposed to have prevented such robberies.

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I wish to thank the editor of this page for printing my letter two months ago concerning the reorganization of a CPO Wives Club on Mare Island.

Many are probably wondering how we made out. We are now a recognized Club with about 25 members and progressing very well. We will hold our first Installation Dinner Dance on Jan. 27; 7 p.m.; at the CPO Club, M. I. Future members and husbands (active and retired) are cordially invited and may obtain tickets from Mrs. Doris Taylor, 643-0654.

Our business meetings are on the first Wed. of each month, 7:30 p.m.; CPO Club, M.I. You may attend three meetings before making a decision. Won't you come and meet us and maybe even join our new social group? Here is a great opportunity to meet interesting people and make new friends. Also a wonderful way for newcomers to join in and be one of the group! For more information please call our Club president, Mrs. Lynne Sibley, 642-9213. Hope to see many new faces at future meetings!

Mare Island

★ ★ ★

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Editor's Note: The Times-Herald usually does not publish poetry. An exception is being made in this case because of the nature of the poem.

This is a poem my grandson Michael Buckner wrote and sent me in a letter. I would be very thankful if you would publish it. Maybe it would remind some who might not be writing their service boys as often as they should.

Thank you, Ruby Buckner 501 E N St., Benicia.

Michael is a Vallejo boy and has been in Vietnam for some time.

There is only one thing that can brighten our day.

That's a letter from home so far away:
As we open each letter, package, and card,
It lightens our load and makes it less hard:
The news from back home is always good news.

To hear from our loved ones, family, and friends:

Makes us more thankful of serving for them,
And helps us to know we'll serve to the end;
Each day when mail call comes around,
We anxiously wait to see what we will get:
Everyone hoping and thinking of course,
That certainly their loved ones didn't forget:
There are always a few who seem to get none.

Hoping tomorrow will bring at least one:
It seems like such a small favor to ask,
Don't you remember me now as you did in the past:

As we write home we are led to believe,
That our families take pride in our serving this land:

There is very little glory in fighting a war,
But what we're to have is worth fighting for:
So as you sit down at the end of the day,
Write just one letter to a friend far away:
It brightens his day and makes him feel better.

To know that someone has sent him a letter:
Michael Buckner
Written in Vietnam

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

More power to Bob Arvedi! Over 10 years ago I implored the managers of the downtown Vallejo banks to establish an "express line" on Friday nights for the convenience of their patrons, but was given a big run-around. I was told that this would not be "fair" to those customers who had long waits ahead of them before they could make their weekend deposits.

Well, the first Friday afternoon that I walked into a bank in Chapel Hill, North Carolina (population 15,000), in a lobby so crowded that it was difficult to walk through it, I noticed a short line before a teller's window marked "Express Line: For Check-Cashing and Check Deposits Only." I had a check to cash, got in that line, and was out of the bank in approximately one minute.

What is more, upon inquiring I learned that this procedure was standard practice in all North Carolina banks, and had been for many years. Too bad I didn't complain to "the power of the press" a long time ago, for we might have had this progress in Vallejo a decade earlier.

Sincerely,
ALBERT TEALE

★ ★ ★

by Americans.

Thirty-seven years ago the nation again seemed headed for the trash heap of history, not by pulling apart but by collapsing inwardly upon itself. The entire economy was moribund, 11 million men were unemployed, widespread poverty stalked the land.

To rank the current "depression of the spirit" alongside these national traumas seems to be, at the very least, somewhat of an overstatement.

The 1968 elections, the committee believes, "will be more deeply affected by the psychological mood, by intangible things that touch the emotions, such as a candidate's inner calm and confidence, his appearance of credibility, than by such things as pork chops, property taxes and farm subsidies."

But when has this not been true? The psychological mood, the intangible things that touch the emotions, a candidate's image—these were just as operative in the elections of such mediocre men as William Henry Harrison and Warren G. Harding in times of least national stress as they were in the elections of crisis presidents like Lincoln and F. D. Roosevelt.

Words like "malaise," "frustration," "alienation," "identity" are now becoming part of the professional political vocabulary," says the committee.

But whatever "malaise" the nation is suffering from is more like the vague distress of a man who has reached middle age and realizes that he has not attained all the bright goals he set for himself in his youth, rather than the soul-sickness of someone who feels that life has given him a dirty deal.

Of course, Americans have fears, insecurities and gnawing doubts—perhaps even to the "intense degree" that the committee reports.

But only a people without vast dreams and great expectations would not.

Wrapping Up Affluence

Americans spent something like \$20 million on gifts the Christmas past.

That \$20 million, not for the gifts themselves but just to wrap them — in tons of brightly printed, expensive, heavy foil; miles of shiny ribbon; millions of perfectly formed machine-made bows and other decorations.

It's a sign of our national affluence, we suppose, when wrappings can cost almost as much as what's wrapped up. It's a form of conspicuous consumption a lot of people are finding themselves participating in whether they want to or not.

How many seasons has it been since the stores displayed that cheap, flimsy red and green tissue paper we used to think was so pretty and suitable for its purpose?

You can't hardly find that kind any more, for any amount of money.

really, Mr. Oxley, we could be engaged in a treaty guaranteed police action in a foreign country but war? No! In the words of one less educated, "Leave us be more accurately correct."

The next thing we know, Mr. Oxley will be telling us there is such a thing as the "GI Bill of Rights" or the "Lend Lease Agreement." Don't bother to look up these last two items, Mr. Oxley. No official U.S. government documents ever contained these titles! Accuracy first.

Thank you,
G.H.M.

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Our son Mark Lewis, who is serving with the Army in Germany, has asked us to thank all those who sent him Christmas greetings from home. He was surprised and delighted to be remembered by the city officials, as well as several individuals and organizations. Since some of the senders did not identify themselves, he especially wanted us to find a way to express his appreciation that might reach them all. And of course, we want to add our own heartfelt "Thank you" to his. This includes not only those who sent cards, but those who support the USO, that wonderful group who takes the place of loving family and grateful citizens at bases all around the world. Though Mark was on duty Christmas day, he was cheered by a group of volunteers (including a jolly Santa) who brought gifts and smiles, and time for talk and singing carols. I mention this incident because it's one of the links with home that are so important to the young men far away from home. The other link, of course, is mail.

So thank you again from Mark and his family.

MR. AND MRS. ALVIN LEWIS
1220 Sereno Drive,
and MRS. MARK (LINDA) LEWIS
481 Maple Avenue

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

The News-Chronicle on Jan. 4, 1968 had a news item about taxing food in this state. I personally am opposed to any such tax as should a great many other people in California. A tax of this nature is certainly discriminatory against a vast majority of this state's inhabitants. The people who have larger families and subsequently have larger grocery bills will definitely suffer. Pensioners will have to cut back on money spent for food to pay the tax. I think this proposed tax bill should be put on the ballot. And I'm sure an overwhelmingly NO vote would be the outcome. Everyone in this state should write to their assemblyman and state senator on this issue.

JOHN COCCHI

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

During my tour here in Vietnam, a lot was read about the demonstrations, the demonstrators and their remarks. Naturally, none of this sat too well with us, but we, too, remember that their rights are also part of why we are here in Vietnam.

Over the holidays we received Christmas cards from citizens all over the U.S.A.; people we did not know but who took the time to remember us and voice encouragement for us and for our efforts. I received cards from people in Vallejo and Napa whom I did not know, but hope very soon to thank personally.

I feel these citizens who exercised their rights and feelings deserve equal attention for the spirit and manner by which they demonstrated to all of us and to the Vietnamese, that the true voice of Americans is not to be construed with isolated instances.

From all of us, thanks and sincere best wishes for the New Year.

Lt. Comdr. J. O. FOURNIER, USN,
NAG MACV AT 159
FPO San Francisco 96629

clerks. I should hope the liquor store owners would get together and organize a rotating armed guard. The guard would rotate in the various stores and would be behind a curtain concealed from the front of the store. The guard would be armed with the largest double barreled shotgun available, and with orders to use it, in case of armed robbery. Most of the hoods, punks, and thugs that commit these crimes are on parole or probation due to the "slap the wrist" attitude of the courts. The recent punishment meted out for killing two policemen was a good example of what can be accomplished by our courts. I am sure the person who killed two policemen was on parole or probation many times and if he had been where he belonged, in prison, the crime would not have happened.

I heard of a liquor store in Richmond, Cal., that obtained a vicious German police dog and had this dog on a long leash in the store for protection and it is supposed to have prevented such robberies.

K. D. N.

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

How much longer must the citizens of Vallejo and Napa be subjected to freight-car switching operations on the only thoroughfare connecting our two cities?

Commuters, tourists, businessmen and pleasure-drivers alike are all currently forced to tolerate excessively lengthy delays when Southern Pacific railroad equipment block State Route 29 during side-tracking operations near Kaiser Steel. Furthermore, Southern Pacific apparently schedules train operations with complete disregard for traffic conditions and/or commuting hours. It is not unusual for delays of over 10 minutes to be encountered, nor is it unique for Southern Pacific to cause four lanes of traffic to be blocked for distances exceeding one mile. The State Highway Commission must terminate this flagrant abuse of public interest by the Southern Pacific Railroad.

Sincerely,
EDWIN R. LINZ

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Be kind to animals. This is really cold weather. Keep your dog or cat indoors, if only at night. Animals are almost human. They can understand you, but cannot talk. Do not waste scraps of food. Help feed your neighbor's animals, any left overs too. Some people believe in reincarnation. If so — you may come back to this earth as a dog or cat or some kind of animal. Your dog protects you. Also your cat in many ways. So stop kicking your dog around and your cat too.

VALLEJOAN

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Last July Congressman Wyman of New Hampshire submitted a House Concurrent Resolution which asked that action be taken to release U.S.A. Korean war prisoners still in China. A portion of the bill reads as follows: "Whereas notwithstanding solemn promises ratified at the international conference at Geneva that all prisoners of war captured during the Korean conflict would be unconditionally released, no pretense of compliance has been advanced by defiant Communist aggressors."

This bill, HCR 437, was sent to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs last July but being a very "sticky" issue, it will not be considered unless the people put on the pressure. In order to do your share in helping to release these "forgotten men," who have been forsaken by the Great Society and left to rot in Chinese prisons, please write an indignant letter to your congressmen with orders to bring these boys home pronto, and follow it up.

ROBERT C. SCHWAB

Many probably wondering how we made out. We are now a recognized Club with about 25 members and progressing very well. We will hold our first Installation Dinner Dance on Jan. 27: 7 p.m.; at the CPO Club, M. I. Future members and husbands (active and retired) are cordially invited and may obtain tickets from Mrs. Doris Taylor, 643-0654.

Our business meetings are on the first Wed. of each month; 7:30 p.m.; CPO Club, M.I. You may attend three meetings before making a decision. Won't you come and meet us and maybe even join our new social group? Here is a great opportunity to meet interesting people and make new friends. Also a wonderful way for newcomers to join in and be one of the group! For more information please call our Club president, Mrs. Lynne Sibley, 642-9213. Hope to see many new faces at future meetings!

Mare Island

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

On behalf of all those who shared in The Salvation Army's Christmas Program, we would like to express our appreciation for your kindness in helping to inform the public of the Army's Christmas effort.

Your support and the generosity of the community made it a happier Christmas for many unfortunate families, lonely senior citizens, home-bound invalids, hospital patients and other institutionalized men and women — all those who depend on The Salvation Army for assistance and friendship.

Our thanks and best wishes to you and your staff.

God bless you.

Sincerely yours,
HARRY SESCOANO
Major

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

So they say an apple a day keeps the doctor away. The price of apples and fruit is out of reach here in sunny California. Apples galore, but you cannot afford to buy them. The price is out of sight.

Planting season is here. Plant your own apple trees. In a year or two you will have plenty of apples. A lemon tree or two, as the lemon is essential to your health, each day. Vitamin C and the lemon tree is so very pretty. Grow your own fruit. You will be happy you did.

E.A.W.

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

We are still honoring the Viviane Woodard coupons contained in the Lions Club book that are now outdated. For information or appointment phone 644-3884.

M.B.

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Editor: There seems to be a growing suspicion among people who know that Secretary of State, Dean Rusk, is beginning to crack physically and intellectually under the strain of the war, that he keeps on pointing out the necessity of containing Red China in Asia but cannot explain satisfactorily why.

If Red China is our number one enemy why are we fighting so obstinately in the jungles of Vietnam at the cost of thousands of our young men's lives and billions of dollars of our treasure? I am inclined to believe that we should honor our commitment to defend the independence of South Vietnam, but if Red China is responsible for the continuation of the war we should endeavor to stop Red China from doing so. This is the time to do it. Expansion of the war will continue the longer we put it off, and the harder it will be to stop Red China a few years from now.

ARTHUR SCHLUSSER

patrons. I was given a big run-around. It was told that this would not be "fair" to those customers who had long waits ahead of them before they could make their weekend deposits.

Well, the first Friday afternoon that I walked into a bank in Chapel Hill, North Carolina (population 15,000), in a lobby so crowded that it was difficult to walk through it, I noticed a short line before a teller's window marked "Express Line: For Check-Cashing and Check Deposits Only." I had a check to cash, got in that line, and was out-of the bank in approximately one minute.

What is more, upon inquiring I learned that this procedure was standard practice in all North Carolina banks, and had been for many years. Too bad I didn't complain to "the power of the press" a long time ago, for we might have had this progress in Vallejo a decade earlier.

Sincerely,
ALBERT TEALE

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

President Johnson promotes a cut in tariffs so foreign manufacturers can undercut American producers. Then he forbids American firms to set up business abroad where labor is cheaper and the American businessman would have a chance to compete with foreigners for the American market.

If Johnson is so concerned about our dwindling gold supply and shortage of cash why doesn't this administration make France pay off its huge debt to the United States?

According to Johnson's statement, next comes travel restrictions. Shades of totalitarianism! That's one of the chief restrictions in force in Communist slave states.

ANGELINE MICHAUD

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

The standard liberal apology for violence or interference with others' rights in peacenik demonstrations or, for that matter, any kind of mass criminal action is that this is the only way the protestors have to call their arguments to public attention.

The attitude was clearly demonstrated when one of the interviewers in television's recent "conversation" with President Johnson reacted to his declaration that no one should be allowed to break the law by declaring that it was the only way the demonstrators could attract the President's attention — and what was his reaction to that? He simply repeated his first declaration.

He might have added several illuminating comments, we believe, had there been more time to consider the proposition. We should have liked to have seen him ask, in turn, what good can derive from having one's attention directed to placards proclaiming such mental garbage as "Up With LSD," "Down With Hershey," or "Hey, Hey, LBJ . . . etc." Profound maxims by which to guide public policy, aren't they? Deep thoughts, indeed, crying out for the immediate attention of the President of the United States!

But what of the law-breaking itself to draw attention to some issue which the law-breakers believe is of transcendent importance? Is it justified as a kind of super-colossal eye-catcher?

The answer depends, we think, upon whether you believe in democracy of fascism—that is, in the rule of reason or the rule of force. The way of democracy is to argue the issues out in a representative parliament — in Congress — and to abide by the laws that result, or to try to change such laws as one does not like by the application of reason and logic. The way of fascism is to browbeat, to threaten, to smash by force any opposition.

Such reason and logic as they may have on their side having failed, the demonstrators have turned fascist. Where they cannot convince, they try to compel. They are anti-intellectuals.

S. M. SPOT

PRAYER FOR TODAY

Eternal God, steady us as we face the responsibilities of this day. If burdens seem too heavy, reinforce us with Thy spirit in the inner man. If we are dismayed at the loud voices and the confusion about us, may we "be still and know that Thou art God." If worry has imprisoned us, may we cast all our cares on Thee, knowing that Thou carest for us. May the hours of the day be hours that belong to Thee. So may we be "more than conquerors through Him who loves us." Amen.

— W. Kenneth Pope, Dallas, Texas, bishop, The Methodist Church.

EDITORIALS

Shoulder To Wheel

It would be a miracle of no small dimensions if that campaign started by five typists in Surrey, England, accomplished anything more than to give British morale a temporary lift.

The girls, employed by a heating and ventilating equipment manufacturer, volunteered to work an extra half hour a day without pay to do their bit to help Britain's hard-pressed economy.

Most of their 750 fellow employes joined them, and the company, anticipating a 7 per cent rise in productivity, rescinded a 6 per cent price increase. Its shareholders took a 25 per cent cut in dividends.

This gained the campaign national publicity. It was praised by Prince Philip and the newspapers and quickly spread to dozens of other firms. People are wearing "I'm Backing Britain" badges.

Management, predictably, is all for the idea. Just as predictably, unions—or at least, some union leaders—have not been so enthusiastic. In Britain, even more than in the United States, the belief persists that what is good for management is automatically bad for labor and vice versa—that both are in competition for the economic plums and that neither can afford to let down its guard.

"It won't work," said one union president in plain and simple words, and unfortunately, he's probably right.

Suppose a secretary types half a dozen extra letters a day. How many of those letters were really necessary? Suppose a machinist drills holes in 50 extra widgets. Is there a market for them?

It would be much simpler if Britain were

Opinions Of The People

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I sincerely hope that you publish this letter because it is essential that the people of Solano County are aware of the positive advantages of a regional government as opposed to the negative aspects that the Solano County Board of Supervisors feebly attempt to point out. Although this is longer than the usual length that you accept, one cannot hope to answer the issues of this nature in a confined length.

WHY IS A REGIONAL GOVERNMENT NECESSARY?

In order to solve the problems of open space; air and water quality; waste disposal; parks and recreation; and transportation, it is imperative that functional questions be solved in a functional manner. If each item mentioned above were developed to its fullest and natural potential, they would not be limited to the arbitrary boundaries that counties tend to impose. Expanding metropolitan areas do not stop short of county borders and neither do the problems that they bring with them. Problems confronting more than one governmental entity cannot be solved by any one unit of government, but rather by a concerted effort of all involved. Such an association of governmental units would oversee the activities of its members to see that the resources within their purview would conform to a total regional plan that would best serve the people that it represents. Just as rural septic tanks are giving way to huge urban sewers in an attempt to more efficiently solve problem of waste disposal; so also open space areas must be conserved; air and water quality improved; park and recreational areas developed and expanded; and transportation facilities augmented on an area wide basis so that they can best meet the demands of an exploding metropolitan population. The Congress of the United States realized the urgency of the situation and made it a requirement that all cities submit proposed project plans of this nature to a regional planning agency before any federal funds would be released. Only a multi-purpose planning agency can adequately serve this need. The regional planning agency would see that there would be no useless and expensive duplication of efforts or needless overlapping of functions.

DO THESE REGIONAL PROBLEMS AFFECT SOLANO COUNTY?

Yes . . . The San Francisco metropolitan area extends south—some 70 miles into the vicinity of San Jose and north—some 25 miles into the Richmond area. Is there anyone that can say that Solano County will not be just as thoroughly integrated into this by region within the next ten years or less? With the proposed mass sewer and power lines that will reach into many of the East Bay counties, including Solano, how can any intelligent person deny that we are not a part of the bay region. Over the past 17 years, the population of Vallejo alone has increased over 140 per cent, not to mention the increase in Solano County. With this evident increase in population, all of Solano County has felt the need to provide better service of all facilities to all parts of the county. Continued conservative isolation of this county from its neighbors in meeting common area problems will soon prove to be a detriment to the already "hamstrung" economic growth as well as to the enhancement of any future expansion that may be hoped for.

WOULD SOLANO COUNTY BE SUFFICIENTLY REPRESENTED IN SUCH AN ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS?



IT'S THAT COMPANY HE KEEPS!

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

To the citizens of Benicia:

I'd really like to know what kind of a town you people are running. The City of Benicia itself has many opportunities open to it, especially since Humble Oil is coming in. Why haven't there been other improvements to that town? You people could start with your police department. I'm just wondering how many of you citizens have actually had cause to visit for one reason or another with the Benicia Police Department?

I myself am not a resident of Benicia, but have been in the police department a few times in the past couple of months for various reasons. Those of you who have also had occasion to visit like myself, must have noticed the conditions those people work under. It's pathetic!

I cannot contemplate how a police department like that, which has always been very courteous to me, can survive through this cold winter.

The heating conditions in that police department are absolutely unhealthy, but it seems as though none of the townspeople care.

I have heard a lot about the fabulous work

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:

Having been a member of the Vallejo Beautification Advisory Commission for the past four years, and knowing what the Commission has accomplished unselfishly during that time, I must take exception to the mayor's remarks that the Beautification Commission, in her opinion, had not been active except during the past couple of months. I wonder if she has bothered to look into the records. Maybe I should refresh her memory:

Six members of the Commission, including myself, attended a Beautification Conference in San Francisco in September, 1966, and have been working on beautification and clean up since that time. The Commission came up with a litter ordinance which has received headlines in various magazines; an educational program; and a community appearance award program. Yes, the Commission had made provisions to enter the contest being held in Washington D.C. on February 18-20, in accordance with the rules of the contest, compiling data, photographs, and news clippings, as part of their duties as a Commission. Why should the Commission contact the mayor regarding their projects. The Commission had a sample of her cooperation when she butted into their project of Community-wide Beautification Conference and decided to hold one of her own, which everyone knows turned out to be a flop. She stated that we should plan on a wider basis and raise money so delegates could go to Washington. Did she make an effort to raise money to send her to Hawaii, Washington, D.C., Detroit and St. Louis? Of course not. We used the taxpayers money. Think that one over Florence, and remember what I said when you intend to go on another of your foolish jaunts.

The Commission had talked about sending a delegate to a conference in 1968, long before the budget time held in 1967, and acting in accordance with the CDC Ordinance, No. 730 N.C. submitted their request at budget time for that specific purpose. Well, everyone knows the result, we were denied the request, but was told by responsible people that the Commission would be granted funds from the unappropriated reserve fund, and if they intended to send one or more delegates to a conference.

I am sure the councilmen are aware that the CDC of which the Beautification Commission is a part, are important to the City of Vallejo as brought out by the HUD officials, when the city applied for certification.

I was pleased at the action of the council at last Monday's meeting regarding funds, and delaying action until the next meeting January 22, 1968, and I hope they will agree that it is a worthwhile request.

P. A. VENTIMIGLIA

★ ★ ★

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I was very much impressed with a television program (Dragnet) shown on Jan. 11 1968 concerning drugs, particularly the use of marijuana and LSD. I called the Health Department asking for some information and leaflets. I was told to call the Police Department, as they had none.

Upon calling the State Board of Narcotics in San Francisco. They, too, had nothing to offer, and I was given an address in Los Angeles to contact.

I then called the Police Department back and was given a few basic facts about marijuana.

plums and that neither can afford to let down its guard.

"It won't work," said one union president in plain and simple words, and unfortunately, he's probably right.

Suppose a secretary types half a dozen extra letters a day. How many of those letters were really necessary? Suppose a machinist drills holes in 50 extra widgets. Is there a market for them?

It would be much simpler if Britain were backed up against the wall by something like another Luftwaffe. That kind of enemy is easy to identify, the consequences of failing to defeat him are obvious. Everyone knows that his job, his personal sacrifices, are vitally necessary to the defense of the nation.

But the "enemies" threatening the economy are more elusive and their attacks are more devious. Though they pose just as much a danger to the commonweal in the long run, in the short run this is not always apparent. In face of rising prices and taxes, falling exports, a shaky currency, government deficits, it is natural for every worker, every industry to want to look out for itself.

Nevertheless, even if the prospect of increased productivity is more phantom than real, if thousands of companies across Britain begin shaving prices, if tens of thousands of stockholders accept smaller dividends, if millions of workers put a little more time and energy and care into their jobs, the cynics could be in for a surprise.

We hope Britons really give the idea a run for the money. In fact, we wouldn't mind seeing it tried out over here.

Jolly Rogers Flies Again

A report says that Cuba is publishing 8 million books by U. S. authors a year—with nary a nod to copyrights.

Before we get worked up over this latest instance of Communist cupidity, however, it has to be remembered that our non-Communist friends on Taiwan remain the world's leading publishers of pirated books.

The Cubans at least try to justify their behavior with the argument that developing countries deserve free access to the cultural and technical products of the advanced countries. The Chinese are in it strictly for the money.

Solano, how can any intelligent person deny that we are not a part of the bay region. Over the past 17 years, the population of Vallejo alone has increased over 140 per cent, not to mention the increase in Solano County. With this evident increase in population, all of Solano County has felt the need to provide better service of all facilities to all parts of the county. Continued conservative isolation of this county from its neighbors in meeting common area problems will soon prove to be a detriment to the already "hamstrung" economic growth as well as to the enhancement of any future expansion that may be hoped for.

WOULD SOLANO COUNTY BE SUFFICIENTLY REPRESENTED IN SUCH AN ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS?

Yes . . . Each county will have area influence as well as proportional representation to satisfy both criteria of the "one man — one vote" concept as well as the "constituent unit" concept. If this regional planning agency is to have authority to exercise its coordinated decisions, it must have the powers of enforcement — namely, taxation and condemnation. We learned this lesson early in our country's history because of the failure of the Articles of Confederation. The respective counties should not have the right to withdraw from the association, merely because of a provincial whim as the Board of Supervisors suggest they might, because this would be a boycott, not a solution. This too has been demonstrated in our country's history — it was called the Civil War.

So in summary, it would be well for the people of Solano County to take a long look at what has transpired as opposed to the benefits that could accrue as the result of joining ABAG.

FRED M. LANG
1237 Nebraska St.

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

The Solano Council for Retarded Children which maintains the pre-school day care center and adult workshop at 380 Contra Costa St., here in Vallejo, is planning a rummage sale in March.

The proceeds from the rummage sale go to the school and for the benefit of the mentally retarded children and adults who find help here.

Donations of usable items of clothing, appliances, and bric-a-brac are very badly needed to assure of enough goods to have a successful rummage sale.

Won't you look around your house and see if you have any items which you no longer need or use, but that someone else might need badly?

The fact that your donations to the sale will help these retarded children and adults may brighten your life.

So please if you have any donations just call 642-6572 or 644-7456 or drop them by the school at 380 Contra Costa St., between the hours of 9 a.m. till 3 p.m.

Thank you very much.
MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL
AND PARENT OF A
RETARDED CHILD

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

A salute to Franklin Jr. High!
Students of Franklin Junior High recently held a skating party at the Vallejo Roller Rink, as a student activity. With a successful large turnout of students these young people are to be congratulated on their conduct and good taste in their regard for each other.

To the teachers and parents who gave their time by acting as chaperones a grateful thank you for this courtesy. With young people like the students of Franklin I felt the City of Vallejo should know about them.

Thanks again, you kids. Nice going.
MISS MILLIE

reason or another the Benicia Police Department?

I myself am not a resident of Benicia, but have been in the police department a few times in the past couple of months for various reasons. Those of you who have also had occasion to visit like myself, must have noticed the conditions those people work under. It's pathetic!

I cannot contemplate how a police department like that, which has always been very courteous to me, can survive through this cold winter.

The heating conditions in that police department are absolutely unhealthy, but it seems as though none of the townspeople care.

I have heard a lot about the fabulous work the officers of that department have done in curbing the narcotics violators and traffic offenders and such. It seems like the townspeople would do something for them in exchange or appreciation for the great job they're doing.

If the city can't do anything about their unhealthy heating conditions, maybe the Health Department should be called to see that something is done.

If I were a Benician, I would support the police and their department the same as I do for Vallejo. It's inconceivable how they tolerate the conditions. The City of Benicia and residents should stop by their police department and just stand in the frozen corridors for a few minutes. I wonder how many would work under such conditions. Would you?

SYMPATHETIC VALLEJOAN

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE

Mr. Hendricks, in your article last month you stated of our price system—"First, it is the most efficient system known to mankind. Second, it affords the maximum of individual freedom in that goods and services are distributed to individuals according to their free desire, and ability to pay."

I would like to inform you that PRIVATE ENTERPRISE AND OUR PRICE SYSTEM SURRENDERED AND GAVE UP THEIR INDEPENDENCE in the early 1930s when they they could not distribute the abundance we were capable of producing, at that time, to all of our people. They surrendered to the Federal Government, and how much has the Government spent since then to maintain our price system??? Just read your newspapers and magazines. How many of our serious problems have been solved since that time? We are now entering a period of political popularity contests, and it makes little difference where you place the "X" on your ballot the politicians cannot solve the urgent problems facing us today. Technocracy is not on that ballot.

The youth of today are faced with problems never faced by their elders. The parents of my generation had no problem — their children followed in their footsteps. Is that true today? Today 50 percent or more of our young are 25 years of age or younger, how are they to be guided into their life work when their elders don't know the score? Should not our schools teach them the facts of our social system such as abundance an price, technology and manhours, the waste and destruction of our natural resources etc. rather than something like political science which should be taught as history?

Technocrats seek no privilege that is not available to every citizen, be red, white, black, brown or yellow. We are not all born equal — physically or mentally but each will have an opportunity to find where he will fit and be able to hold his head up.

J. SEWARD

Nothing else to turn to but crime. Lack of education is one of the reasons. Many are too proud to beg and go hungry in a land of plenty.

I read of one country that when they had a large crop the food was sold cheaper. But not here in the State of California. Take tomatoes . . . 25 cents a pound is outrageous. What father, son or even a mother would not steal rather than see hungry little children.

We need "care packages" here and now. Feed our own people first. How far does a \$5 bill go for food these days. Nowhere. What would you do if you were hungry? You have to give your life's history to get help. The needy come first here, not over there.

If more and more jobs were created, there would be less crime and bloodshed. A safer place to live and no need for our police department to shoot it out and risk their own life in order to protect you and me. There are too many families with more than one person working at a high rate of pay with three or four children collecting \$600 per year for each dependent.

Just take it from there on. Just because they have a pull of some kind or belong to the right order . . . and I don't mean maybe.

X. Y.Z.

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

TAXES — Yes they want to tax the food we eat. There are many people today that would be able to get by on their income if they did not eat. If this tax goes through there are many who will have to cut down another 3 per cent on their eating. Yes, they say they will rebate to the poor, but the poor pay no state or federal income tax and can get no rebate when nothing is paid in. There are many proud poor — too proud to take handouts. The professional poor who make it their business to get all that is possible for nothing, like always, will make out.

I, like many others, thought that Governor Reagan would hold the line on taxes. He might back this tax. If enough people write to the governor to reject this extra tax, he would do so.

Surely his planners could think of other ways and means to come up with extra state funds, but they seem to be in a tax rut.

If all the people that read this column would rack their brains a bit they would come up with some good solutions besides TAXES. Send them in to the Opinions of the People. Here is a starter: The state could probably save more than \$500,000 a year if they collected toll in one direction only and charged double — come into Vallejo free and cost 50 cents to go out — across the bridges.

HENRY GALLE
412 Corkwood St.

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE

As a beneficial suggestion in the interest of public relations:

How about hanging a piece of pipe of handy, utilitarian length and left on a hook just inside the doors of liquor stores and service stations. This would be convenient for our enterprising young men so they will not have to carry these cold, cumbersome objects through the night air and so risk early rheumatism of the finger joints. Of course, it would be incumbent upon the proprietors to replace the "tool" of the "trade" after each "incident" to avoid the bother of the next shift hunting for it.

The places of business might expedite things by hiring an extra employe during the evening hours to hand the pipe to the free enterprise personnel.

Of course if we really want to go all the way, we should arrange to have a nice warm taxi standing by to transport these exuberant young men to their next financial appointment.

DISGUSTED CITIZEN

P. A. VENTIMIGLIA

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I was very much impressed with a television program (Dragnet) shown on Jan. 11 1968 concerning drugs, particularly the use of marijuana and LSD. I called the Health Department asking for some information and leaflets. I was told to call the Police Department, as they had none.

Upon calling the Police Department, I was referred to the State Board of Narcotics in San Francisco. They, too, had nothing to offer, and I was given an address in Los Angeles to contact. I then called the Police Department back and was given a few basic facts about marijuana.

What I would like to know is: why doesn't someone publish some information and make it available to the public?

In this day and age you hear of all the harmful effects these drugs can cause, but you can't find any information on the subject.

What about all of the teen-agers who just want a few facts, without going to the library and reading a 200-page book?

If as much time and money was spent on informing the public, especially the young public, of the dangerous effects on the mind and body of marijuana and of the probability of it leading to the use of hard narcotics, as is spent on the saturation over radio and television concerning cigarette smoking, some progress could be made on the drug problem of America.

CANDYE JOHNSON

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Mr. Ellis Godfrey, chairman of the Board of Supervisors, is to be highly commended for the manner in which he conducted himself at the recent meeting of the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG). Most Solano County citizens would be appalled if they were aware of the extreme pressures to which our local officials are being subjected because of the adamant stand for local government.

The subject of ABAG is a very involved and intricate one. It contains volumes of literature and its ramifications are many. However, one need only know that ABAG is an agency comprised of "appointed officials" from nine (9) Bay Area counties.

This agency would take precedent over our constitutional form of government — that of exercising our right to vote for our officials — they, in turn, being answerable to us, the electorate, this is the American Way in action.

Mr. Godfrey in his actions at the ABAG meeting — was in fact — fighting for our right to vote and for local control of our local government.

To Mr. Godfrey and all Solano County officials involved — Thank You.

Sincerely,

MR. AND MRS. JOHN J. CANOVA

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

A nearly blind mother and her four children whose home at 1008 Lewis Ave., was all but destroyed by fire last Tuesday, are desperately in need of help.

Mrs. Donna Silveria is the mother, and she and the children are in need of clothing, furniture and bedding.

Anyone wishing to help the family may contact Mrs. Silveria's mother at 833 Pennsylvania St., where the family is staying until they are somehow able to reestablish their own home. The telephone number is 648-1141.

The children include two girls, whose clothing sizes are 12 and 8, and two boys, whose sizes are 8 and 15.

Thank you.

MRS. ELINOR HINMAN

PRAYER FOR TODAY

Father, while there are times when life seems dull, may we also be aware of its sunlight and song. Grant us the pleasures of recreation, the satisfactions of home, and the treasures of friendship. May we find the beautiful and the good all about us. Supremely may we discover the deep satisfactions of unselfish service. At day's end may the world be a little better because we have lived; in Christ's name. Amen.

—Alfred Grant Walton, Brooklyn, N. Y.,
pastor-emeritus, Flatbush-Tompkins
Congregational Church.

EDITORIALS

Victory? Plant Discontent

Crotchety old fellow a few desks away can't seem to assimilate the fact that the war in Vietnam is costing the United States some \$2 billion a month. He remembers when the entire national budget for an entire year was reckoned in the mere millions.

For a modest cut of just one month's war bill, he's willing to offer President Johnson a fool-proof plan for ending the war at a cost of no more than \$2 billion a month and probably less — with the added bonuses of saving lives, winning praise for us the world over and giving a terrific boost to every sector of the American economy.

Instead of punishing the Viet Cong with our military power, he says, we should pulverize them with our plenitude.

Instead of trying to bomb the North Vietnamese "back to the Stone Age," which they are not far removed from anyway, we should saturate them with our affluence.

Instead of dropping explosives that kill people and destroy property, we should destroy Communist morale by dropping (by parachute) such capitalistic goodies as automobiles, farm equipment, television sets, refrigerators, washing machines, the entire stocks of supermarkets, toys, clothing, matched luggage, magazines, catalogues — in short, the substance and image of luxuries, conveniences and gadgets ad infinitum.

Granted that most of these things would be of little use to the inhabitants. But a rice thresher in every paddy would surely arouse curiosity, even if it did not lead to the diversion of hard-pressed fuel supplies to run the machines.

Likewise with automobiles. Think of how it would strain North Vietnam's war-making resources if a popular demand for highways and service facilities developed.

Opinions Of The People

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I am not in favor of a super government. I think we have too much government now. We now support the federal government, state, city and foreign aid, not to mention the bureaucracies designed for extortion.

Sovereignty was established as a servitude government of a locale. Evidently the significance of the term "servitude" is lost. Sovereignty today is symbolic of a master designed for a purpose of extorting the earned merit from the average homeowner resident, through means of penal taxation. The goals of sovereignty is to discipline, punish, restrict and confine its resident homeowners into paying for their very existence.

The equations of American law are forgotten and sovereignty adheres only to the envious, greedy, non-meritable, lazy, ignorant and the unscrupulous who leech off of the endurance of the meritable.

The sovereignty of cities:

1 — Do not maintain zoning ordinances. They are changed for no lawful reason.

2 — They use taxpayers' money for clearing property titles so that they may be sold exclusively to certain corporations.

3 — The homeowner finances the differential of federal appropriations for the financial development of such selective corporation properties.

4 — The property taxes of the corporation who owns a majority of vast lands located in a city does not pay equal value of taxes proportionate to the penalty charges of a resident homeowner.

5 — The resident homeowner is penalized for his home maintenance, improvements and quality thereof.

6 — The homeowner is excessively penalized where his home is located in an area that offers only nature's beauty.

No court of law has ever imposed such a lengthy fine that may extend to the homeowner's heirs, etc.

The above mentioned benefits, rewards, conveniences are but a few meager offerings from the average sovereignty in operation today.

How much more could we possibly receive from this new super-duper government?

Signed,
CONCERNED

★ ★ ★

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I wonder how many voters read the article in Friday's Jan. 5 News-Chronicle covering the Fairfield meeting of the Solano County Planning Commission. I'm referring to the paragraphs in which the commissioners, 5 to 4, opposed the granting of an agricultural preserve to Marvin and June C. Kindel because, as noted by William Courtland, "it is only five acres and has a house and is basically rural residential now."

In heavens name, where is a farmer supposed to live? In the trees? They should be ashamed!

If that is the type of thinking that is supposed to represent the people, they better take a trip through the San Jose area and note what has happened to the farms and orchards down there. If they are so anxious to do away with the farm land, some thought should be given to where the food is coming from!



NEW RECRUIT ON THE ASIAN SEA

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

May I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to the community for the excellent cooperation and assistance you gave me in my efforts to provide the youth of our community an opportunity to benefit from Work Training Programs.

The success or failure of programs such as the Solano County Office of Economic Opportunity sponsors can be measured to a large extent by the cooperation and efforts of its citizenry.

To the Gibson Publishing Company, private agencies throughout the county, various municipal agencies, county, state and federal agencies, various unified school districts, Vallejo postmaster, Fairfield Chamber of Commerce, private industries throughout the county, the various managers of stores who saw fit to hire youth between the ages of 16 and 21 during the holiday season; and last but not least, to those of you who called to offer yourselves or a personal service, thank you for making my endeavors a rich and rewarding one.

By your cooperation and interest, I am con-

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:

In this morning's Times-Herald a Mr. Fred M. Lang expressed his opinion using something more than six hundred (600) words. He asked three (3) questions and (I believe) tried to answer them. (1) Why is a regional government necessary; (2) Do these regional problems affect Solano County; and (3) Would Solano County be sufficiently represented in such an association of governments?

As is usual with advocates of super-government, Mr. Lang showed contempt for all those who distaste with his advocacy by indicating that we lack intelligence because we feel it is not to Solano County's advantage to become the whipping boy for the power hungry rulers of the overpopulated Bay Area cities and counties.

What do they need? Among other things they need garbage dumps; more money; in order to get both these needs satisfied, they are perfectly willing to obtain control of us any way they can.

There is nothing that a "regional government" can do for us that we can't do for ourselves, and with no loss of control over our own destinies. We have entirely too much super-government now. We don't need more. Citizens get behind your county leaders who thus far have managed to keep us loose from the tentacles of the Bay Area octopus even though some of our city councilmen have fallen for the siren song of "free federal money." Above all don't forget no matter how such a super-government is set up in the beginning, if it has taxing power — if it has condemnation powers — if it has enforcement powers — if we didn't do just about everything the big boys in San Francisco wanted us to do — a taxpayer's suit would be brought and pushed upward through the courts until finally our fuzzy minded federal Supreme Court would rule "one man — one vote." We would be swallowed. No way to get out.

The letter signed by Mr. and Mrs. John J. Canova comes much closer to pointing up the real facts. They are to be congratulated.

W. B. SIMMONS

★ ★ ★
OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

The Mare Island Navy Wives Club 118 is a very busy group. Among the many things we do are as follows:

1. We set aside 10 per cent of all our money making projects towards a National Scholarship Fund which is available to the children of all Navy, Marine, and Coast Guard families, active or retired.

2. We help out the Napa State Hospital with different donations throughout the year.

3. A \$5.00 check is sent monthly to the Retarded Children's School and one of our members donates her time once a week helping at the school.

5. We prepare a Christmas basket for a needy service family.

6. We honor our adopted veteran, Mr. John Daws, at Yountville on different occasions. He is also sent a carton of cigarettes a month.

7. We alternate with the Bay Area Navy Wives Club in giving parties at different wards at Oak Knoll Naval Hospital. This is being given by our Club this month.

8. We take turns with the other Wives Clubs in supplying 1,000 lollipops to the Pediatrics Ward at Oak Knoll. Which we are also giving

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I was a visitor for a few days over the holidays.

Really I think Vallejo is a beautiful town. My brother-in-law took us around to see the Christmas lights and nowhere have I ever seen such beautiful lightings and we have been all over the U. S.

But what has happened to the law there? I read crimes committed every day I was there.

The first night we were there just less than 2 blocks from my sister's house, some thugs beat up a liquor store owner and robbed him.

If we would have been on the porch, we could have heard them. Then some one broke into the garage and tried to steal our car. (They broke the padlock). Was a good thing they had our car locked. Probably would have taken our tires if we hadn't heard them and went out to investigate. The would-be burglars ran like heck and didn't get anything.

My sister said she had to take the children to school and go pick them up so some one wouldn't beat them up. Why?

My nephew who is 16 is coming to Oregon next month cause he is afraid to even walk on

chines, the entire stocks of supermarkets, toys, clothing, matched luggage, magazines, catalogues — in short, the substance and image of luxuries, conveniences and gadgets ad infinitum.

Granted that most of these things would be of little use to the inhabitants. But a rice thresher in every paddy would surely arouse curiosity, even if it did not lead to the diversion of hard-pressed fuel supplies to run the machines.

Likewise with automobiles. Think of how it would strain North Vietnam's war-making resources if a popular demand for highways and service facilities developed.

A television set in every home, not to mention all the other appliances Americans take for granted, would overwhelm the country's limited electrical-generating capacity.

Just sitting there unused, all these consumer goods would be a constant reminder to the people of what they were missing and a constant reproach to a socialist society.

Even if the authorities confiscated everything that was dropped, just having to guard the stuff or dispose of it or send it to Russia in exchange for rockets would consume valuable manpower, storage and transportation facilities.

But the luxuries would have been seen and touched and wondered at in the remotest boondocks. What poor peasant would feel kindly disposed toward the government or the soldiers who took away his free innerspring mattress or balanced spinning rod that dropped like manna from the sky? Who can predict what seeds of discontent would be sown by just a glance at the contents of a mail-order catalogue?

The man is a realist, however, and knows the President would boot him unceremoniously out the back door of the White House, supposing he even got that far with his crazy idea.

He's right, of course.

The question is, would the President be right?

Equal Under The Law

Black power advocates who claim that the law and law enforcement are stacked against the Negro may get a laugh, if not a lesson, out of this:

In its last session, the Ohio Legislature gave new powers to city authorities to cope with civil disturbances. Though no one would admit it publicly, the law was a consequence of and a precaution against Negro rioting.

A Cleveland area mayor was forced to invoke the new powers for the first time in the state the other day — not to clamp down on colored people in that city's Hough area but to stop a violent altercation between opposing factions of a church in a white suburb.

in Friday's Jan. 5 News-Chronicle covering the Fairfield meeting of the Solano County Planning Commission. I'm referring to the paragraphs in which the commissioners, 5 to 4, opposed the granting of an agricultural preserve to Marvin and June C. Kindelt because, as noted by William Courtland, "it is only five acres and has a house and is basically rural residential now."

In heavens name, where is a farmer supposed to live? In the trees? They should be ashamed!

If that is the type of thinking that is supposed to represent the people, they better take a trip through the San Jose area and note what has happened to the farms and orchards down there. If they are so anxious to do away with the farm land, some thought should be given to where the food is coming from!

Also, this morning's paper on page 12 (Jan. 11) gives the records on milk production. Again I say, something had better be done to preserve the agricultural land before it is too late!

ANOTHER VOTER

★ ★ ★

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

The Johnson Administration has presented to Israel a \$3.3 million bill for death benefits for the American sailors killed when Israeli planes and torpedo boats attacked the communications ship USS Liberty during the Arab-Israeli war last June. The 34 claims were calculated in accordance with international law and domestic precedence taking into account "emotional anguish" suffered by the families of the sailors, loss of support, and loss of the "special services" the fathers would have provided in bringing up the children. This brings up several questions.

What of our men still in Chinese Communist prisons? What of the American fliers that were shot down by Russia? Where was the taking into account of "emotional anguish" of the families then? How much more the suffering when you know loved ones are behind prison walls that you can't penetrate, even for a minute or so. How can we stand by and allow Hanoi to parade our men in the streets and not demand their release? Will we have hundreds more of our sons, brothers, and fathers left behind in Communist prisons after Vietnam? When have we ever been so bold as to send a bill to the Communists to compensate for all the "anguish" they have caused so many Americans? And how do we dare measure the lives of our men in dollars?

These men have suffered much for their country. Are they any less precious because they still live? Let's get angry enough to demand from our congressmen that something be done about them.

Sincerely,
IRENE McBRIDE

★ ★ ★

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Where's "Coco"?

We'd like to have our prayers answered by the return of "Coco," and wherever he is, if he's alive, we're sure he's waiting for us to come pick him up.

"Coco," a three-year-old brown and tan altered male Chihuahua-terrier between ten and fifteen pounds, was lost at the A.G.E. parking lot December 27. He had a gold collar with stones, rabies tag and license No. 2293, which could have come off but had worn the hair thin under his neck.

Any information concerning his whereabouts will be greatly appreciated and there's a reward for his return.

Thank you.

JOE, MAY, RUTH, RITA
and JOHNNY RUFFATTO
545 Lockwood Dr., Vallejo
643-2688

over the U. S. But what has happened to the law there? I read crimes committed every day I was there.

The first night we were there just less than 2 blocks from my sister's house, some thugs beat up a liquor store owner and robbed him. If we would have been on the porch, we could have heard them. Then some one broke into the garage and tried to steal our car. (They broke the padlock). Was a good thing we had our car locked. Probably would have taken our tires if we hadn't heard them and went out to investigate. The would-be burglars ran like heck and didn't get anything.

My sister said she had to take the children to school and go pick them up so some one wouldn't beat them up. Why? My nephew who is 16 is coming to Oregon next month cause he is afraid to even walk on the streets there. Why? My brother-in-law drives a cab and I am afraid some one will kill him to rob what little money he gets from fares.

I have begged him to take his family from there and hope he moves before something bad happens to them.

It seems to me that such a beautiful town should have more law and order. Don't you think?

Helen Pinard
Rt. 2 Box 630
Estacado, Ore.

★ ★ ★

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Dear citizens of Vallejo: How many of you read the article in the Jan. 20 TV-Tabloid section of the Times-Herald titled, "What's Becoming of Our Fine Town?"

It would do everyone good to read it and then call on your city officials for action before it is too late.

I at one time put an article in the Opinions of the People in regard to the Exposition Building at the fairgrounds that could be used in between racing seasons for boxing and wrestling matches.

Also, teen-age dances, and possibly the Roller Derby could be enticed to come to Vallejo.

Let's give the teen-agers, along with the adult persons, something to do in this so-called All American City of Vallejo.

Let me know what you think along these lines by putting your ideas in Opinions of the People.

Let's get action, action, action, now.

FRED J. HOPKINS,
257 Mountain View Ave.

★ ★ ★

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

It is grateful to know first hand how well the Social Welfare Agencies of Vallejo are organized and how they work as a team to meet any emergencies that may arise.

Take for instance the case of Donna Silveria's home and belongings that were destroyed by fire last week.

The various agencies swung into action and by Friday night, Jan. 19 their immediate needs were met.

The American Red Cross and Seventh-Day Adventist Welfare Center supplied bedding and linens.

The PTA of the Beverly Hills School supplied clothing. The Solano County Welfare allowing extra monies for furniture.

There were other groups ready and willing to assist.

The Salvation Army, Mormon Church, and many others. I believe each Social Welfare Group of Vallejo should receive a word of praise for their prompt and efficient manner as they meet such emergencies.

ONE WHO KNOWS

2. We help out the Napa State Hospital with different donations throughout the year.

3. A \$5.00 check is sent monthly to the Retarded Children's School and one of our members donates her time once a week helping at the school.

5. We prepare a Christmas basket for a needy service family.

6. We honor our adopted veteran, Mr. John Daws, at Yountville on different occasions. He is also sent a carton of cigarettes a month.

7. We alternate with the Bay Area Navy Wives Club in giving parties at different wards at Oak Knoll Naval Hospital. This is being given by our Club this month.

8. We take turns with the other Wives Clubs in supplying 1,000 lollipops to the Pediatrics Ward at Oak Knoll. Which we are also giving this month.

9. We sponsor a Girl Scout Cadet Troop here on Mare Island.

10. We now have a welfare fund which has just been set up to be used for service families.

11. We recently earned and collected over \$200 for the veterans of Vietnam, sponsored by the Channel Chargers of Alameda.

12. We sent 8 cartons of records to a radio station in Vietnam to entertain the boys fighting there.

So as you can see we are busy, but we enjoy being able to help others when we can. Again we want to thank the local merchants on whom we've called on to help us in the past and the present. Without their help we wouldn't be able to do the things we are able to accomplish.

Respectfully submitted,

Carlin M. Horgor
Vice President
Mare Island N.W.C.A. 118

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OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

While sitting up in the Benicia city cemetery the other day, looking at the view out over the bay which I think is the most beautiful in this whole area, I then looked all over the graveyard and I doubt if there is a dump in the state that could compare with it.

Stones turned over, glass and other flower holders shot and broke to pieces (the second time in four days) and horses pastured in it that had walked over the graves, sinking in as much as 15 to 18 inches, and erosion all over the place.

I have been informed there is no way of finding some graves since there is no map showing locations or markings. And that actually one was opened by mistake, not knowing one was there.

I sat there wondering, since all religions are at rest here, also veterans and lodge members, don't the churches, lodges and veterans care? Then I remembered what a friend said when my father passed away, "when you are gone you are soon forgotten."

I would suggest if the people do really have God and country at heart that they gather up there and take in the two views. The beautiful view and the most desecrated.

Respectfully,
L. F. FRITZ
853 Wainwright St., Benicia

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OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE

A baby sitting job is not an easy one, with food prices out of sight, the wear and tear, and keeping the home in order which is no easy job.

Some people are in the habit of stalling off their baby sitter. "Thank you" is not enough for baby sitting. One dollar an hour should be the set price of anyone's money. No one can afford to work for nothing these days.

Pay your baby sitter on time. You expect your pay so do they, and on time.

A true fact,

J