

PRAYER FOR TODAY

Gracious Lord, Who hast made everything beautiful in its time, increase in us an awareness of Thy nearness in the things Thou hast made. May we sense Thy wisdom in the structure of the universe in which we live and of which we are a part. Accept our thanks for Thy Power, which causes earth and sea to yield food for Thy creatures. In giving us our daily bread Thy goodness is made known day by day. May we indeed "taste and see that the Lord is good." Keep us in Thy way; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

—Winfield Burggraaff, N.Y.C.,
director of editorial services,
Reformed Church in America.

EDITORIALS

A Tradition Challenged

Of the many controversial issues facing the 91st Congress, perhaps none could have a greater impact than current proposals under consideration by the House Judiciary Committee to change our Electoral College system of electing the President and Vice President.

At stake is the possible obliteration of state jurisdictions, nationalization of our elections, destruction of our two-party system of government and repudiation of a Constitutional guarantee that has stood for nearly 200 years.

Of the several plans proposed for adoption as a substitute for the present Electoral College system, the one which has received the most publicity calls for a direct vote as a means of averting a potential Constitutional crisis that thus far never has materialized.

We believe the direct vote plan ignores a fundamental element of our democratic process. It not only would constitute a direct attack on our Federal system of government, but its adoption also would mean reneging on a promise made to our founding fathers by wiping out the principle of equality of states and Federalism, which still is the cornerstone of our republican form of government.

Fortunately, practical politics seem to dictate that adoption of the direct vote system, even if it were passed by Congress, is questionable because simple arithmetic argues against ratification. Such a Constitutional amendment would have to be approved by 38 state legislatures. Any 17 state legislatures could defeat ratification and would be certain to do so with the knowledge that their influence would be diminished by a direct vote.

Opinions Of The People

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

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I too am a "Concerned Employee" so call me "Concerned No. 2."

I say it's great now that we are doing something of value for our metally ill. Here are my reasons against furnishing smokes out of our tax dollars.

Between the barrels of coffee and cartons of cigarettes consumed by our patients and hours of inactivity plus medication, our people are in a constant stupor.

Lighted cigarettes are placed in pockets. I wish to ask Concerned No. 1 how many fires have we had? Even in locked wards quite a few.

It's pretty hard routing the older patients up and out. Imagine what it would be like in the middle of the night as short staffed as we are.

Just look at the burn holes all over the gal's dressers and look at their pockets that are used for ash trays. How many of them haven't caught themselves on fire? Their hands and fingers are cigarette stained. Look at the furniture . . . what a waste.

How about using the money on clean bathing facilities. Our baths are beyond belief. Our guys and gals need a washroom with washers and dryers where they can care for their personal clothing. What joy such a place would be for them. The laundry we have is fine for sheets and such items but it's hell on personal clothing.

We need a group of women who can teach our gals how to be proud of just being female. They need to know how to set their hair, press their clothes and the fundamentals of right dressing.

As for my tax dollar, I say please don't spend it on cigarettes. Give them something better in its place. Give them self respect and good health.

Concerned No. 2

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE

Regarding the Feb. 24 letter by R. L. Lewis, a Solano College student, I am happy to see a reply to the Feb. 17 article but I feel that you have missed the general idea that the writer was trying to express.

I too feel that it is about time the black students are represented in our society and am glad to see the demands of the Black Student Union being met. The point that I am trying to make is this . . . I don't know how long you've been a student at Solano College but last semester was very unique. The black students protested their rights in the cafeteria, marched around school, formed a picket line and even boycotted classes. Their main goal was to be heard and to show the students exactly what they wanted by their demands.

The BSU stressed their protest very much to all the students, teachers, student council, administration, board of trustees and to the community. During this time of protest some students were even suspended and expelled.

The thing that strikes me the most is how could the BSU fight so hard for something they really believed in (such as serving soul food and the hiring of a black cook) and then not take advantage of buying the food? I work in the cafeteria and know how many lunches are sold and who buys them.



PAX VOBISCU

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE

How wonderful that the information gained from the Ethnic Awareness Program questionnaires has been released for publication. I'm sure it was no coincidence that this was printed so soon after many parents have gone up in smoke over the prospect of an Ethnic Awareness Program, often referred to as "sensitivity training," in the city's public schools.

Frankly, I am not impressed that out of 630 questionnaires 252 teachers were in favor of the program. Perhaps Mr. Gebhardt will be good enough to tell me just how much this would cost the taxpayer?

Persons in favor of this program must know themselves better than anyone else. If they feel they need psychiatric help, they probably do. But they needn't expect the parents to foot the bill for it or expect it on school time.

What's wrong with teaching school during class time? Isn't that what school is all about and what they getting paid for? What ever happened to reading, writing and arithmetic? What's wrong with teaching history and English for a change?

Who needs this kind of trash? We already

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE

I was one of the mothers who attended the recent public forum concerning so-called encounter groups.

You may have read that this meeting was intended to defend and justify encounter and sensitivity groups since they have been under fire by some concerned parents.

After the panelists gave their views on how wonderful sensitivity is, there was time for questions and answers. The educational backgrounds of the panelists were impressive.

This room full of people and the panelists, by their own admission, were perfect examples of what can be accomplished with sensitivity. My friends, you had better become very concerned that this does not get into the schools any more than it is already. We were told by John Hager, psychiatrist with the Solano County Office of Education, that it is being used with a group at Hogan Senior High. Doesn't that shock you East Vallejo parents?

With the exception of a handful of people who had come to obtain answers to some questions, the audience consisted largely of people already deeply involved with encounter and sensitivity groups, graduates so to speak. That is why the majority of the 75 or more

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Two or three weeks ago in OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE a man who claimed that current campus unrest was communist inspired based his conclusions on supposedly extensive information. The taxpayers of Vallejo whose children are attending or will some day attend college have a responsibility, also, to be concerned and to seek information about educational disorders. But they must be careful not to blame naively some nebulous communist conspiracy for protests of frustrated students.

The student becomes frustrated (1) when the university refuses to teach him how to deal with problems of his loved ones in minority communities and ghettos; (2) when Reagan incites the wrath of students to exercise power and, thus, restore voters' support for the coming election; (3) when leaders, reporters, and arbitrary students are singled out and bloodily beaten; (4) when excessive balls are levied to deplete defense funds (5) when the National Guard arrives with bayonets; (6) when both strikers and non-strikers are tear gassed in the streets.

The student who can still attend classes while bombs explode, rocks are hurled, property is destroyed, people are beaten, mobs stampede, and a police helicopter buzzes overhead are not normal. Police trained to apprehend criminals cannot deal with angry students. Many of my non-violent friends have been tear gassed, also, among them a non-striking Czech refugee and a reputable former Hogan classmate.

Since we students are suppressed, the voters and taxpayers must make the politicians justify their actions. If these political maneuvers are not checked soon, Vallejo with its large minority might find itself under marshal law as well.

MIRIAM CHING

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE

I am glad somebody has had the courage to open the door by writing about the Vallejo golf courses and driving range. I would appreciate an open letter by somebody of authority to answer the following questions:

Who really owns the golf courses and driving range?

Why are they controlled by a small, closed membership?

Do the citizens of Vallejo who play golf and support the courses have any rights to the clubhouse? If so, what?

Why is it that the only persons who can have tournaments on Saturday or Sunday between the peak hours of 7:30 and 11 a.m. are the Blue Rock Club members? (And now they're even scheduling evening tournaments!)

Why do club members have starting times way in advance? (Try calling Saturday morning at 6 a.m. or earlier to get a starting time for the following Saturday or Sunday.)

Where is the money spent that the golf courses take in, and on what? Why isn't there information available in an open meeting or in the newspaper?

Why does the Chabot course have to pay for the Blue Rock Clubhouse? Why can't it be

Fortunately, practical politics seem to dictate that adoption of the direct vote system, even if it were passed by Congress, is questionable because simple arithmetic argues against ratification. Such a Constitutional amendment would have to be approved by 38 state legislatures. Any 17 state legislatures could defeat ratification and would be certain to do so with the knowledge that their influence would be diminished by a direct vote.

Thus, it appears that the Electoral College, a time-honored institution that stands as a citadel against the complete diminution of the concept of states rights and the last bulwark against the mistaken idea that the "one man, one vote" rule assures equal representation, may yet prevail.

The Senator Makes Sense

Senator Hugh M. Burns' incisive valedictory on behalf of the State Senate, of which he is Speaker Pro Tem, and its role in providing balance and perspective to California's government as it seeks to meet the crucial needs of a burgeoning state, is an erudite assessment of our Legislature in action.

Senator Burns correctly has captured the interplay between the two Houses of the Legislature in the process of enacting legislation and quite properly has concluded the Senate, in the furor of governmental activity in Sacramento, largely has been overshadowed by the traditionally more youthful and flamboyant Assembly.

He partially attributes this situation to the Assembly's disposition for "press agency" and the general reluctance of the Senate to "join the chorus of self-praise" that has "helped hide its light under a bushel." Perhaps more pertinent, however, is Senator Burns' observation that the Senate is more conservative and thus less spectacular.

It also might be said that the Senate has added a certain sagacity to the Legislature—a quality that has brought increased responsibility to the legislative process and in so doing often has prevented Assembly measures that could have resulted in financial disaster from being enacted.

With the opening of the new 1969 legislative session, Senator Burns sees the Senate assuming a more positive role in the origin and adoption of constructive programs. Fortunately, this new role in contributing to California's progress will continue to be one of quiet, reflective deliberation, unruffled by the turmoil of rapidly changing values wherein the present has become an unsettling discontinuity between the past and the future.

...of our republican form of government.

The BSU stressed their protest very much to all the students, teachers, student council, administration, board of trustees and to the community. During this time of protest some students were even suspended and expelled.

The thing that strikes me the most is how could the BSU fight so hard for something they really believed in (such as serving soul food and the hiring of a black cook) and then not take advantage of buying the food? I work in the cafeteria and know how many lunches are sold and who buys them.

Also in your article you said that it was up to the college to take note of the waste and time involved with serving soul food. Did it ever occur to you that the administration knew the loss involved in serving soul food and that is why they did not serve it a long time ago?

Another Solano College Student

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Our mayor is old-fashioned, unresponsive to social change, and not sensitive to minority points of view and man.

John Watts, Mr. Brown and myself have talked with the city manager and the mayor many times in trying to get another encounter group going between black community members and police officers. However, it seems that the mayor and city manager want the cops to keep their guns on when attending the meetings, which the blacks fear.

The purpose of an encounter group is to sit around and talk about each other's problems and, hopefully, arrive at some mutual understanding for each other's point of view.

The mayor says, "they shouldn't fear the police officers, they are people who protect all races." Too bad, mayor, that you are not at least a little bit black, or have an encounter with blacks yourself, in order to understand how they feel rather than attempting to speak for blacks whom it seems you know nothing about.

NEW BLOOD

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

This is written in response to your recent article about the separation of the Siamese twins who had a common liver by U.S. Army doctors of the 36th Medical Evacuation Hospital in Vietnam. The article said it was possibly the first time such surgery had been successfully performed.

You will probably be interested to learn that identical surgery was performed by Dr. Lester Dragstedt at Chicago's Billings Hospital in 1955.

The children were found in a Bangkok hospital by my sister and her daughter. Due to the efforts of my sister, who was the wife of the industrial attache, and the wife of the American ambassador, funds were raised to send them to Chicago for the operation. Later my sister and her husband, now deceased, adopted the children and they now live a healthy life in Edinboro, Penn.

Dr. Dragstedt, now 75, is with the University of Florida. To him belongs the credit for the first surgical separation of Siamese twins with a common liver.

I am now looking at a picture of the doctor, taken within the past six months, with the two lovely girls whom he separated 14 years ago.

O.K. ANDREWS

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

To Loyal Subject:
As MacArthur once said: "I shall return."
So glad I have some supporters. Let's hear from some more.

George W.

...the program. Perhaps Mr. Gebhardt will be good enough to tell me just how much this would cost the taxpayer?

Persons in favor of this program must know themselves better than anyone else. If they feel they need psychiatric help, they probably do. But they needn't expect the parents to foot the bill for it or expect it on school time.

What's wrong with teaching school during class time? Isn't that what school is all about and what they getting paid for? What ever happened to reading, writing and arithmetic? What's wrong with teaching history and English for a change?

Who needs this kind of trash? We already have one short day and for those schools that would be involved with a new program during class time it would mean two short days, plus religious release time, plus band, plus other special programs. Just when are our children going to be taught something? How much time is going to be spent teaching each day and how much time is just going to be wasted?

I'm becoming more "sensitive" every day, believe me. "I'm so "sensitive" that every time I turn around someone is trying to force something else down my throat and expect me to pay money for it too. I'm so "sensitive" that I have had it right up to the eyeballs . . . boy am I "sensitive."

Just Sign Me "Sensitive"

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

What's happening to our government's promise that on reaching the age of 65 senior citizens could retire with dignity?

The money is only enough to pay for rent in a moderate home with nothing left for food and a few bare necessities of life.

Millions of these senior citizens are in despair after years of hard work and sweat believing they were making a better life and security as they aged. Most find themselves forced to sell their homes or move out of a rented home and live in a small trailer house in poverty.

Our congressmen and senators who are so liberal in giving themselves thousands of dollars in raises and voting to give billions of our hard-earned tax dollars to every corrupted nation should search their consciences.

Our people should come first, not second or last. This money should be put where it belongs. It belongs to our people for a better America where people can live in dignity, not poverty and despair.

Our Social Security should be doubled to meet today's cost of living and this can easily be done by diverting some of the billions spent on destructive weapons. This money should be poured into our social security for constructive and humane uses.

Charles Guzzetta

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Why should the President of the United States become the chief of police for Europe, Asia, India, China and Africa when there is so much to do here at home? Let's take care of our own people first Mr. Nixon.

There is poverty in every state and millions of persons of all races are underfed. Who comes first, our own poor people or foreign people?

We can lick poverty in this country but it will take billions of dollars. However, once licked it will never show its ugly head again.

I say to you Mr. Nixon . . . stay home and take care of your own people, this is where you belong. We believed in you that is why you were elected. Don't desert your own people who need you.

Sincerely,
Paul Weber

...by their own admission, were perfect examples of what can be accomplished with sensitivity. My friends, you had better become very concerned that this does not get into the schools any more than it is already. We were told by John Hager, psychiatrist with the Solano County Office of Education, that it is being used with a group at Hogan Senior High. Doesn't that shock you East Vallejo parents?

With the exception of a handful of people who had come to obtain answers to some questions, the audience consisted largely of people already deeply involved with encounter and sensitivity groups, graduates so to speak. That is why the majority of the 75 or more persons present would vote "helpful" as opposed to "harmful."

If one is to judge from the behavior of this group, in order to relate and become aware, one must first take leave on one's common sense, good manners and good judgement. With the help of encounter group you too can become an insulting, brainwashing, taunting, mannerless clod.

The panel proved beyond doubt that sensitivity is a lot of garbage. If these people were not sick to begin with they are sick now.

Not So Enthused

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Mr. Seward you used only one word that STUPID people might understand and that was "guts." Most of the silent majority don't have any or are afraid to display it. The only person displaying it right now is Dr. Hayakawa and I fear for his person at this time.

If Dr. Hayakawa or someone like him had taken a stand years ago during the free speech movement at Berkeley all this might not have happened.

You and I Mr. Steward have displayed the classic "generation gap" the past few weeks. I have pleaded a ridiculous cause and you have replied in a sombre high-sounding tone, using big words and spouting high ideals and a general plea for panacea. The fact is that STUPID people cannot be reasoned with, do not understand or want to be reasoned with and can only respond to a crack on the side of the head.

The general public has allowed STUPID people to jostle and disturb our society by its lack of action. Police brutality does not exist except in the minds of those who should not have been there in the first place.

You and the general public do not realize that STUPID people are incapable of thinking, do not understand what ideals are and only use words that sound real for their own purpose. And, unfortunately, there are "straight" people who play right into their hands.

How come I haven't heard from you other silent majorities?

STUPID Patriot

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

The Ronald Roy murder can be termed nothing less than a vicious murder but our trial and conviction was even more so. In fact, it was twice as brutal and vicious as the crime itself for two innocent men now suffer for a crime they did not commit.

Ronald Lee Roy met his death on a lonely isolated road but Dave Perry and myself must suffer an even worse death on a lonelier road because of the vicious lies told by Diana K. Moore.

The prosecution calls this a victory but I call it sickening. Right now I would trade places with Roy but I don't think even he would want to be in my shoes. We must bear the indescribable indignity of this conviction, but we bear no guilt as a gross injustice was committed in this county.

HARRY I. REDMON

...clubhouse. If so, what? Why is it that the only persons who can have tournaments on Saturday or Sunday between the peak hours of 7:30 and 11 a.m. are the Blue Rock Club members? (And now they're even scheduling evening tournaments!)

Why do club members have starting times way in advance? (Try calling Saturday morning at 6 a.m. or earlier to get a starting time for the following Saturday or Sunday.)

Where is the money spent that the golf courses take in, and on what? Why isn't there information available in an open meeting or in the newspaper?

Why does the Chabot course have to pay for the Blue Rock Clubhouse? Why can't it be independent of Blue Rock?

Why can't there be tournament play at Chabot?

Why do all the city's golf courses and concessions have to be under one pro?

And my last why . . . why can't a 50 cent deposit per person on starting times be mandatory and if you don't show up for your starting time, the club keeps the 50 cents? This should eliminate a lot of the permanent starting time).

A Vallejo Taxpayer Who Likes To Play Golf.

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

In answer to the letter recently signed "Rev. James Hulin, First Presbyterian Church" and printed in "Opinions of the People."

I am a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Vallejo, in good standing. I should like to express my opinion as an American Citizen. In regards to sensitivity, ethnic, etc. groups which was the contents of Mr. Hulin's letter, His opinion does not necessarily reflect the opinion of all of the members of the church and he should not sign his letters to that effect.

Secondly, I do not approve of some of these groups. Did not the Communists warn us they would filtrate through our colleges, churches, minority groups etc.? Aren't they doing just this and aren't we being brain-washed day by day? Since when does a person have to sit down with a group and give his life history, all of his problems of life etc. in order to communicate with the world and be a happy person? Does not the scripture say "go into your closet in private and pray"? Wouldn't it be better if a person would communicate with God about his problems? There lies the strength and wisdom which all seek. Wouldn't it be better if our ministers would focus their attention on those within the church who are in need of a friendly word from a "Man of God," mainly our teenagers, older people or just people who feel neglected within the church? With attendance of the churches on the decrease and loss of membership so great, can't the ministers grasp the meaning? I feel the ministers should fulfill the job they were hired for, and not spend so much time marching with rioters, pushing into community affairs etc., when there are plenty of other people to fill these jobs.

A member of First Presbyterian Church.

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

During the past weekend 17 congregations of Jehovah's Witnesses from 4 different counties assembled together at the Solano County Fairgrounds for up-to-date Bible instruction. Their activity is news-making and it is satisfying that your newspaper treated it as such. Groups of people that will go to such an extent to work for peace and teach others to do the same merits close observation.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Sincerely,
TROY D. SNYDER

PRAYER FOR TODAY

Hope is a slender thread, Lord, but it is all that holds me together. Make it strong enough to last through the dark and barren moments when all seems lost. Give the resilience to bend without being broken, yielding enough to meet another halfway, but holding on to what belief or position is the inner core of my integrity; through Christ. Amen.

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

EDITORIALS

Caught In The Middle

President Nixon soon is expected to announce his decision concerning the deployment of the Sentinel anti-ballistic missile system—a vexing problem partly of his own making yet largely inherited from the Johnson administration.

Basically, it has placed the President and his Secretary of Defense, Melvin R. Laird, in a compromising position of seeking to defend urban populations against the threat of a Red Chinese nuclear attack when these metropolitan centers are more concerned about the U.S. missiles exploding in their backyards.

The attitude taken by major American cities that the deployment of ABM launching sites in their areas poses a greater threat than China's projected nuclear capacity cannot be easily refuted. By the Pentagon's own arithmetic, the Chinese capability in the mid-1970's hardly will be great enough to strike both at hardened American ICBM sites and also at major city targets.

The Defense Department's preoccupation with Red China's still undeveloped nuclear capability is difficult to understand inasmuch as the possibility of a missile attack originating in China at any time in the near future seems remote—especially when Mao Tse-tung knows we have the capability of mounting a retaliatory onslaught that virtually could destroy his entire country.

It's just possible President Nixon is caught in a political dilemma. The Sentinel system was conceived by the Johnson administration to ward off Republican charges during the 1968 presidential campaign that a missile gap had occurred during Johnson's presidency. As it turned out, the anti-Chinese system now has become an anti-Republican system, aimed at the White House as well as Peking, while failing to reinforce our nuclear deterrent against Soviet atomic blackmail.

Opinions Of The People

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OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

After many years of teaching in Vallejo and elsewhere, in elementary school grades through junior college, I have some questions I am finally going to voice. I hope they may be answered.

Although I do not agree with all the criticisms brought by youth and adults alike, I have some of my own based on what I think is a little deeper knowledge than most people have of the school system.

First, with all our recent advances in such fields as psychology, why is not more thought given in the early grades to the simple training of children in behavior?

The schools simply must do more in areas where parents are not doing it for one reason or another. Dr. Cutler of the Department of Psychology at the University of Michigan claims that we are too permissive with children in the early years when habits are formed, and then demand too much all at once in the teens. I agree, except that we do not encourage enough initiative in thinking in the early stages.

Second, why does the administration make such a to-do about the "proper" credentials and degrees while all too often hiring utterly incapable souls who have nothing to recommend them but the degree? Over the years I have met dozens of them. A degree never yet made a good teacher out of a poor one.

Third, no one can fault the locating of a vocational school in this area where a rather small percentage of the students go on to college. However, once we obtain the funds to build the school, where are we to get the funds to maintain and keep it up to date?

At present our regular schools need replacement and the money for that has not been easily obtained. These are some of my concerns.

T. S. S.

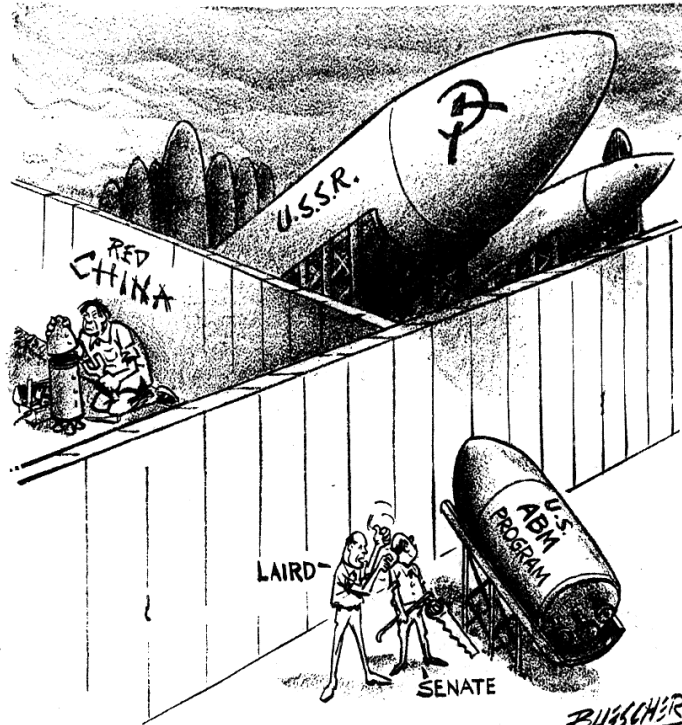
OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

First, to Mr. Ragle, and after that, to everybody:

The nature of the vantage point from which you seem to be viewing the landscape, Mr. Ragle, I fear, is revealed by the barnyard clype of terminology and philosophy which, apparently, you prefer to use in attempting to express your opinions, which are hardly convincing, and by which, of course, we are all aware none of us is bound!

The difficulty in solving your problem, Mr. Ragle, can readily be seen from the apparent nature of your environment in which you seem to have found yourself. This would tend to becloud your immediate, inner view as well as the outer, more ultimate view, or shall we say, the national view, for, looking through the dense fog and mess of the nature which you mention how could a person loving to use so freely and fluently such uncouth and suggestive barnyard type of language see clearly enough to discern one thought from another and be able to tell whether a country is Christian or not? Whether it is bounded on the north by Soviet Russia or the fine and wonderful country and Christian ally called Canada?

How could such a person, who is so disrespectful to Deity, and, apparently, so unbelieving in regard to what God says, be quite sure that he is one of Christ's true



LET'S TAKE A GOOD LOOK!

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

There is a growing swell of public indignation at the sensitivity training programs being unleashed upon our unsuspecting children. What happens to our teenagers in their formative years when they encounter these self-criticism and group-criticism sessions? Their moral and spiritual values have not begun to be formed, how do they know what they believe? Far to few have had the benefit of a Godly home and parents who care, and those are just the ones to be most criticized. "Ethnic Awareness" is not all they will be exposed to.

If the private interests such as Kaiser Hospital and the various local churches and public areas such as the California Medical Facility at Vacaville wish to deal with adults in this manner on a voluntary basis that is their business. But the schools are public taxpayer domain and we do not have to accept it. The School Board will not help us. The State Education Code does not help us. The Vallejo Education Association is openly advocating the use of this "Awareness" program in the schools. There is no one to protect our children in this case but us, and we better all

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE

With great concern I have read of the \$100 per month raise given Dr. Nicoll. I find it most difficult to understand why this was even suggested by the school board when he was only doing his job.

Are we as taxpayers expected to pay every administrator a raise when their duties are performed? The extra \$1,200 per year pay could certainly help hire a badly needed teacher in the Vallejo Unified School District or it could supply some of the items that we as parents are now being advised we will have to purchase are to have pencils, crayons and other material to do their classroom work.

We, as taxpayers and parents, must be very careful to vote for the individuals in the upcoming election who are concerned about education and not rewarding the administrators for performing their duties. We do not want our children subjected to inferior education because of overcrowded classrooms and our teachers denied the necessary tools with which to teach our children.

ANOTHER CONCERNED PARENT AND TAXPAYER

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Our government in the USA is not doing enough for its people.

It is a disgrace the way the widows and orphans of Armed Forces personnel are treated.

Their pension stands dormant while prices keep increasing.

I know a widow whose husband served two years in the Army during World War I and 31 years in the Navy where he rose to the rank of lieutenant. Her pension is \$29 a month and even that was taken from her because an error was made on a card she has to fill out each year.

How rotten can our government get? A measly \$29 is a disgrace and an insult to a widow of the Armed Forces of the United States. This woman is ill and a native of California

Filled With Shame For the U.S.

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

To the anonymous author of the letter addressed to Mr. John L. Lee, in this morning's Opinion of the People.

I am elated to know that you got the point about abiding by the rules in keeping your letter to a decent level, although it did not make any sense, but then one usually writes the way one thinks. But if you keep writing you will soon get the hang of it, if you are as bright as you seem to be.

I am sorry that you did not have anything to say because you must have put an awful amount of effort in that letter trying to get your point over, I would advise you before writing again please do some serious thinking, because I hate reading something that doesn't have a message. Do you read me?

Respectfully yours,
JOHN L. LEE

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE

This letter is being written in disgust after reading the reply to the letter written by Rev. Hulin about sensitivity groups. The letter was signed "A member of First Presbyterian Church."

In his letter, this truly patriotic American expressed his paranoid fear that the Communists are cleverly attempting to control our minds through these unmistakably un-Christian sensitivity groups. All that I have to say to this poor individual is, "I hope you check behind your bed before you go to sleep each night because you might find a commie hiding behind it."

I am a senior at St. Vincent's High and I have been privileged to have taken part in a few of these sessions and they are certainly a great help in improving your character as well as other things.

It is obvious that religion has made this person blind. This individual has placed all his faith in God and none in himself. Mankind can do more to help himself than to go to a closet and pray when he is in need. He must take a positive approach. Sensitivity groups are only one step in making this world a better place

It's just possible President Nixon is caught in a political dilemma. The Sentinel system was conceived by the Johnson administration to ward off Republican charges during the 1968 presidential campaign that a missile gap had occurred during Johnson's presidency. As it turned out, the anti-Chinese system now has become an anti-Republican system, aimed at the White House as well as Peking, while failing to reinforce our nuclear deterrent against Soviet atomic blackmail.

Teachers Learn Lesson

The so-called settlement of the teachers' strike at San Francisco State College for all practical purposes has served to correct a misapprehension among some educators that the whole field of education was set aside as their private domain.

What the striking faculty members failed to realize when they joined the militant students in their campus demonstrations in the hope of wringing concessions from the college administration was that their action was doomed from the start by tradition and law.

That most of them managed to salvage their jobs can be attributed largely to a compassionate administration and the exigencies of the situation which still confronts the college in its efforts to provide instructors for those responsible students still seeking an education there.

Moreover, the fact that the San Francisco Labor Council was about to withdraw its strike sanction is evidence that these militant teachers had lost public support in the position they took.

In attempting to impose standards and the right to teach such philosophies as they consider appropriate, the striking teachers sought to assume a delegation of power which never was theirs by law to implement. As public employees, teachers have no more rights, privileges and immunities than any other public servant who is hired to execute the objectives of the legislature which created them.

A faculty member's responsibility is to teach the subject matter for which he is hired within the criteria established by the school. If he cannot in good conscience perform his duties within this concept, he is free to refuse the job or resign. This was the choice the striking S. F. State College teachers refused to make and in so doing sullied the image of an honorable profession.

We hope the San Francisco State College teachers have learned a lesson; namely, that an unwarranted strike is just an exercise in futility that does irreparable harm to the school, its students and themselves.

to have yourself. This would tend to becloud your immediate, inner view as well as the outer, more ultimate view, or shall we say, the national view, for, looking through the dense fog and mess of the nature which you mention how could a person loving to use so freely and fluently such uncouth and suggestive barnyard type of language see clearly enough to discern one thought from another and be able to tell whether a country is Christian or not? Whether it is bounded on the north by Soviet Russia or the fine and wonderful country and Christian ally called Canada?

How could such a person, who is so disrespectful to Deity, and, apparently, so unbelieving in regard to what God says, be quite sure that he is one of Christ's true followers? How can he see clearly?

God's throne is in Heaven, and the earth is His footstool. From that throne, we believe not many years hence, He will be coming, in the person of His Son, to judge the world, including you and me, and He gives us a kindly warning suggestion to watch and be ready, for the day and the hour we do not know, — so, to watch, and be ready!

So long, Mr. Ragie, until next week.

REV. RAY M. LAWRENCE

* * *

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Judging from the substance of "Loyal Subjects" letter, they must be getting the big-shot treatment from some over-bearing, egotistical female who either has the rank on him (or her), or who has "sweetened" her way into the good graces of the higher-ups and can throw her weight around. They love this feeling of power — to lord it over their fellow workers and underlings.

They are really to be pitied, to think that they need this to satisfy their soul. If they only knew how hated and despised they are by the people around them.

I think we still have the two old bats around that I started out with. I haven't been sick or hurt lately and I'm not retiring for awhile so I can't be sure.

I was told that one of them went around at a party saying "Do you think that's me?", etc. Of course no one would admit it was — but she got the message.

It doesn't do much good to lambaste these over-inflated slobs — they are so busy admiring their nothingness that they wouldn't possibly dream anything so derogatory would ever apply to them. Believe me, it does. Take a look at yourself. Is this you?

GEO. W.

* * *

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I just finished reading an article in the Feb. 26 Times-Herald in reference to sensitivity training in the schools.

Where were all you teachers? You were conspicuous by your absence. The article said that 252 were in favor of this program and only 52 against it. Now, unless my arithmetic is wrong, that makes a total of 304 teachers.

Am I to assume we only have 304 teachers in the Vallejo schools? I must assume that you teachers, who didn't send your questionnaires back, are not in favor of this program. I go even further in saying that I believe the majority of the teachers are against this program.

If this is true, please tell me why you are sitting back with your mouths shut. This is a program for the students as well as the teachers in the Vallejo schools.

If it is not a good program then stand up and say so, or are you just going to sit back and let a minority rule?

DISGUSTED

benefit of a Godly name, as well as the benefit of those who are just the ones to be most criticized. "Ethnic Awareness" is not all they will be exposed to.

If the private interests such as Kaiser Hospital and the various local churches and public areas such as the California Medical Facility at Vacaville wish to deal with adults in this manner on a voluntary basis that is their business. But the schools are public taxpayer domain and we do not have to accept it. The School Board will not help us. The State Education Code does not help us. The Vallejo Education Association is openly advocating the use of this "Awareness" program in the schools. There is no one to protect our children in this case but us, and we better all get started now or we will find it in and ourselves out.

A TROUBLED PARENT

* * *

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE

The Solano Chapter, California Council of the Blind recently inaugurated an evening workshop. It is held at the Community Center on the first and third Mondays of each month at seven-thirty in the evening. It features the use of the typewriter, braille machine, braille slate, and Abacus board. Miss Olson, instructor at Solano JC, kindly gives of her time to teach the use of the typewriter.

Special thanks goes to the Corner Thrift Shop for the use of a typewriter. Other friends have donated braille slates and braille writing paper. For all of this we are very grateful.

We wish also to thank all who helped us sell candy last fall and all who so kindly bought the candy. The money is being used to promote the welfare of the blind including tutoring and reading service for the visually handicapped attending our Vallejo grade schools.

We urge all the visually handicapped and friends of the blind to attend our evening classes. We extend our thanks to all the people of Vallejo for their support and cooperation through the years.

JOHN F. O'HARA,
VICE PRESIDENT

* * *

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

While we are on the subject of the golf course situation in Vallejo, I would like to ask the following myself:

Why can't Vallejo residents have starting times at Chabot on weekends? When one gets to play once a week and has to wait an hour or so to tee off, it gets pretty frustrating.

A VALLEJO TAXPAYER
(Duffier)

* * *

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE

I would appreciate some help in my search for short skirts appropriate for a club comprised of older persons that meet once a month.

I am also looking for two unusual recipes. One is for Buttermilk Pie and the other Corn Cob Jelly. The buttermilk pie is an old Virginia recipe and I don't know where the Corn Cob Jelly comes from.

If you know where I may find any of these items, please contact Mrs. Troy Barton, 642-6888.

through one of the items that we as parents are now being advised we will have to purchase are to have pencils, crayons and other material to do their classroom work.

We, as taxpayers and parents, must be very careful to vote for the individuals in the upcoming election who are concerned about education and not rewarding the administrators for performing their duties. We do not want our children subjected to inferior education because of overcrowded classrooms and our teachers denied the necessary tools with which to teach our children.

ANOTHER CONCERNED PARENT
AND TAXPAYER

* * *

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE

The members of the Vallejo High School 'S' Club, a high school service club sponsored by the Soroptimist Club of Vallejo, will hold their 3rd annual spaghetti dinner Thursday, March 13, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

The proceeds from the spaghetti dinner will go to the Linda Dubnoff Memorial Scholarship Fund. The Vallejo High 'S' Club awards the \$500 Linda Dubnoff Memorial Scholarship each year to a senior girl who is active in school affairs, who has a good scholastic average, and who shows a financial need for her college education.

The spaghetti dinner will be prepared by the high school cafeteria cooks. The cost of the spaghetti dinner, which includes a salad, a vegetable, French bread and a dessert, is \$1 per adult and .75 per child under 12 years. Tickets can be purchased from any member of Vallejo High's 'S' Club or at the door of the cafeteria. Everyone is welcome.

WENDY MacCOUN,
Vallejo High 'S' Club
Publicity Chairman

* * *

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

The sunny days are here again, so it looks like anyway, and it's a beautiful day. The kids and mom all want to go for a ride in the car and you say O.K. You are four blocks from home and the little ones say, "Daddy, I have to go potty."

So you stop at the nearest service station. The restroom is very clean, plenty of paper, clean mirror and clean walls. Now, why can't you leave it that way? We service station operators try to keep them clean, but the general public is outright filthy.

We stress "keep California green and clean, free from litter," so I'm stressing "please be considerate for the next person who stops at the neat, clean looking station, so he too can find a clean, neat station."

ARE YOU CONCERNED?

* * *

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE

The Sem Yeta Council of Camp Fire Girls would like to bring this special thanks to the attention of the Vallejo community, because Chipman Van and Storage, and especially Vallejo Savings and Loan Association and the Vallejo Times-Herald gave our organization so much help for the Candy Sale publicity that we wish to show how greatly appreciated are the services rendered.

THE SEM YETA COUNCIL
of Camp Fire Girls
CATHY RAY,
Candy Sale Publicity

Christian sensitivity groups. All that I have to say to this poor individual is, "I hope you check behind your bed before you go to sleep each night because you might find a commie hiding behind it."

I am a senior at St. Vincent's High and I have been privileged to have taken part in a few of these sessions and they are certainly a great help in improving your character as well as other things.

It is obvious that religion has made this person blind. This individual has placed all his faith in God and none in himself. Mankind can do more to help himself than to go to a closet and pray when he is in need. He must take a positive approach. Sensitivity groups are only one step in making this world a better place to live. Since when do the Communists want Americans to become closer to one another. This is a prime reason for these groups.

It is my opinion that the author of that letter is only one of the many uninformed people who are only making our sick society a little sicker.

It's too bad, isn't it?

MICHAEL REED

* * *

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE

This is in reply to "New Blood" who wrote an article in the Opinions of the People page, dated this date.

New Blood, I, too, am old fashioned as a majority of Caucasians, a majority of the Negroes and a majority of the remainder in this great country of ours.

No person should be afraid of a gun in the possession of a Vallejo police officer, since he and his family live with it twenty-four hours each and every day and he has been trained in the safe handling of firearms.

It is normal for a person to fear anything that he does not understand, but in the case of not understanding guns that can be easily corrected in Vallejo. I suggest that Rev. John Watts contact the Vallejo Rod and Gun Club and arrange for qualified personnel to hold evening classes for those who wish to lose their fear of guns. I also suggest that all adults who are not satisfied with our police force gain first-hand information by arranging with the City Manager to ride in a patrol car as a silent observer after signing a release.

A.C.

* * *

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE

After reading the letter signed "New Blood" I feel like shouting loud and long, "Hurray, Hurray" for both the mayor and the city manager. What is wrong with officers (the use of that word cop tells more than New Blood realizes) wearing their guns. After all, it is part of their uniform. If a person is not guilty he has nothing to fear. Do the police say that Afro garb and "naturals" can't be worn in their presence? Are we all going to be told not only how to act but how to dress so that we do not "turn off" or frighten the minority people?

What is wrong with the minority race putting forth a little effort for a change and doing a little "relating" and becoming a little more "sensitive" in a positive way instead of always thinking negative?

Guns on police officers do not bother me in the least. They would be stupid to go out without them. That's all we need now is an unarmed police force. And we need more encounter groups like we need smallpox. I certainly do hope that the Chief of Police shares the views of the mayor and city manager.

The sensitivity and encounter business is so much hogwash.

Please do not sign my name.

PRAYER FOR TODAY

O Eternal Spirit Who art the supreme Ruler of the universe, set Thy loving hand upon Thy servant the President of the United States. Grant him a deep humility to seek and follow wise and just counsel; and the moral courage to make great decisions in line with Thy will for the whole family of man. Surround the loneliness of his high office with the assurance of divine comradeship. May he experience the rewards of a great trust faithfully fulfilled and a nation's grateful love; through Christ, our Lord, Amen.
—Edward K. Ziegler, Bakersfield, Calif., pastor, Church of the Brethren.

EDITORIALS

Another First For M.I.

Selection of Mare Island Naval Shipyard for the conversion of the Polaris submarine John C. Calhoun into a new Poseidon missile-firing craft is further evidence of the high esteem in which the local installation is held by the Navy.

The huge submarine repair contract, announced by Rep. Robert L. Leggett, D., Vallejo, in Washington, D.C., is the first of four similar projects programmed by the Navy. Thus, in assigning the job to Mare Island, our shipyard had added another "first" to a long, impressive list of innovations and pioneering activities it has to its credit.

The complex conversion project marks another challenge to the unparalleled craftsmanship of Mare Island's artisans who have given the shipyard a reputation for excellence and superior performance second to none. There is no doubt their skills and know-how again will be equal to the task that lies ahead for Mare Island never has failed to build a product equal to or exceeding its specifications.

Assignment of the Calhoun conversion contract to Mare Island will provide 330,000 man-days of work involving every production shop on the shipyard, thus assuring the installation a steady workload for at least another year and the local community a projected economic stability far greater than would have been possible had Mare Island not qualified for the project.

We congratulate Mare Island Naval Shipyard on its new assignment as an indication of even bigger and better things to come.

Mine Safety Action Due

President Nixon's new administration, with some prodding from the United Mine

Opinions Of The People

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Although I am not a member of the Solano County Taxpayers Association, allow me to commend its continuously effective "watch-dogging" on behalf of all Solano citizens — including Mr. Gillies whose aside reference to them in his Sunday article on Agricultural Preserves was entirely uncalled for.

In the first place, this group (whose membership is made up of citizens from all parts of the county) never takes sides on political issues or personalities. And, only after careful consideration of the facts and complete analysis of a given issue does it take a stand.

I am certain there will always be honest differences of opinions amongst governing body members on the interpretation of various laws and regulations such as those being applied under the Land Conservation Act of 1965. Especially, where various parcels of land are handled on an individual basis as in the recent case before the County Board of Supervisors.

No doubt, there will be further split-votes on individual applications for the preserving of certain land parcels until sufficient guide lines have been established on which to base precedents within given areas.

It does not, therefore, seem wise to pre-judge or second-guess these individual cases by questioning the decisions of the Board or Planning Commission members (whether pro or con) while these bodies are still assumedly making sincere efforts towards fair determinations in the precedent-setting stage.

EVELYN E. BROWN

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

First, may I express my appreciation for the fine coverage which you always give the churches of our city relative to events of special importance. I have never lived in a city where a newspaper was more cooperative in this respect than is yours.

However, sometimes from a layman's point of view certain terms may be used which are ill-advised. A point in reference is your caption under the picture of the Vallejo Ministerial officers on Friday, March 7, which said in essence that the Vallejo Ministerial Association is exercising "the ecumenical spirit."

Let your readers pleased be advised that in the thinking of most of us there is no ecumenical intention manifested in the association. It would be the furthestest from most of our minds to bring about one church through this organization. We are simple pastors who get together for fellowship.

May I also have a word with young Mr. Michael Reed, a senior at St. Vincent's High School. Mike, here is one pastor who knows from first-hand experience the result of the sensitivity and encounter groups as I have been awake many times late at night counseling people who have been hurt by these sort of goings on.

One thing about that lady whom you said you hope checks under her bed for a "Commie" hiding behind it, I venture you this that she would at least crack him on the head and try to get rid of him rather than negotiate with him. Religion may make people blind, Mike, but Christianity opens ones eyes. Here is one pastor who is wholeheartedly opposed to sensitivity training and will do everything



Meanwhile, Back in the Waiting Room

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I have been reading with interest some recent editorials on the teen pages of your Saturday newspaper. Readers are missing something if they're not noting Peter Glick's articles.

The literate and thinking young man's opinions reflect a segment of our younger population that is concerned and informed on more than the "Top 10" and fashion.

I agree with his latest view that the heterogeneous classes of 25 to 35 or more students is not the best means of utilizing the potentials of all concerned. His one exception, that of seminars, is well taken. I believe almost all classes should be small, from 5 to 10 students, but this seems beyond the reach of public education today.

In lieu of this perfect solution, grouping by achievement level seems to be the most practical. When I was in junior high we had two classes a day segregated in this manner . . . reading and math. Since I was good in reading and only fair in math this was a good solution for me. I'm sure it worked equally well for others.

Instead of three groups as Mr. Glick suggests, we were broken down into seven. All

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

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

DEAR VALLEJO:

The Vallejo "Saints" Basketball Team would like to express our sincere appreciation to the following people and merchants for without their generous donations and support our trip would not have been possible.

Sister Karen Marie, principal of St. Vincent's High, M. S. Borges and Sons, Mrs. Tompkins, Al's Sport Shop, Wheeler Printing, King's Union 76, Joe's Body Shop, Mrs. Marcacci, Geno Castagnoli, Spinelli's, Mrs. Thornton, Mrs. Boss, Miss Lyon, Wilson-Russell Ford, Ray Copeland, Kardon Motors, Coan Standard Station, Mr. Rodgers, Frank Kilkenny, Mrs. A. J. Higgins, Vallejo Times-Herald, Don Gleason, Dave Beronio, Harold and Paul Jewelers, Ed Traylor, Mayor Douglas, George Lyon, Raymond Flynn, J. H. Perkins, Angie Salinas, Barbara Traylor, Joanne Avellar, E & J Travel, Jensen's Trophy, F & P Trophy, Twin Chapels, Cine Camera, Home Bakery, Pancake House, Dole Hardware, Bob Scofield, Albertsons, Book Etc., Allens, Mr. and Mrs. Maloney, Montgomery Auto, Marengo Phillips 66, Benne's, Jack Higgins, Warren Clark, Berry & Sinclair, Navy Liquor, Mrs. Millie Peters, Barney Favaro, AAU office in San Francisco, Mr. and Mrs. Cook, Mr. McSweeney.

The above donations went toward the flight down to Fullerton and back, motel and meals. It was a trip everyone will remember and all of you made it possible. Thank you again.

Sincerely,

VALLEJO SAINTS

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE

Opinion of the people, to JOHN L. Lee.

Touche! ! John, you read only part of my letter about your rather childish attitude regarding length of letters published.

I have great respect for all members of the fourth estate! but, this time, I hope the proof readers will keep their lively little hands off! and, print this in its entirety, as written. SMILES.

John, I seriously questioned whether you had nothing better to do with your time, than count the number of words in a letter and then blast off at the Editor and F.E.G. like a small child having a TEMPER TANTRUM! ! If a person has something very constructive to say, as F.E.G. did; then what else is our news media for except to bring that message to all thinking people. Does a word count matter if the message is worthwhile and needed? Dig? John?

My hat is still off to F.E.G. and our Editor! To F.E.G. come back! ! your beautiful sensible messages are needed! ! John, I'll still gladly pay for that extra subscription, it was NOTHING! AGAIN!

A SOLID CITIZEN WHO CARES

P.S. John, look up fourth estate, proof readers: I KNOW what they mean, do you? call our Editor! ! he'll CLUE you: like later, baby! two hundreds words John, I counted.

Dear stupid PATRIOT, I do not consider your cause ridiculous. And I do not consider the majority of the American people stupid, stubborn to change, yes, Nor do I consider that a classic "generation gap" exists between us. We both have the same goal: to make our country

stallation a steady workload for at least another year and the local community a projected economic stability far greater than would have been possible had Mare Island not qualified for the project.

We congratulate Mare Island Naval Shipyard on its new assignment as an indication of even bigger and better things to come.

Mine Safety Action Due

President Nixon's new administration, with some prodding from the United Mine Workers Union, is taking the initiative in strengthening federal requirements for health and safety in coal mines—an area in which anti-disaster action customarily is pressed only after a tragedy has occurred and public indignation has been aroused.

The Congressional subcommittees — one in the Senate and the other in the House—have opened hearings on proposed mine health and safety bills, including a strong measure sent to Congress by the President and which already has elicited some Democratic praise for Secretary of the Interior Walter J. Hickel, who drafted it.

Perhaps the most important feature of the administration measure is a provision allowing the Interior Secretary to change safety rules in the future by administrative action, rather than seeking legislation for each change as now is required. It occurs to us this option offers government greater flexibility in correcting mine dangers before they become disasters and, if properly administered, could prove effective in reducing the growing number of catastrophes which has marked the mining industry over the years.

Experience has shown that if mine safety is to be promoted, the federal government will have to lead the way. The miners themselves have no way of forcing operators to adopt more safety precautions except through costly strikes which they and the nation ill can afford. At the same time, the operators contend they are unable to bear the financial burden of installing new, needed safety equipment or operational procedures.

This impasse largely has contributed to the 309 mining accident deaths that occurred in 1968 alone while mechanization in the mines, designed to boost production, has increased miners' chances of contracting pneumoconiosis until now an estimated 100,000 are affected by the disease.

Statistics such as these are convincing evidence that modern society no longer can tolerate the exorbitant cost in human life and misery that major industry exacts in an enlightened age where suffering no longer can be equated with profits and life is more important than expediency.

through this organization. We are simple pastors who get together for fellowship.

May I also have a word with young Mr. Michael Reed, a senior at St. Vincent's High School. Mike, here is one pastor who knows from first-hand experience the result of the sensitivity and encounter groups as I have been awake many times late at night counseling people who have been hurt by these sort of goings on.

One thing about that lady whom you said you hope checks under her bed for a "Commie" hiding behind it, I venture you this that she would at least crack him on the head and try to get rid of him rather than negotiate with him. Religion may make people blind, Mike, but Christianity opens ones eyes. Here is one pastor who is wholeheartedly opposed to sensitivity training and will do everything within his power to prevent this evil from coming about.

BILL H. LEWIS Pastor
Castlewood Baptist Church

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

In the "Opinions" of Feb. 24, Ollie Ross mentioned numerous things we did not have, or need, in school 50 years ago and I agree with him. He did not mention we spent the entire school day in the classrooms where we were taught reading, writing, spelling, arithmetic, English and respect. He also failed to mention that all athletic endeavors were after school activities. I know, I was in his class.

On the same page is a letter written by "A Present Apache" who goes into detail regarding the present high school physical fitness program and how sport classes are alternated to avoid student boredom. Here, too, there is no mention of the advanced basics of education which leads me to believe that high school is becoming a prep school for professional athletes.

During the past 15 years I have scrutinized many applications for work from high school graduates. Approximately 50 per cent of these indicate little, if any, education in reading, writing, spelling and elementary arithmetic.

During interviews the lack of respect and good English also is noticeable. Of those hired, about 20 per cent could not pass the apprenticeship math test. Although this is the age of computers, a certain amount of basic knowledge is a must.

I'm a little concerned because five of our six grandchildren are attending Vallejo schools.

FORMER VALLEJOAN

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I have a request for the people of Benicia and the school students.

I believe persons who damage schools ought to pay for the damage out of their own pockets. It's a dirty shame that students don't act like human beings. Taxpayers end up paying for their misdeeds.

You can look around the world and see people of all races working to learn a trade. Good education and teachers help them to learn.

It's a shame that some students spend their time wrecking schools that belong to the public.

EBT

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

At Solano College we have 30 foreign students this semester. Of these, 18 are on student visas with no family or relatives in this country.

A number of our foreign students would like to live in American homes. Some would be glad to do work in exchange for their room and board. If you are interested in having a foreign student live in your home, please call Solano College, 643-2761, and ask to speak with the foreign student advisor.

FOREIGN STUDENT ADVISOR

I agree with his latest view that the heterogeneous classes of 25 to 35 or more students is not the best means of utilizing the potentials of all concerned. His one exception, that of seminars, is well taken. I believe almost all classes should be small, from 5 to 10 students, but this seems beyond the reach of public education today.

In lieu of this perfect solution, grouping by achievement level seems to be the most practical. When I was in junior high we had two classes a day segregated in this manner . . . reading and math. Since I was good in reading and only fair in math this was a good solution for me. I'm sure it worked equally well for others.

Instead of three groups as Mr. Glick suggests, we were broken down into seven. All other classes were conducted together with our "home room" group. Certainly a compromise of this sort could work well at other schools too.

I for one am glad to see at least some young people doing some constructive thinking on how to improve our schools. Is it not better than merely griping or demonstrating because they have a vague realization that there is something basically wrong with our educational system?

L.H.

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I really can not stand to read one more article on police brutality. That's all you ever see in the papers today and it's just not right.

Why isn't the policeman's side of the story ever printed? You read that people were maced and hit over the head with a stick, yet nobody ever prints why the police officer had to use a stick or a can of mace.

Our policemen have no backing whatsoever. I can understand why we have so much trouble finding men who want to become police officers.

Where would we be without them? Does anyone ever take the time to think that without them our cities would have terrible crime rates? Yet no one ever takes the time to say thank you . . . all they do is yell police brutality!

I believe newspapers should print the policeman's side of the situation too. If the newspapers can't let the people know what is happening, who can?

I am not personally involved with the police department. I'm just a grateful person who wishes them a little more support.

PEGGY BRIGGS

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Those poorly underpaid men in Washington must gloat over their ability to vote themselves raises.

They are the same people who cry inflation when someone receiving the great amount of \$150 per month asks for at least enough to live on.

People on social security and retirement annuities are certainly forgotten when all others keep getting raises and the cost of living skyrockets. Civil service retirees received a 3.9 per cent raise. Before they started to collect, hospitalization costs were raised more than the increase of their annuity.

These people must pay the same price for everything they buy as those who are continually crying for more money.

Without a doubt, these people have contributed something to the economy of our nation, be they technicians, planners, supervisors, clerks or even maintenance people.

They worked at a time of low wages but must live at a time of rising costs in everything that is needed for their welfare.

What a shame that there are hundreds of thousands of people in this rich nation receiving less than \$2,200 per year.

PETER SILVEIRA
FAIRFIELD

check the surrounding area, recall whether or not much rain had fallen recently, notice whether the ground is particularly low in that grassy area. He could still go on if he doesn't mind the mud, or if he knows someone else would have to clean his shoes and wash his clothing.

Adults are not quite the same. They may react the same way, but their experience leads them to realize they are doing so at their own risk. And they are more likely to avoid the swamp because of experience and observations of other people's experience. Nearly everyone will change gradually over the years because of experience, which is, after all, a form of learning.

I would like to suggest, Michael, that you save the clipping from the Times-Herald Editorial and Feature Page dated Monday, March 3, 1969, and read it again on March 3, 1979. Only then will you truly know what I am trying to express to you by my inordinately simplified reply.

MRS. EFFIE HUTCHISON

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

DEAR PATRIOT:
Let us discontinue the use of the word "stupid." It is childish and furthermore does not have the meaning which you have been applying to it. A stupid person is not one who merely has opinions which differ from ours.

You call yourself a patriot but you close your mind to any suggestion that something may be very wrong in the country. And when someone wants to bring these faults to the attention of an apathetic public you respond with a "crack on the side of the head."

Is this what we receive when we care enough about our country to try to make it a better place to live? If you do not understand what changes are being advocated, ask an advocate of these changes just what he is trying to do. Who was it that said, "You can not kill an idea with a gun"?

Dr. Hayakawa, Mr. Reagan, Mr. Rafferty and you, Mr. Patriot, have a common problem. You are afraid. You live in a world you do not understand, nor try to, and you are confused. Whenever someone threatens your security with an idea that your government is not taking care of you as it promised, you become panicky and strike out blindly. Then you wonder why this someone must go to such extremes to be heard.

So please, patriot, let your club hang at your side, for a moment and listen. You may like what you hear. And let us also refrain from the use of the word "stupid."

One more thought, why are you afraid to sign your name?

DEBBIE SAPP

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I am a retired master sergeant of the U. S. Air Force with 25 years consecutive service. Also I am a Negro who lives in Greenridge Estates in South Vallejo.

My wife and I spent a great deal of time looking for a home in a quiet, decent neighborhood. Several areas offered homes to buy but reeked with vandalism and unkept property.

We finally qualified for a home in Greenridge Estates which has some of the finest homes in Vallejo. Several days ago we heard that from 5 to 65 homes would be barged in from Fort Chicago to our area. Let's face it, if they can't sell these homes after bringing them in secondhand, then they would naturally rent them.

Who takes care of a rented home like they would a home of their own? We do not want another ghetto in Vallejo so we in Greenridge Estates in South Vallejo say no loud and clear to secondhand homes barged in from any area.

JAMES L. PAYNE

The message is worthwhile and needed? Dig? John?

My hat is still off to F.E.G. and our Editor! To F.E.G. come back! ! ! your beautiful sensible messages are needed! ! ! John, I'll still gladly pay for that extra subscription, it was NOTHING! AGAIN!

A SOLID CITIZEN WHO CARES

P.S. John, look up fourth estate, proof readers: I KNOW what they mean, do you? call our Editor! ! he'll CLUE you; like later, baby! two hundreds words John, I counted.

★ ★ ★

Dear stupid PATRIOT, I do not consider your cause ridiculous. And I do not consider the majority of the American people stupid, stubborn to change, yes. Nor do I consider that a classic "generation gap" exists between us. We both want a stable society where we can live without fear, poverty, hunger and the word charity will be only another word in the dictionary, where each of us will be able to enjoy the bounty of this wonderful country of ours. Is that what you want? I do. How would you go about to bring this to reality? I am interested, tell me.

The age group between 42 and 55 years of age today dominates industry, business and politics on this continent. Individuals in this age group are old enough to recall some of the tough year of the depression of the 1930s. The privation and want of those years left them with an almost psychotic fear of another depression, which left multi-millions jobless and nearly penniless for years.

The youngsters in high school and college now, will be replacing that lost generation in just a few years. What are their chances? If you have a solution let us know it, by all means. I do not consider this a spouting of high ideals or a general plea for panacea, but an invitation to investigate TECHNOCRACY. Or are you satisfied as things are?

J. SEWARD

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

An Open Letter to Mrs. Rebecca Shutt:
We would like to say goodbye and thank you. We will miss your delightful and warmly human articles.

But also a few words of appreciation for a job well done beyond the call of your duty. We are the parents of a boy who wrote you not very long ago. Our boy requested that you write about a great and forgotten battleship that was doing service off the coast of Vietnam. Our boy knew using that battleship would save lives, planes and money.

Mrs. Shutt not only answered him in a very kind letter but also kept our son informed of her research of the subject.

So as parents, we are grateful that in the important years of character development you helped us teach him that it is still noble to try to help our country. It doesn't matter how small the effort as long as it involves a patriotic spirit.

MR. AND MRS. A. M.

★ ★ ★ OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

In response to Michael Reed, senior at St. Vincent's:

He implies that he and his associates of a sensitivity group were drawn together and he couldn't believe Communists would advocate such unity.

The Communists do back sensitivity groups and advocate unity on a local (very local) basis with little regard to surrounding groups. The Communists are especially creative in unifying people with cries of aid for betterment of undesirable aspects of our society. People are rather emotional especially in times of distress. They join stupidly against something. Communists know this.

Think of a live and healthy animal. Now dissect it and separate all its parts. Does it live healthily (sic) now or is it now food for a predator to be devoured without struggle.

WHOSE SIDE ARE YOU ON?

PRAYER FOR TODAY

I cannot speak, O God, what is in my heart to say. But though no words escape, though no cry breaks forth, Thou dost hear silence tremulous with meaning. Thoughts that stab my brain, emotions that shake my breast are language understood by Thee. They are my prayer, and Thy help is near; in Christ's name. Amen.
—Paul S. Wright, Portland, Ore., minister, First Presbyterian Church.

EDITORIALS

Our Booming Agriculture

A report submitted late last week to the Board of Supervisors by Agricultural Commissioner Lloyd Black revealing that agricultural production in the county last year totaled a record \$55,057,800—an increase of more than \$6 million over 1967—once more brings into sharp focus the fact that farming is one of Solano County's major assets.

If nothing else, the figures indicate agriculture still ranks as a primary industry, both in productivity and employment, and as such must be recognized as a vital factor in the overall economy and planning of this area.

The statistics also demonstrate, we believe, the need for preserving our agricultural lands, which so conspicuously contribute to the wealth of our county, as a resource that cannot be permitted to fall victim to encroaching speculative developments which will not at least return a commensurate yield.

Although industrial expansion and urbanization have reduced our total agricultural lands by 92,336 acres in the last 10 years, improved farming methods thus far have managed to more than offset the loss of productivity occasioned by the withdrawal of land from purely farming pursuits. But if the present balance between emerging new land uses and the prolificacy of our farms is to be safeguarded, our rich agricultural preserves must be maintained as one of the major bulwarks of our expanding economy.

In this respect, it is gratifying to note in Commissioner Black's report that in spite of increasing urbanization, the trend of converting agricultural land into new residential development has taken only 1,000 acres out of farm production since 1964.

Certainly, Solano County's increasing agricultural productivity in a large measure can be attributed to the availability of an adequate water supply for irrigation purposes which not only has served to increase yields but more importantly, has converted an esti-

Opinions Of The People

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

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

A petition with 17 good reasons for pants on girls was presented to the vice principal of Vallejo High School on Jan. 20, two months ago. We were told they would have a meeting the next day to discuss the subject but wouldn't let the students presenting the petition attend the session.

The school leaders tossed aside our 17 reason for just one of their own. They said pants would look sloppy and lower our standards.

They didn't look at the girls' side of it at all. I admit there would be some tight or sloppy pants but they would be better than the short, tight, mini skirts that can be seen at the high school now. There are extremes in any style.

One-sided administrations like this who listen but won't do anything about our feelings and who won't change are the main cause of social unrest on college campuses.

I'm sure that if a vote were taken on this subject by all junior and sophomore girls that it would pass with a clear majority. The idea has been put off two months already and they are trying to stall until summer when we would rather wear shifts with the hope that we will forget about it. We need to get it ok'd now so they won't stall us next winter.

If this idea could be carried out it might lead the way to more discussion of problems rather than the "solving" of them with acts like our recent boycotts.

PATTY VAN DOLSON

* * *

The St. Peter's Chapel Wives would like to thank the "It's Rich" column for the mention of our recent "Mystery." What makes it even more of a mystery, is the fact that the Solicitation Control Committee approved the very same request last year. For this reason, we are most interested in learning why our request was denied.

Last year, "Project Thanks" for the men in Vietnam, was a tremendous success and much of this success was due to the generosity of the Vallejo merchants. The items not donated by the Vallejo merchants were obtained from Mare Island civilian and military employees and their dependents. "Thanks" boxes were deposited in strategic areas of the Shipyard and everyone was encouraged to drop requested items in these boxes. The Chapel Wives then purchase the material needed, and sew the duffel bags. They also purchase some of the requested items from their club funds. These duffel bags are then filled and sent to Vietnam.

We have had to extend our drive this year, in order to think of another means of acquiring "Thanks" for our boys in Vietnam.

For any inquiries please contact:

Joan Henderson, 815 Kirkland Ave., Mare Island, 642-5945; or,
Judy Hibbert (Project Chairman), 417 Nevada St., 643-4162.

JOAN HENDERSON

St. Peter's Chapel Wives



SUDDENLY, IT'S SPRING

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

One of the greatest hopes of today's youth is that the older generation will understand us. It just seems that they don't have enough time to sit down and talk things over. They never want to hear our problems.

For example, the youth of today want and need a place to go. Our parents should try and build teen clubs or sponsor weekend dances.

A boy can't take a girl out to dinner unless he has money coming out his ears. And you can't go to a show any more because it costs about \$2 per person. Even little kids have to pay this much. Why can't there be student rates?

One of the greatest fears of the male youth is having to go to war and I think one of the quickest ways to bring an end to a war is to have the stupid old people who started them go and fight them.

Give the President a gun, give the Secretary of State a gun, give every member of Congress a gun and send them to Vietnam. Maybe if these men saw their friends being killed, they would change their minds about wars.

Let them see the look on the faces of the

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

The Rev. Bill Lewis is very honest when he says that Christianity opens ones' eyes. My eyes were opened by going to church and learning about God . . . my eyes were completely opened.

I saw the hypocrisy of most of the members and mainly the church. A girl in one of my classes gave a speech on how the church should stick to church matters and moral codes instead of becoming involved in racial matters, drugs and issues that face us today.

What is church for anyway if it cannot guide you in daily living? What does this young girl think the racial issue and drugs are anyway? I believe they are deeply involved with morals and God.

If you pre-judge a man because of his color, that concerns your morals which supposedly you have formed from going to church. Christianity teaches that you are not to judge a man by his color but for what he truly is.

I see no reason for not discussing drugs, racial matters, birth control or anything controversial that affects our daily life. When

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Sorry we could not conclude the subject of "Environment — Inner and Outer" which was introduced last week, Mr. Ragle.

With the object of brevity in mind, let me say that a man largely creates his own environment, both outer and inner. That is, he determines what motivating, what controlling power shall reign within. And since, apparently, you have already chosen the environment which you prefer, inwardly and outwardly, the next step is how to get out. "Says one good guy to another." "Transform the inner environment!" And the key to this is, "as a man thinks in his own heart, so is he." What a vantage point! What a key! What a method! Most practical! Most workable! And with all the power of God behind it: — Then, by gaining respect for Deity, and bowing in love and humility before Him, one can cast aside his "Wow-god", and with this old, sordid inward environment cleansed away, one can get down to the business of transforming his outward environment, including "the cladding" "the mess" of which you speak. This mess" of which you speak. This giant but challenging task well-performed will bring you out into God's sunlight with new high and holy thoughts and purposes, and a strong faith that is so essential—and remember, most of the messes are caused not by the churches and forces of righteousness, but by the forces of selfishness, greed, and evil!

REV. RAY M. LAWRENCE

Member Mayor's

Committee on Decency

* * *

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

As a member of "The Great Silent Majority," I address the following to the Community Relations Commission, et al.:

The supreme law of our land, our Constitution, was brought into being by our forefathers, among other reasons, "to establish justice," and to insure domestic tranquility. Our society has elected through the years to hire peace officers and empower them to enforce our rules rather than to have individual citizens be forced to bear arms for self protection.

Our force of peace officers is very small. I believe experience has proven through the years that it is a desirable practice to have peace officers always ready to go into action in the event of an emergency.

Any person who goes about his business peacefully, with no intent to harm others or to interfere with their peaceful pursuits, has nothing to fear from a peace officer. Personally, I feel more secure knowing they consider themselves "always on duty," always ready to defend society against mad men or criminals. I hope all who feel as I do will let our public officials know in order that they will not allow themselves to be stampeded into disarming our peace officers either on or off duty. THINK ABOUT IT!

W. B. SIMMONS

357 Pueblo Way

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OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

In a recent wire service article, titled

In this respect, as mentioned in a note in Commissioner Black's report that in spite of increasing urbanization, the trend of converting agricultural land into new residential development has taken only 1,000 acres out of farm production since 1964.

Certainly, Solano County's increasing agricultural productivity in a large measure can be attributed to the availability of an adequate water supply for irrigation purposes which not only has served to increase yields but, more importantly, has converted an estimated 15,000 acres of unproductive land to production, particularly in the Elmira-Dixon area.

The fact that today Solano County's agricultural production has reached record proportions thus largely can be ascribed to the foresight of those community leaders who pursued the \$52 million Solano Project (Monticello Dam) to completion in 1959, thereby assuring the county and its ranchers and farmers a firm water supply to meet their needs for the next 50 years.

For one thing, it has made possible the addition of 56,300 acres of irrigated farm lands in the last 10 years.

James Wiggins, secretary-manager of the Solano Irrigation District, informs us that since the project's distribution system went into operation in 1959, a total of 956,834 acre-feet of water has been diverted to thirsty farms at an average price of \$4 an acre-foot — a figure that ranks among the lowest anywhere in the state. In this respect, Solano agriculturalists are among the major beneficiaries of the Solano Project because the present unit cost of water still is based on 1944 prices.

Even so, Mr. Wiggins tells us, revenues collected from Solano County farmers alone on the sale of Solano Project water totals \$2,252,876, which has been paid to the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation toward the \$52 million cost of Monticello Dam and its water distribution system.

When Monticello Dam first was planned 19 years ago, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation predicted the project would increase agricultural production 50 per cent by 1984 and that the present demand for water from the project would not be reached until 1975. Obviously, the Bureau's experts miscalculated in both respects as water consumption now is 10 years ahead of estimates and farm production already has surpassed original calculations.

It is obvious today that these forecasts, considered extravagant in 1950, not only have been eclipsed, but they also vindicate the unwavering confidence of our far-sighted leaders 20 years ago that Monticello Dam was a good investment. That it has paid off is clearly demonstrated in Solano County's record-breaking agricultural production in 1968.

quested items in these boxes. The Chapel Sisters then purchase the material, and sew the duffel bags. They also purchase some of the requested items from their club funds. These duffel bags are then filled and sent to Vietnam.

We have had to extend our drive this year, in order to think of another means of acquiring "Thanks" for our boys in Vietnam.

For any inquiries please contact:
Joan Henderson, 815 Kirkland Ave., Mare Island, 642-5945; or,

Judy Hibbert (Project Chairman), 417 Nevada St., 643-4162.

JOAN HENDERSON
St. Peter's Chapel Wives
Joan Henderson, Secretary

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OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

We need to overhaul our City Charter by voting YES on Measure A, charter revision, on April 1.

The present charter of the City of Vallejo is outmoded and confusing. A charter should be clear, concise, and easy to understand. Our charter has too much detail. It is contradictory and hard to understand. It provides for city officers and job descriptions that no longer exist.

The 100 sections describing the powers and duties of the City Council are spread through many different articles in the charter. Another section which causes major difficulty provides that the city budget does not have to be approved until September 15, but our fiscal year starts July 1.

The City Council, which is burdened with this outmoded charter, has wisely decided to put charter revision on the ballot in the April 1 election.

Vallejo voters can do something about our charter by voting YES on A, for Charter Revision. Let's have a workable charter.

Sincerely,
BARBARA MENKES
President,
League of Women Voters of
Vallejo

* * *

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Oswald, John F. Kennedy's assassin, was a Communist, one who tried to forsake the U.S. in order to become a Soviet citizen.

He openly sympathized with Castro and the Cuban revolution. His victim was the first person in several generations who had the ability to unite this country against a common enemy.

His death accomplished several Communist goals, among them the creating of dissension and disorder, shaking the confidence of the people in their government, and, I believe, paving the way for a successor who, if not more friendly, was at least more easily used.

When public opinion finally forced an investigation into the mystery surrounding Oswald, another classic weapon of communism was deployed. The "sleeper," the long established, highly respected, high placed public official sympathetic to or under the control of communism, began his work.

One assured the public there was no conspiracy. Another destroyed or concealed information vital to a true understanding of what happened and why. Red herrings were dragged this way and that.

As a result, we have what the Communists wanted us to have: a country widely divided in its acceptance of the official version (the Warren Report), a loss of respect for and confidence in the American judicial process, the loss of the hero around whom we might have rallied, a poisonous suspicion of highly placed officials in government, and other factors that we haven't yet begun to realize.

D. W. KING
Vacaville

can't go to a show any more because it costs about \$2 per person. Even little kids have to pay this much. Why can't there be student rates?

One of the greatest fears of the male youth is having to go to war and I think one of the quickest ways to bring an end to a war is to have the stupid old people who started them go and fight them.

Give the President a gun, give the Secretary of State a gun, give every member of Congress a gun and send them to Vietnam. Maybe if these men saw their friends being killed, they would change their minds about wars.

Let them see the look on the faces of the wives of the men who are being killed. Let them get shot at. Then maybe this world might not be such a bad place to live after all.

STEVE STOVER
Hogan High student

* * *

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

For several years the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF), composed of teachers and school administrators, has had an eligibility rule on the books that prohibits a youngster from participating in any other organized sport while playing a school sport.

I was under the impression the objective of schools and teachers was to teach and that organizations such as the CIF were interested in insuring the game was played under uniform rules and eligibility to participate as an amateur was protected.

Since when can a public school administration or teacher participate in establishing rules, or enforce rules, that are discriminating against a student because of his choice of how he spends his free time?

Since when can the CIF force a minor to choose between a school and non-school activity?

Since when can they override the parents' prerogative to decide what his child can or cannot do?

Since when can they initiate, propose, implement or enforce a rule which infringes on a student's personal freedom?

Since when can an athletic director enforce this rule by threat of discrimination when the rule does nothing to improve or regulate the game, or protect his amateur status?

How long must we tolerate this bull-dozing of our youth?

If you disagree with me, just laugh this off, but if you agree, help me get this insidious sore cleaned up by writing to me and giving me your support.

L. E. GODDING

* * *

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

The entire membership of Community Projects, Inc. would like to express sincere appreciation for your generous help in publicizing our 8th annual Antique Show and Sale.

We are particularly grateful to Jane Smith for her help and patience in planning and arranging the features and photographs you and your staff printed.

We consider ourselves most fortunate in having the cooperation of the Editor and Staff of the Vallejo Times-Herald and hope our future activities will continue to deserve your support.

Sincerely,
MRS. ERNEST FARROW,
Publicity Chairman
Community Projects, Inc.
3081 Arden Way, Napa.

* * *

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Dear Solid Citizen:

Big deal, heap smoke no fire.

Respectfully yours,
JOHN LEE

racial matters, drugs and issues that face us today.

What is church for anyway if it cannot guide you in daily living? What does this young girl think the racial issue and drugs are anyway? I believe they are deeply involved with morals and God.

If you pre-judge a man because of his color, that concerns your morals which supposedly you have formed from going to church. Christianity teaches that you are not to judge a man by his color but for what he truly is.

I see no reason for not discussing drugs, racial matters, birth control or anything controversial that affects our daily life. When they start talking about whether we should vote for Joe Blow for congressman that's when they should draw the line.

Sometimes I think people do not want to use the rules of Christianity and God outside the church. They seem to be afraid to discuss issues within the church and I believe this leads to more misunderstanding and ignorance.

A CONCERNED STUDENT

* * *

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Many of you may remember an article that appeared in the Times-Herald in December, 1968 about my mother passing away and leaving five children orphans during the Christmas season.

Some wonderful people gave food, clothing and other items so we could have a Christmas and we could never repay the kindness of these wonderful people.

We are now faced with a big problem that we cannot solve ourselves. We had been told that my mother's life insurance policy was good at the time of her death but now we've been informed that it was not good.

Since I signed for the necessary papers, we are now in \$1,300 debt for her funeral. Because of this, I make a plea to the people of Vallejo to help us toward the funeral expenses only.

My husband is taking training through the Welfare Department now but when he gets through they will take everything we and the children have.

This is a sincere and desperate plea for help. Please call 644-6118 for information concerning donations.

THE TINDALL FAMILY
1069 Coronel Ave.

* * *

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

We members of the new Chinese Teen Club are inviting the teenage public of the Bay Area to attend our dance celebrating a belated Chinese New Year. The prize-winning band, The Four-Way Stop, will be on hand to provide the music for the night. The dance will be held at the Vallejo Community Center, 395 Amador Street, on Saturday, March 29, from 8-12 p.m. Dress is school clothes.

We are seeking public support for our newly established club so please buy a ticket or two or more and come to celebrate the year of the Rooster! Tickets are 75 cents each and are on sale at Munter's Music Shop, corner of Georgia St. and Sonoma Blvd. Make sure to bring your friends too!

THE CHINESE TEEN CLUB

* * *

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

To The Management of Vallejo's Only Inside Movie House:

I hope my letter reaches you. On March 16, I attended a movie labeled adults only, no one under 18 allowed.

My question is why did you let so many teenagers in that were a lot younger than 18 and certainly not accompanied by their parents?

Shame on you.
DISGUSTED

peacefully, with no intent to harm others or to interfere with their peaceful pursuits, has nothing to fear from a peace officer. Personally, I feel more secure knowing they consider themselves "always on duty," always ready to defend society against mad men or criminals. I hope all who feel as I do will let our public officials know in order that they will not allow themselves to be stampeded into disarming our peace officers either on or off duty. THINK ABOUT IT!

W. B. SIMMONS
357 Pueblo Way

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OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

In a recent wire service article, titled "Nurses Flay State's Care," I take exception to the statement, "Leaves the patients unprotected during the evenings, early mornings and over the weekends."

Ninety-five per cent of the registered nurses are in a supervisory position and have little, if any, contact with patients. It has been stated by the director of the Department of Mental Hygiene that patients in California State Hospitals receive excellent care under the supervision of psychiatric technicians. Since this is true, why does it take R.N. supervision in order to provide proper care of the mentally ill?

An R.N.'s training is in general nursing. Their psychiatric training involves six weeks of one to one therapy. Then upon graduation she is placed in a supervising role over many PT's who have had years of experience and training in caring for the mentally ill and mentally retarded.

I would challenge anyone who sincerely cares about the care of the mentally ill and the mentally retarded to visit a state hospital and see for yourself who actually works with the patients. Who does the bathing, feeding, gives medications, escorts patients to all activities, and has true contact with a disturbed person? See for yourself who talks to and relates to the patients. See who leads group therapy, talks to the patients when they are scared of imagined harm, consoles them, and helps them. Come and visit and then explain to me how any R.N. can state that because there is no R.N. on duty that the patients are being neglected.

ROBERT L. JOHNSON, P.T. II

* * *

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

When it comes to poverty in the USA, attention should focus on Armed Forces widows who live on fixed pensions. It takes a Philadelphia lawyer to fill out the pension forms and then you take what is handed out.

Action should be taken now for the widow to receive an amount she can be sure of each month with no deductions. Why should a widow of the Armed Forces have to beg, borrow or steal in order to live like a human being. It's no fault of hers that she and her children are left alone.

This is supposed to be the land of plenty yet the widow has to fight to barely exist. Widows of our country deserve a square deal in every way. A \$50 bill barely pays the utilities and the cupboards are like Old Mother Hubbard's.

ISABELLA NIXON WHEELER

* * *

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I was deeply touched by the group of young people who set up a kitchen for the purpose of feeding small children before they leave for school each morning. My hat is off to these young people and my blessing is with them.

I was somewhat depressed to learn that a man of the cloth turned down these people when they approached him about serving the children in his church.

His statement I will not quote, but I can assure you that it was appalling.

Respectfully yours,
JOHN L. LEE

PRAYER FOR TODAY

Lord, we come to another day with joy and with confidence. Thou hast promised to walk with us in all experiences, by still waters or in places where we have lost our way and our souls need restoring, when we have been bruised and scarred by rough experiences. Nothing can happen to us without Thee at our side. Why should we fear or our hearts be discouraged? Strengthen us by the Presence of Thy Spirit all the day through, and when evening comes, grant us peace; through Christ. Amen.

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

EDITORIALS

A Notable Career Ends

Thirty-four years of distinguished service as an educator and administrator comes to a close today for Fred G. McCombs, whose retirement as Solano County superintendent of schools officially begins tomorrow.

Mr. McCombs, who began his career as a California school teacher in 1935, has been a forceful advocate of improving the quality of public education in Vallejo and Solano County that has won him wide acclaim, both as a teacher and principal and as county superintendent of schools for the last 11 years.

His three and a half decades of service here spans a period of years when local and county schools experienced their greatest growth and transition to new concepts of learning. No small measure of credit for the success of our area school system in translating these emerging programs into action belongs to Mr. McCombs.

His contributions of public education are legion and display a dedication to his profession that is marked by innovation, initiative and vision. His work on behalf of the gifted child, the physically handicapped student, speech therapy programs, improved curriculums, music and other fine arts, career guidance centers, continuation high school programs, "Listening to Youth" seminars and efforts to establish a vocational high school are monuments to his convictions.

Perhaps his greatest contribution to education, however, was his unflagging motivation to develop and maintain a rapport with youth, seeking to inspire them to reach for

Opinions Of The People

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

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Dear Steve Stover,

In one portion of your letter you are a tower of intelligence concerning the sure-fire way to stop the war.

In another portion you are completely at a loss as to the problem of securing enough money to entertain your girl and you are convinced that your parents (and others) should provide a place for this.

I am sure that the parents of most teens will gladly "sit down and talk things over" with a teener who wants to do just that. But a teener who refers to the older generation as "stupid old people" there would seem to be little hope for satisfaction, wouldn't you say?

If some of you teeners would open your eyes you'd see that we parents think more of you than you care to allow. But how long do you expect your parents to provide for your comfort in every detail? Why don't you start a project to get things going on your idea? Or, better still, why not confide in your parents and take their advice on everything and not just the things which will net you a small gain?

But seriously, Steve, do you really think you need your parents? After all, a fellow who can stop this war with so little effort shouldn't need anyone.

AN "UNDERSTANDING" PARENT

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I agree with James L. Payne's article in the March 17 "opinions" column.

We do not need any more ghettos in Vallejo. And it is true that if houses are moved in and the owners are not able to sell them, they will be up for rent . . . inspected or not.

It's a shame that a community that was given the name "All-American City" allows some of the present far below standard houses to be rented with no inspection that assures a tenant a reasonably safe place for his family to sleep.

We have building inspectors, a fire prevention bureau, city manager, city council and a mayor. All of these people know of the conditions that exist in the already existing ghettos. But none lift one finger to make inspections of these 50 to 60 year old houses.

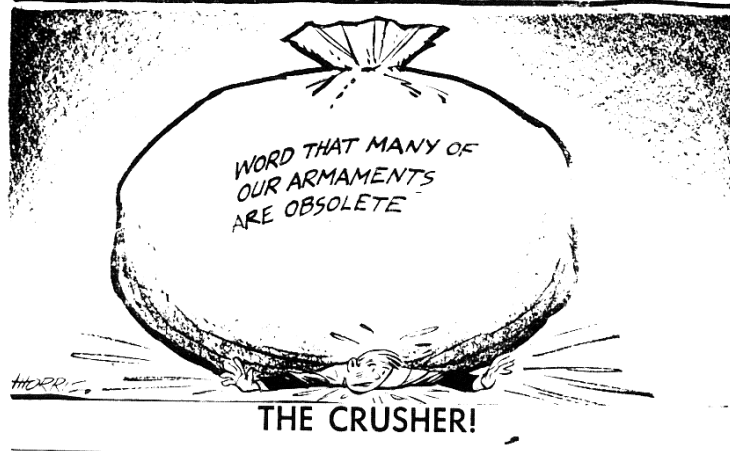
It has been suggested to the city council that all rental units be registered so each can be inspected and, if found in unsafe condition, the owners made to bring them up to specifications before they can rent them. This must be a very hot potato. No one does anything about it.

The reason for a large part of the unsafe rental is that owners, at their own will, do remodeling (including wiring and plumbing) with no permit or inspection.

My question is, should the salaries of those who are paid to do a job and don't do it, be stopped (fired) or should there be a new shakeup in city government?

A CURIOUS RENTER

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:



OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

The Sunday Times-Herald had this headline "SHOCKING RISE IN LOCAL DRUG USE". The only suggestion for its control was for a narcotics bureau, six full-time officers and \$10,000 budget. Would it not be much more simple to just take the profit out of selling the stuff?

At a recent Technocracy lecture a young man asked this question, "How would you go about doing away with 95 per cent of crime without police?" The answer: When every American has a purchasing power that only the individual can spend, that he cannot give away, lose, gamble away or accumulate the incentive for profit, chiseling, robbery, etc. is automatically voided.

Another question asked: If science and engineering is required for our new society,

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

James Earl Ray was not represented as an agent of communism and may very well not be.

He is, however, a product of crime in the United States and that is of prime interest to communism. Communism never misses the opportunity to utilize the mercenary and the opportunist, and Ray appears to have been both.

When finally brought to trial, a trial in which communism could not bear the risk of being even remotely associated with the assassination of a civil rights leader of Dr. King's stature, lightning conveniently struck. Ray entered a plea of guilty, was sentenced and spirited away to his prison cell and frantic attempts were made to assure the world that there had been no conspiracy involved.

Ray obediently submitted himself to life imprisonment. Why? What hope, what promise was held out to Ray to induce him to give up

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

The Solano Posse-Ettes want to thank all who so generously gave clothing and other rummage sale articles for our recent rummage sale. The sale was a success and will enable our group to continue our work for the less fortunate.

And also the clothing which was given for the Sonoma State Hospital. Some of the ladies took the clothing to the hospital in person as we wanted to find out first handed just how bad the need was for clothing. The attendant we spoke to, who was in charge of one of the wards was very grateful for the clothing and said there was a need for clothing for all ages. Our group sponsors a boy in this particular ward and I must say that all the young fellows we noticed were all clean and were dressed in dungarees, clean shirts and tennis shoes. So many of these patients are put here and forgotten by their families. We plan on taking more clothing to the hospital as soon as we can get together enough to warrant our trip. If any one is interested in giving for this worthy cause you may contact 425-5953 or Napa 224-0865.

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Dear Miss Sapp,

Like Batman, Superman and the Green Hornet, I feel that I can do more good as STUPID. I am not afraid to sign my name but if I did, I would become known as a paperhog as I write under my own name periodically.

I can not refrain from using STUPID in both connotations that I have given it because I believe that both are apt to the situation. It amazes me that people 17 to 22 know more about running the world than those who are two or three times older and wiser and, incidentally, were taught at the very institutions that are now under siege. Think about that won't you? Has our educational system degenerated that much?

What price attention? I agree with you that changes should be made, but at the cost of getting arrested, suspended from school, wasting the taxpayers' money, your parents' money, the school administrator's time and constant turmoil?

True, you cannot kill a good idea with a gun but you can bad ones such as Nazism, Fascism and insurrectionism. It is up to the majority of the people to determine what is good or bad, and if the majority say one system is good, the minority must go along with this until they can change it through a vote. If you don't agree, you don't believe in democracy and you deserve the title of STUPID. Students Tired of Participating in Democracy. Face the facts, lady.

Patriot Turned Minuteman

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I wrote an article the week of March 24, on my own personal feelings on how I felt on the war in Vietnam. In fact, all wars in the 20th century.

Translated a phone call the morning it was

albums, music and other fine arts, career guidance centers, continuation high school programs, "Listening to Youth" seminars and efforts to establish a vocational high school are monuments to his convictions.

Perhaps his greatest contribution to education, however, was his unflagging motivation to develop and maintain a rapport with youth, seeking to inspire them to reach for new horizons . . . to develop their latent potentials . . . and to channel their restless search for expression into constructive activity and interests. In brief, it might be said that Fred McCombs cared about young people and in so doing best served the high ideals of a respected profession.

We wish Mr. McCombs and his talented wife, Dorothy, every happiness as they begin a new adventure that can be as challenging and rewarding as the one they just have completed.

A Bit Of Friendly Advice

Today marks the beginning of Easter vacation for thousands of California high school and college students and a period of trial and tribulation for Santa Cruz law enforcement agencies. Traditionally, many vacationing students spend the Easter holidays in the resort community of Santa Cruz which cordially welcomes guests of all ages to enjoy its recreational facilities.

But the huge influx of fun-loving young people — many of them from this area — creates problems and anxieties for authorities seeking to cope with the complexities of increased traffic and other activity which a migration of this size creates. To a large extent, most of the problems stem from lack of responsible adult supervision.

Santa Cruz, as every other community, has laws regulating human behavior which must be observed not only for the welfare of its visitors but also the protection of its citizens.

It is not our intent to deny our students and others the good time and relaxation which they deserve and seek in Santa Cruz and similar resorts. Rather, it is to impress upon them that they and their parents share a responsibility in maintaining a code of conduct that will reflect credit upon themselves and the schools and communities they represent.

Our advice simply is this: Enjoy yourself in Santa Cruz, but don't travel or stay with large groups of minors unless adequately chaperoned and maintain daily contact with your parents. Let them know where you are and who you're with. And above all, conduct yourself with propriety.

must be a very hot potato. No one does anything about it.

The reason for a large part of the unsafe rental is that owners, at their own will, do remodeling (including wiring and plumbing) without permit or inspection.

My question is, should the salaries of those who are paid to do a job and don't do it, be stopped (fired) or should there be a new shakeup in city government?

A CURIOUS RENTER

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Our country has become a paradise for criminals and a hell hole for the good citizens. We must all change our way of thinking toward crime. Those who defy and break our laws should be punished according to their evil deeds.

Many are getting away with light sentences and turned loose to repeat their evil deeds over again.

Murderers, rapists, thieves, saboteurs and other criminals are nothing more than vicious animals in human form and should be punished as such.

Lawyers, to gain sympathy from the court, claim insanity, blackouts and show saintly baby pictures and a lot of other baloney to save the criminal. This does not undo the crime, it just makes a mockery out of our courts. Sympathy belongs to the tortured and to the dead victims.

How can people protect themselves against these animals? What good is it to have more police protection if these criminals are continually turned loose?

I believe some of our soft-hearted judges, soul-saving clergymen and lawless criminal lawyers, who go to any length for their own selfish gain and twist our laws for the benefit of the criminal, better change their ways of thinking and enforce the law or they're going to see some hangings and whipping posts in public parks.

This is long overdue and will take place unless lawyers and courts come to their senses and clamp the lid on criminals before it is too late.

C.A.G.

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Did "New Blood" give us a little clue about the intent of encounter groups? The sentence about our mayor being old-fashioned and unresponsive to social change is very interesting.

One woman who has been "saved" by group encounter, commented at a recent forum on sensitivity training, "I think there is a social revolution going on and I think 10 years from now people are going to be entirely different from what we are today. I think it's terribly exciting. It kind of points to a whole new world."

In the book "Toward A Soviet America," by William Z. Foster, American Communist, he tells us that "The leader of the revolution in all its stages is the Communist Party." (Page 275) Also on Page 339 we find this statement, "Communism will inaugurate a new era for the human race, the building of a new world."

Social change will come only when the minds of the people have been conditioned for it. An advisor to Esalan Institute, who has participated in a number of these seminars, has been quoted as saying that if he has his way sensitivity training will become mandatory. He states, "Many of our most astute behavioral scientists are agreed that this process of conditioning, of 'shaping up' the individual's behavior, will not much longer be left to chance but will be planned." (Sensitivity Training, "Rape of the Mind," Social Outlook Services, January, 1969.)

How far have they already gone?

VALESKA CHANG

man asked this question, "How would you go about doing away with 95 per cent of crime without police?" The answer: When every American has a purchasing power that only the individual can spend, that he cannot give away, lose, gamble away or accumulate the incentive for profit, chiseling, robbery, etc. is automatically voided.

Another question asked: If science and engineering is required for our new society, why is there not more scientists in politics? Ans.: When a scientist enters politics he becomes, first a politician and second a scientist. In politics he must compromise and one cannot compromise in the lab. An engineer may compromise on a public structure to fit the money available and the public gets an inferior structure. The above answers are abbreviated but I hope you get the point. So friends, don't knock your politicians, they need to be popular to get your vote. They are doing the best they can with what they have to do with.

As a citizen it is your obligation to learn why we need so many more mental institutions and to do your part to make the necessary changes. Inform yourself of what TECHNOCRACY means if only from curiosity.

J. SEWARD

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Face the facts, Wheeler. Using present tables, the minimum widow's dependency and indemnity compensation is \$132 a month plus more for each child, until she remarries. In addition to this, she is entitled to \$152 a month from social security as long as one child is under 18. This is the minimum. With more children, she gets more benefits. Plus, this is all tax free!

What did she do with the \$10,000 government life insurance?

Her fix is not her fault, huh? If she and her husband had seen fit to part with \$25 a month at their young ages, she would now have her house free and clear, guaranteed college for at least one child and probably \$100 a month until the youngest child turned 18, or possibly more.

I'll bet she said "No" to at least one life insurance man who tried to point out her needs to her husband, especially after he decided it was wiser to "invest" for higher returns or buy a new car.

This is the land of plenty but she's supposed to pay her share. Too many people expect to get a dolé just because they're alive, leaning on other people who pay their fair share. I feel sorry for them, but they had their chance. She bought her loaf of bread and it's too bad that all she's left with is crumbs.

LIFE INSURANCE BELIEVER

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Driving habits here in Vallejo are getting worse. Lately I've been noticing, as I drive down the streets of Vallejo, the driving techniques used by our so-called citizens. It has been brought to my attention, through this observation, that very few people are using their turn signals. I'm sure that the majority of Vallejo drivers' turn signals are not broken, even if they were their arms aren't. I realize that some people think they're the only driver on the road, nevertheless there are those who don't understand the meaning of common courtesy. Though most of us need a few lessons in drivers training, a lot of accidents could be avoided if we would just think to use our turn signals when we change lanes, pull out from and in to curbs and turn corners.

A CONCERNED DRIVER

When finally brought to trial, a trial in which communism could not bear the risk of being even remotely associated with the assassination of a civil rights leader of Dr. King's stature, lightning conveniently struck. Ray entered a plea of guilty, was sentenced and spirited away to his prison cell and frantic attempts were made to assure the world that there had been no conspiracy involved.

Ray obediently submitted himself to life imprisonment. Why? What hope, what promise was held out to Ray to induce him to give up without a struggle? Also, who profited most by the lack of drawn-out arguments as to Ray's motives, accomplices, employers, etc.?

How long will it be before the secret allies of communism, the Supreme Court, the American Civil Liberties Union and other bleeding heart movements manage to secure his release? I will wager that he will be free and well rewarded for his trouble in less than 15 years.

Mine is just one more voice lifted against the "new morality, new justice, new concept of personal dignity," and all such movements which are a very real threat to the freedom of these United States.

D. W. KING

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Once again, the Girl Scout Cookie Sale has been a great success.

We, of the Girl Scouts, would like to say "Thank You" to all those of you that bought the cookies. We would like to especially thank Mrs. Emil Buschini, our booth chairman, Mrs. Gerald Davis, our publicity chairman, Husseys Trucking Company and the many others who helped in various ways.

MRS. L. V. FRITH
Vallejo Cookie Coordinator

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

Aloha Friends,

We, the Home League of the Salvation Army, Vallejo Corps, thank each one of you who came to our "Aloha Luau" on March 14. Your kind support helped make our luau a joyous success.

Each effort was deeply appreciated.

May we continue to let Christ reign in our hearts.

Our Fondlest Aloha
MRS. JULIA CHOY RILEY

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

A recent UPI story states that ABAG has recovered only \$80,900 of the approximately \$500,000 embezzled by former employee Thomas Truax.

The apparent inference is that \$80,000 is all that association expects to recover.

The account further states the recovered funds "have been placed into an ABAG study of Bay Area transit and highway needs."

I say the taxpayer may consider this akin to having his money "blessed" by a Gypsy. Where did they find the \$80,000? Was the recovery made from property owned by Truax? From the bonding company.

And what effort has been made to recover from the bank or banks that provided the "personal" service permitting the young punk to cash checks month after month in amounts limited only by his ability to carry it away? Nobody deals in cash anymore. These transactions go beyond gross carelessness or gross negligence.

I say transfer the \$80,000 into a legal fund and try to recover a lot more. (The transfer may be accomplished very simply. Write a check.)

Aghast,
S. GEORGE

with this until you can change it through a vote. If you don't agree, you don't believe in democracy and you deserve the title of STUPID. Students Tired Uv Participating In Democracy. Face the facts, lady.

Patriot Turned Minuteman

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I wrote an article the week of March 24, on my own personal feelings on how I felt on the war in Vietnam. In fact, all wars in the 20th century.

I received a phone call the morning it appeared in the paper from one of those so called, stupid people.

She began to preach to me about her son. I'm glad that I unset her. I hope I upset a lot more people too, because I know I accomplished my purpose.

All I really have to say is if the shoe fits wear it.

How many wars have the young people started?

We have a draft, but its not a draft any more, but a death sentence.

You can't shoot and kill people in America, its against the law, and besides, its not the American way. But you can shoot and kill people in Vietnam.

Anyone who could send a young man to his death is a stupid person in my estimation.

If I really did offend that many people, I'm sorry, but I guess the truth really does hurt.

We Are Born Selfish: Some people Change and accept the obvious Reality: So why don't you.

Steve Stover
Hogan High Student

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

The 1969 Saint Patrick's Day Golf Committee of the Vallejo Lodge No. 559, B.P.O. Elks wishes to extend its thanks to the Times-Herald Publishing Co., Joe Mortara, PGA Golf Pro and his assistants for their cooperation in making this year's annual affair the largest and best ever.

The committee also wishes to thank the 125 Vallejo and Crockett merchants for their generous donations which were distributed as prizes to all participants of the tourney.

Again, thanks to all who helped.

Charles E. Martin, Gen. Chairman

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

The entire membership of Solano Voture No. 395 of the Forty & Eight wishes to express sincere appreciation to all for their generous help in making our Queen of Industry Contest a success.

We are particularly grateful to all of the girls who worked so hard on this program. To them, our sincere thanks.

We consider ourselves most fortunate in having the cooperation of the Editor and Staff of the Vallejo Times-Herald and hope our future activities will continue to deserve their support. We thank you.

CHARLES B. HUDSON, Chairman
Solano Voture No. 395, 40 et 8

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE:

I agree with Mrs. Isabella Wheeler that widows of servicemen should receive enough to take them through each month.

If you have an income over \$1,800 a year you can't get a widow's pension from the government. Now we all know that a person cannot pay rent, buy food and otherwise exist and stay decent on this amount.

I can hardly believe a widow can exist on less or that much. We should have a pension that will sustain us and not have to crawl on the ground to get the minimum.

I suggest all widows write our President and ask him to set a correct amount a month for those whose husbands are dead whether from war or otherwise.

A VALLEJO WIDOW