

## A Needed Probe

Two proposed probes of higher education in California — one suggested by Governor Reagan into the causes of student unrest at the Berkeley campus of University of California, and the other, a general review by a Senate-Assembly committee of higher education problems sought by Assembly Speaker Jesse M. Unruh — appear to have been indefinitely postponed.

In the present emotionally charged atmosphere in which the University and State Colleges have embroiled themselves, postponement of the Governor's investigation is probably a good thing. After all, the causes of student unrest have been aired in countless news and magazine articles: the impersonal atmosphere of huge campuses, overemphasis on research at the expense of instruction, too heavy reliance on teaching assistants, the baleful influence of New Left revolutionaries, and the pusillanimity of the University administration.

A calm, in-depth investigation by a Senate-Assembly committee, on the other hand, could provide badly needed answers to many questions. Among them:

How do operating costs per undergraduate student compare with those of private colleges and State-supported universities in other states?

What is the instructional work-load of professors, as compared with private colleges?

How much published research is really valid, and how much is academic leaf-raking read only by the author's wife and the proofreader?

How efficient is the utilization of facilities?

How equitably are student entrance requirements applied?

What are the statistics on the incomes of parents whose children attend the University and State Colleges?

These are only a few of the questions which should be of concern to the Legislature, the Governor and the people of California, who must make important decisions soon of great importance to the future of higher education in this State.

## Opinions of Others

An area which continues to grow increasingly confusing is that of consumer prices. It has been generally interpreted by some people that any time two or more producers of a product happen to put the same price on their product at retail, they are almost guilty of collusion, price fixing, and other wicked deeds. Yet, there have recently been appearing survey results of retail outlets which indicate that there are differences in prices of products from store to store or area to area. These inconsistencies have been played up to the public as an indication of mismanagement, profit taking, and other wicked deeds.—Madison (Wisc.) Reporter.

## FROM THE MAILBOX

# Newport Welcomes Kids Who Have Good Manners

Editor, Press-Herald:

Spring vacation or "Bal Week" is just around the corner. We here in Newport welcome the young people who swarm to our area for a week of fun. All we ask is that they are considerate and appreciative of the rights of others, and remember that conduct that is unacceptable at home is equally unacceptable in Newport Beach.

Last Easter Week, the police department called more than 1,000 parents at all hours of the day and night requesting that they pick up their children and take them home. Don't let this happen to you. Remember these rules:

The State Housing Act governing the use and occupancy of structures will be strictly enforced; there is a 10 p.m. curfew for those under 18 years of age; no sleeping in cars or on the beach; no drinking by minors disturbing the peace through obscene language, unreasonable noise, or offensive conduct is a misdemeanor.

Parents, please, above all make sure that your children are "properly chaperoned" and that they have personal identification and enough money.

We are proud of Newport Beach and are happy to share its beauty and recreational facilities with all visitors as long as they bring with them their good manners and a proper respect for themselves so that we may all enjoy their stay.

Sincerely,  
THE JUNIOR EBELL OF NEWPORT BEACH

## Redondo Harbor Plan Criticized

Editor, Press-Herald:

I wonder if the other residents of the South Bay area have noticed how the public officials of Redondo Beach have been turning the Redondo Harbor built by the U.S. taxpayers, you and I, into a private yacht basin for the wealthy only.

First, no self launching area for the small boat owner as promised in the original request to Congress for funds. Then no parking to the public all over the area. Now no fishing signs everywhere so that young and old and in-between are denied a place for recreation for free.

Everybody should write to their Congressman about this use of public funds.

ROBERT B. RYAN  
5025 Lillian St.

## Census Taker Visits Homes

Editor, Press-Herald:

During the past week, I have been working as a census enumerator in the city of Torrance. I start very early in the morning, between 8:30 and 9 a.m.

I have been impressed again and again by the American woman. These women come to the door neatly dressed, their hair is combed and they are clean. When they have small children, they, too, appear neat and clean.

Every home reflects a different personality and atti-



HERB CAEN SAYS:

# Chef Dazzles Gourmets; Then Eats At a Counter

In the kitchen at Ken's, Venerable Ming, the premier chef of S.F.'s Chinatown, hard at work on a feast for the aristocracy upstairs in the backroom. Thousand-year eggs and ginger. Delicate Gold Coin Chicken, a 24-hour chore. Succulent shreds of chicken and sprays of coriander for the so see gal. Duck stuffed with lotus. Chicken stuffed with glutinous rice. Steamed sea bass in a great silver fish.

As he works, Venerable Ming nibbles away at a box of See's candies given to him by a Pacific Heights admirer who had addressed the box "To the Greatest Chef in the World." He glances at the clock every now and then

and finally his long night is over. As the firecrackers burst and fog settles over celebrating Chinatown, Ming pads through the streets to a little all-night counter on Jackson St., there to dine on HIS favorite of all dishes. Apple pie a la mode.

And out the other: Ten lady Garden Clubbers held a symposium and lunch in

## San Francisco

one of this area's "world famous" hotels — after which the maitre d'hotel made one tiny mistake. "And how did you enjoy the lunch, ladies?" he purred. A Mrs. Lehman, bless her, replied, "It was so bad my dog wouldn't touch it." Snatching up her untouched plate, he marched out to the parking lot — the ladies trailing after — and set the plate in front of her dog, which, sure enough, wouldn't touch it. Showing a touch of class, the hotel refunded the ladies' \$33.50.

Like all the kids before them, today's are making us look twice at The American Dream of Making It, in terms of the rat-race for Cadillacs, suburbia and Brooks Bros. button-downs, and if the dream has any validity, it can survive a second look, even a long hard one.

One of the most successful things I ever wrote was "San Francisco is like a club that isn't as exclusive as it once was" — successful not in terms of felicity of expression, but in reader reaction. Conservatives used it as an attack on minority groups, and applauded. Knee-jerk liberals (a phrase used by knee-jerk conservatives) read it as an attack on minority groups, and deplored. Actually, the target I had in mind was the fast-buck newcomer and cold-eyed entrepreneur shiny of suit, car and fingernails, with no conception of the San Francisco spirit (except to drink it), no interest in the atmosphere (except to sully it), and no feeling for the broad view except to block it.

The San Francisco "club" was a symbolic thing, a wonderfully warm intermingling based on mutual respect. San Francisco belonged to everybody because everybody belonged

## Morning Report:

As possibly the last, unsubsidized friend around of the Central Intelligence Agency, I want to give some friendly advice. Stick to the Cold War and get out of the hot war — the hot war of American politics. Nothing in the bloody back alleys of West Berlin, eastern Istanbul, or central Tangiers can touch it.

You gave some loot to the National Students Association, and now Barry Goldwater wants equal billing for the Young Republicans. Socialist Norman Thomas got a bit of the action and any day now the Trotskyites will be picketing CIA headquarters.

And as for that million bucks to the American Newspaper Guild, I suggest you contact the American Newspaper Publishers Association without delay.

Abe Mellinkoff

## AFFAIRS OF STATE

# Plan to Trim Personnel Lists Brings Loud Howls

By HENRY C. MACARTHUR

Capital News Service

SACRAMENTO — Governor Ronald Reagan may be getting into the real meat of cutting down state expenditures, which is the elimination of unnecessary personnel.

Reagan's executive secretary, Phil Battaglia, announced some 3,000 jobs would be cut in an economy move, most of them in the department of mental hygiene.

Expenditures would be curtailed approximately \$20 million a year as a result of this move, or at least, this is the amount that would show on paper.

Although Battaglia said in making the announcement that the governor's office had been assured the jobs to be cut are in the surplus category, the usual plaint was heard from state employees that the services would be "ruined."

Virtually every time an attempt is made in the direction of economy, a sound administration of government, either the civil service contingent, or some affected group joins the weeping parade in a desperate attempt to convince the people of the state that the world is coming to an end.

It is largely these kind of moanings at the bar that have acted as a deterrent to the reasonable administration of government on sound business principles. These types of complaints would not be recognized in private industry, whose operators generally have to make a dollar do a dollar's worth of work, else go bankrupt.

## Sacramento

The practice in the past in government operation has been to let the taxpayer pick up the tab for surplus personnel. It still is a practice, as the 3,000 jobs the Reagan administration plans to eliminate are only a drop in the bucket of what could be accomplished if the administration starts state operation on a business basis, rather than continuing the socialistic conception that the people of the state should support unnecessary employees.

Actually, elimination of the jobs is not expected to cause undue hardship, nor any great mass exodus out of the departments affected. It will be accomplished over a period of several months, and normal attrition or turnover will accomplish most of the objective.

The cash-hoed under the mental hygiene program has dropped tremendously, the administration found, as the logical reasoning is that personnel should drop along with this decrease in the number of patients.

But in the face of this situation, every effort possible is being made to discredit the administration in its effort to effect economies which eventually will rebound to the benefit of the taxpayer. And as all the people are taxpayers, the move can't be all bad, as those hurt, if anyone is, will be only the relatively few whose immediate jobs are affected.

One thing the administration moves are pointing up is that the more jobs there are in any given department doesn't mean it has a great record of excellence in performance.

For a good many years, the civil service hierarchy has been engaged in the expensive process of empire building at taxpayer expense. This constitutes one of the evils of civil service, once such a program gets under way, it's almost impossible to stop. However, the administration's move in curtailment may serve notice that sometime, the party has to end.

## ROYCE BRIER

# Doubt Surrounds Red Talk About a Monolithic State

Out of numerous disputes deriving from differing ideologies, the foremost dispute between the United States and the Soviet Union is Vietnam, particularly aerial bombing.

Every few days members of the Moscow hierarchy sharply voice their disapproval, but in this they don't differ materially from President de Gaulle, and many other "bourgeois" statesmen.

Yet we are now told by President Johnson that following exchanges, Premier Kosygin has agreed to enter discussions looking to limiting the arms race. Technically this deals with a proposal for mutual abstinence from anti-missile defense systems.

The President himself made the proposal in a letter to Kosygin almost a month ago.

But how will he reconcile his proposal, provided it reaches conference stage, with a long-held theory in Washington that the United States is faced with an international Communist con-

spiracy dedicated to aggression?

This theory is rock-bottom to our intervention in southeast Asia. It is forever voiced by Secretary of State Rusk, and by other Administration spokesmen, including congressmen.

Yet Mr. Rusk inherited the theory from the late John Foster Dulles. That's 15

## World Affairs

years, with a brief interim, that State has unremittingly advanced the concept, not as theory, but as chilling reality.

Or put the above question another way: why is Mr. Johnson now pressing to deal with the fountainhead of what he and his men believe to be a hostile monolith seeking our destruction?

Could it be he really believes the Communist world is not monolithic, united in purpose, but a groping, many-headed monster quite uncertain of its destiny? Well, he has only to look about.

The trouble is Mr. Dulles, then Mr. Rusk, believed without examination a cardinal Communist propaganda theme, that there was a perpetual, unbreakable bond between believers in Marx.

But this was nonsense when Mr. Dulles was a youth. Bolsheviks quarreled with Mensheviks, who lost. Trotsky quarreled with Stalin, and Trotsky lost. Tito defected and Khrushchev renounced Stalin. Every party huddle across the world has always been an ideological brawl.

The tipoff to Mr. Rusk (though not to Mr. Dulles) was the massive schism between Red China and the Soviet Union. Both profess to worship the same social god, and each interprets him differently. Is this not human, and universal in time? Yet Mr. Rusk drones on with his stunning historical anachronisms.

Vietnam is far more Peking's concern than Moscow's, whatever Kosygin says. But it is far more Hanoi's concern than Peking's for what is China today? A vast, bedeviled chaos in which professing Communists fight to the death among themselves, while hating Russians as venomously as they hate the bourgeois world.

International Communist conspiracy, indeed!

## Quote

Could I conceive of any circumstances where I would sign a withholding tax bill? Oh, I suppose, if they held a hot iron to my feet and I was bound hand and foot.—Governor Ronald Reagan.

There are more pressing duties requiring the services of the employes now involved in writing, printing, and publishing the magazine.—Gordon D. Luce, state transportation administrator, on suspension of colorful state highway magazine.

The function of government is not to supply information about you to anyone who asks.—Assemblyman Leo J. Ryan (D-Burlingame).

The most unpopular move any governor can make, short of taking a stand against motherhood, is to propose a job increase.—Senator John F. McCarthy (R-San Rafael).

## WILLIAM HOGAN

# Herbert Gold's 'Fathers' The Story of All Fathers

There is one main fictional character in Herbert Gold's "Fathers," which Random House will introduce later this month — and that is a fellow called Herbert Gold. Yes, it is a novel in the form of a memoir. Like the name Gold, which is an imaginary name, this is imaginary history with real names. Perhaps it all once happened almost like this.

What ever it is, the publisher is excited by the work; it is a major book club choice for April, and the word is getting around that Herbert Gold has made a professional breakthrough in it. The author objected to the term "break-through."

But it is a book he has been stretching to write all his life. He has been in the process of writing it, on and off, since the early 1950s, between other literary chores. He has worked on it in his native Cleveland, Haiti, Rome, and his present home on San Francisco's Russian Hill.

"Fathers" is Gold's version of a classic American theme, the immigrant story. His own father is the central character in it, a Jewish immigrant from a Czarist Russian village, a denizen of the New York ghetto, a Cleveland grocer and finally, in his eighties, a successful patriarch who remains convinced that a man is never secure. This is not necessar-

## Books

ily a Jewish story; Irish, Norwegian, even Oriental immigrants, or "green-horns" might identify with Sam Gold's odyssey. It is all their stories.

The book is hardly a "Life With Father" in the old Lindsay-Crouse sense, but an investigation of fathers. The father's father, who in the mid-19th Century Ukraine was a child of the Middle Ages; the author himself a father, a San Franciscan of the 1960s. Gold tried to write myth, he

said, not truth in his study of the conflict of generations. He put aside a large, nearly completed novel of San Francisco life to finish "Fathers" when he sensed the time was ripe to do so. Now that it is finished, the 42-year-old novelist, critic, magazine journalist (and in a sense autobiographer) feels he has suddenly taken on the burdens of his father. He is no longer a youth.

On the book's publication date (March 26), Herbert Gold will be in Tunis, as a judge of the Prix Formentor, awarded annually by a group of 13 international publishers for a work of fiction. The North African excursion will be a brief trip. Gold is anxious to return to his San Francisco novel, tentatively titled "The Great American Jackpot."

If "Fathers" has been described as a "lovable" book, Gold has several near ones left in him. No, not autobiographical.