

### A Soldier Gunned Down

The silent alarm flashed indicating trouble at a Torrance market.

Police on duty at the station, noting the signal, assigned the nearest police unit to check out the trouble. It was near opening time at the market and alarms are sometimes tripped accidentally.

This one wasn't. Officer David N. Seibert, answered such an alarm, not knowing what was on the other side of the market door. He was "doing his duty." It was his last act. A bandit pumped three shots into him from ambush.

The young officer was buried with full honors Monday following funeral rites attended by nearly all of his colleagues on the Torrance force and by many other law enforcement officers, public officials, and friends from throughout the Southland.

Eulogies welled up in the breasts of all who knew David and in those who had come to know him only because of his final act of courage which left the community forever in his debt.

He was 25 and an aggressive, well-trained young police officer. He was typical of the "new-breed" officer, an officer whose schooling and training had been focused on law enforcement. He was a front-line soldier in the war against the criminal.

Part of his role as a soldier was to accept hazards, and David Seibert was doing just what we expected of him when he walked into the market to be met by a vicious gunman and shot down.

His act of courage against unknown hazards will put the young officer's name at the top of the list of this community's outstanding contributors. And his is a contribution for which we must be forever indebted.

Our best memorial to David Seibert would be a renewed interest in the role of law enforcement and a resolve to comprehend the hazards faced daily by the David Seiberts and the other thousands who man the front lines in the war against criminality.

That front line is much stronger today because David Seibert was there.

### The Virus Among Us

Like a fever thermometer, the cost of living index continues to indicate the presence of a virus in the U.S. economic system. That virus is inflation, and there is no cure for it except a strong dose of reform in the high-living habits of government.

There is talk of a substantial tax increase to help offset a deficit in the federal budget that some have estimated as high as \$25 billion for the fiscal year that began July 1. But, a tax increase will not cure the virus of inflation nor curb the harassing monthly increases in living costs until people one day realize that the annual decline in the value of the dollar cannot stretch on into infinity with prices continuing to move inexorably upward.

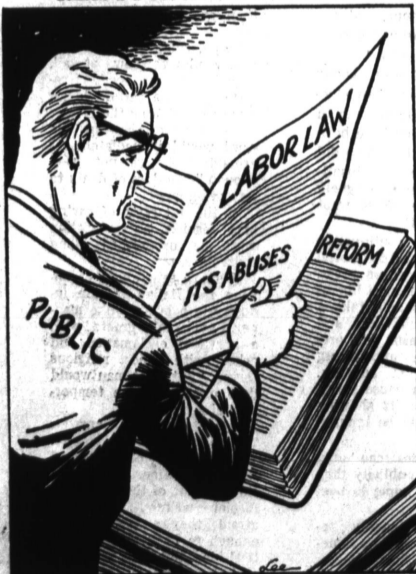
At some point, there must be control of government spending or the dollar will cease to exist as a medium of exchange. That is the grim terminal diagnosis which the cost-of-living fever thermometer portends. Curbing nonessential spending at all levels of government is more essential than ever before in our history.

### Opinions of Others

Experts say dirty air may be changing world climate. What's more worrisome is that it may be changing our life span — shortening it, that is.—Greenwood (Miss.) *Commonwealth*.

One of the innest in words right now is "pragmatic." Some someone says that Mr. Smith is pragmatic, and someone else nods understandingly. But what is the speaker actually saying? That Smith is involved in affairs of the community or state? That he is officious and opinionated? That he is practical and matter-of-fact? Or that he's just a plain old busybody? Smith can, in fact, be any of those if he is really pragmatic. The dictionary says so. So unless the precise intent of the word is made clear, or the speaker doesn't mind a punch in the nose, it might be more pragmatic for him to come right out and say that Smith is practical — if that's what he means, and he usually does. — Selma (Ala.) *Times-Journal*.

### READY FOR A NEW CHAPTER



### If the Lawyers Get Their Way



### HERB CAEN SAYS:

## 'The Thinker' Pondering About His Missing Pants

Out of the mouths of babes dept. (royalty div.): While Princess Grace was being driven through San Francisco's Lincoln Park she looked at Rodin's statue of "The Thinker" at the Legion of Honor and smiled: "You know, when my son, Prince Albert, first saw that statue he asked me what the man was thinking about. 'Well,' I said, 'I think he's thinking about the problems of mankind. What do you think he's thinking about?' Albert said, 'I think he's trying to remember where he left his clothes.'"

Grace and Rainier loved San Francisco, and San Francisco found them pleasant, gracious and relaxed. The Prince: "I had no idea it was so beautiful. We must come back. I wish we'd arranged to spend more time here." (And less in Los Angeles?) When the Prince heard that Mayor Sam Yorty of L.A. was arranging a civic reception, he said: "No-no-no, this is supposed to be a pleasure trip—a holiday." (What's a Yorty, daddy?) Actually, the royal couple didn't say too much that was quotable, for a good reason. Confided a member of the entourage: "They're much too intelligent to say anything astounding."

Funny scene, though, in a Chinatown shop. Here's Princess Grace looking at three tassels on a wall and asking the woman owner: "Do they have any religious or cultural significance? What do you call them?" Woman: "Tassels." Press Rep. Russell MacMasters, valiantly interjecting: "What the Princess means, ma'am, is do you use them for any special purpose?" Woman:

### San Francisco

"Tassels." Russell, turning to a Chinese sage acting as guide: "What do you call those in Chinese?" Sage: "Kow sui." Russell: "Ah, and what does that mean, exactly?" Sage: "Tassels."

Walt Kramer reading a movie magazine on a flight from Los Angeles, glanced across the aisle and discovered Alfred Hitchcock, nose buried in the U.S. News & World Report; being a pixy to the end, Hitchcock was holding it upside down, of course. . . . Dr. Joel Gustafson of San Francisco State College has unearthed a fascinating scientific paper titled "Maternal Behavior in The Domestic Cuck Under the Influence of Alcohol" which reports that when seven "mature, sexually-active roosters" were in-

ated, "they became very maternal and sheltered chicks under their wings." "All you chicks are hereby warned to watch out for those mothers."

Bagatelle: Ed White, Pres. of the Bd. of Directors of Nob Hill's Comstock Apts., is an absolute ringer for S.F.'s Mayor Shelley. That's bad? No, that's good: at restaurants, free drinks are frequently sent to his table by would-be sycophants, and at theater openings, he is asked for his autograph, which he dispenses with a flourish. . . . The other night, he was walking through Civic Center, deep in conversation with a friend, when he was accosted by two Skid Row guys. "Hey, Mr. Mayor," said one, "how about staking us to a bottle of muscatel?" Ed went on walking and talking. "Come on, Your Honor, called out the other wino, "be democratic!" At this Ed paused and smiled: "Gentlemen, as you can see, I'm busy. But if you come to my office in the City Hall at 3 this afternoon, I'll be happy to buy you a drink." . . . They showed up, all right. And as far as they're concerned, Mayor Shelley is still undemocratic.

### WILLIAM HOGAN

## Father Picks Up the Tab For a Substitute Soldier

The troubled people on the stock-breeding ranch near California's Point Sur in John Sanford's novel, "The \$300 Man," may remind you of the troubled people in some of Robinson Jeffers' rock-ribbed poems. This is a short, strange, brooding work that, like Jeffers' work, observes the introverted failure of modern man, or of man's failure to look beyond himself and act creatively in the world.

The novel is played in the arroyos that fall from steep mountains overhanging the sea. This is Jeffers' country, and Sanford plays his story sparsely, almost like a play-script. It is a psychological drama about a youth whose rancher father, with the help of a drunken doctor, kept him out of the wartime draft. The youth becomes obsessed about what happened to the soldier who took his place.

The story is not played with Biblical or classical dramatic overtones, like some of Jeffers' poetry, but is filled with dark moments, and, I suppose if you search deeply enough, symbolism.

Dave Keogh, the son, actually enlisted in the wartime Army, and upon his return searched for and found the "substitute soldier," a man without remorse, or love, or much of anything else. John Cross, the substitute soldier, has been maimed in the war. The guilt-ridden Dave Keogh brings him back to his father's ranch as a substitute son and brother.

Sanford wrings drama of considerable heat from the relations between the two ex-soldiers, the rancher-father, and the father's young second wife. What we have is a moody performance, a rather striking one, rather than a satisfying novel. For all the characters are a little too tense, a little too self-consciously the inhabitants of psychological traps, too theatrical for comfort.

The title, by the way, refers to the Civil War practice of buying a substitute — "three hundred dollars and somebody fought your Chicamaugas for you. . . ."

The novel may be the games people play under pressure, an interesting mood piece, but one which leaves a reader wondering just what, with all the storm clouds on the horizon, is the central point the author had in mind.

John Sanford is a contemporary of Nathaniel West and John Steinbeck. This is his eighth novel—his first, "The Water Wheel," was published in 1933. Sanford has usually had a warm critical reception, although the audience for his books has been negligible. His publishers send along quotes from what in effect is a Sanford fan club — James T. Farrell, Dalton Trumbo, the late poet William Carlos Williams among the members. His novel, "Seventy Times Seven," was perhaps his least unsuccessful. Sanford is one of those dedicated writers who refuses to accept failure in the marketplace. "The \$300 Man" just may make it, yet one suspects Sanford writes for himself; is satisfied, and couldn't care less about sales charts and best-seller lists.

### SACRAMENTO SCENE

## Legislature Runs Gamut In Its 218-Day Session

By EDWIN S. CAPPS  
Capital News Service

SACRAMENTO — The California legislature ran the gamut from A to Z in subjects considered during its marathon, 218-day session this year, touching on everything from abortions to the Z-burg riding and hiking trails.

Approval of the so-called therapeutic abortion bill was perhaps one of the major pieces of legislation passed by the session. It changes the state's archaic law on abortion to permit them in cases of forcible rape or incest or when continuation of the pregnancy could endanger the physical or mental health of the woman.

Controls are set up in the law, which was signed by Governor Ronald Reagan, requiring consultation by a board of physicians.

Continuing the A-to-Z of the 1967 legislature:

A — ARCOSS, the legislature approved and sent to the governor the bill which would provide for state teachers retirement credit for service of California teachers in other states, sponsored by the Association for Retirement Credit for Out-of-State Service. However, the bill was vetoed promptly by Governor Reagan, on grounds there was no money to finance it.

B — Budget: The 1967-68 budget: Governor Reagan's first and the state's first over the \$5 billion figure, was approved just in time to be signed by June 30, end of the previous fiscal year. Before signing it, Reagan chopped \$48.5 million in items, the largest amount ever trimmed from a budget by a governor. A bill which would have provided for protection of certain birds, including the Blue-jay, was killed in a senate committee.

The tax increase legislation provided for a beginning in the phasing out of property taxes on business inventories in 1968-69. The tax bill also raised the tax rate on banks and corporations by 1/2 per cent. Big excitement took place in the capitol in early May when a band of armed Negroes, known as Black Panthers, rushed through the halls and into the assembly chambers.

C — Crime: part of Governor Reagan's crime program was adopted, providing stiffer penalties for the crimes of forcible rape, burglary and robbery when great bodily harm was done to the victim. Opponents of Capital punishment made another attempt to outlaw the practice during the 1967 session but the measure met the same results as it has for the past 30 years, going down to defeat.

The tax bill included a hike in the tax on cigarettes — 4 cents for the state, which took effect on Aug. 1 and 3 cents for the cities and counties, to take effect Oct. 1. The new total will be 10 cents per package. And a bill to increase the fees for car registration to provide funds for transit district financing was killed in a senate committee.

D — An assembly committee approved a bill increasing maximum temporary benefits under the disability insurance program from \$80 to \$89 but it was stalled by the ways and means committee.

A controversial measure which would take dump trucks working on construction jobs out from under jurisdiction of the public utilities commission was approved. The assembly rejected a bill boosting the cost of driver's licenses from \$3 to \$5 and removing an exemption for persons who could not read traffic signs in English. Considerable debate was held on a proposed lease of the Del Mar race track facilities in San Diego. The upshot was creation of a state leasing commission to handle the lease of the facilities.

And both houses approved a double jeopardy bill. The measure provides that if a person licensed by the

state is found innocent by a court on criminal charges, he may not receive disciplinary action from a state board on the same charge.

E — Economics in several areas of government proposed by Governor Ronald Reagan were opposed bitterly by a number of legislators. This was especially true in

### Sacramento

the mental hygiene field where the governor proposed to reduce the staff by more than 3,000 over the next couple of years, due to lower caseloads in the mental hospitals. A bill to remove any state requirements as for education curriculum was stalled because of a disagreement over whether physical education should be required daily.

F — County and district Fairs came in for a lot of debate although no action was taken on a proposal to require them to submit budgets to the legislature each year. A number of bills making changes in control of firearms were approved the main one being a measure designed to prevent the carrying of loaded guns in public places.

G — As usual, legislation providing for state construction of a new governor's mansion failed. A bill which would have removed matching money requirements for gasoline tax reverted to cities and counties for the select system of streets and roads cleared the assembly but was stifled in a senate committee.

H — Despite reapportionment giving control of both houses to southern California, a proposal to give the southern counties a bigger share of highway user taxes failed in the senate. A major bill of the session, which was signed into law by Governor Reagan and took immediate effect, adds considerably to the number of horseracing days at state tracks.

I — Another in a series of moves to abolish appointment of state inheritance tax appraisers by the state controller failed, despite strong support from State Controller Houston I. Flournoy. The state personal income tax was boosted by an average of about 70 per cent under the tax increase bill.

J — Governor Reagan's plans to revamp the procedure for appointment of Judges failed to win approval. The same was true for Judicial reorganization in Los Angeles. A bill consolidating all municipal courts in the county into one court was killed in the senate.

L — While the session was slow for many subjects, it resulted in some major legislation on liquor licensing. One bill would permit the transfer of off-sale general liquor licenses into fast-growing counties. Another bill increased the state fees for liquor and beer licenses. On the minus side, the industry was tagged for an additional tax of 50 cents per gallon on distilled spirits in the tax increase bill.

M — The mental hygiene furor over Reagan's plan to chop positions from the hospitals carried over into a number of pieces of legislation but few were approved. Also down the drain went a series of bills setting up new standards of safety for motorcycle operators. Legislation was approved to finance the Medi-Cal program through the next year but there were estimates that the program was costing \$150 million a year more than expected.

N — Night horse racing, long talked about, finally was approved for California by the 1967 session of the legislature.

Authorization for the night racing was included in a bill already signed into law by Governor Ronald Reagan, which also extends

the racing seasons for thoroughbreds in both southern and northern California.

O — Another proposal to create an office of Ombudsman, to represent complaints of the citizenry against government, was approved in the assembly but rejected by a senate committee. The assembly rules committee stalled a resolution asking congress to abolish the oil depletion allowance.

P — Despite support by Reagan, Lieutenant Governor Robert H. Finch, Attorney General Thomas C. Lynch and many members of both parties, two bills to tighten controls over pornography were rejected by an assembly committee. Numerous efforts were made to provide for collective bargaining rights and authority to strike for public employees but they did not win approval. A Reagan proposal to remove the state's pre-emption in various areas of crime and law enforcement failed to get off the ground.

R — The most controversial issue of the session other than budget and taxes, was the proposed repeal or modification of the Rumford housing act. The senate approved a repealer but this was amended considerably in the assembly. The senate rejected the changes and an attempt to reach a compromise failed in the closing hour of the session.

S — The number of state scholarships would be doubled under a bill approved by both houses. The tax bill included a 1-cent increase in the state sales tax. State employees received a 4 per cent salary increase and constitutional officers also received raises in salaries. An administration sponsored anti-smog program, including creation of an environmental quality board, was approved in closing minutes.

T — Efforts of a number of legislators in a save Lake Tahoe movement met success with approval of a bill. The bill recognizes a local regional agency and gives it authority to make a pact with neighboring counties in Nevada. Property tax relief, much in discussions during the entire session, was postponed until at least the 1968-69 fiscal year.

U — The perennial campaign of organized labor to extend unemployment insurance to farm workers met no more success than usual and was shelved. Other proposals to change operations under unemployment insurance were included in one omnibus bill, which would have increased disability insurance benefits, but the bill was killed in committee.

V — Governor's vetoes of bills, as well as his deletion of items from the budget, came in for more than usual attention this year. This is because of a constitutional change which provides for a five-day session of the legislature, from Sept. 4-8, to consider all governor vetoes. They may be overridden by a two-thirds vote of both houses of the legislature.

W — For several months, the tax increase program was bogged down over disagreement on withholding of personal income tax. Governor Reagan opposed it and failed to budget, finally resulting in a compromise for a prepayment of taxes by the higher income bracket taxpayers. Attempts to increase benefits under workers' compensation failed, as did attempts by management to tighten rules permitting claims. The credit law now in effect for liquor, requiring the charging of 1 per cent interest on retail accounts unpaid after 42 days was extended to wine.

Y — A plans advanced late in the session by Assembly Speaker Jesse M. Unruh and Lieutenant Governor Finch providing \$10 million for a youth employment program, was pigeonholed during the closing hours.