

# Youth Needs Leadership, Democratic Hopeful Says

The young people of today are the most misunderstood segment of our society. "We have allowed a small group of troublemakers to convince us that America's youth is irresponsible. I believe the exact opposite. Today's young people are knowledgeable and creative. Our leaders have the duty to inspire and direct the young if our society is to move forward," he said.

He said young people have shown their capabilities in their unselfish work to make the Peace Corps and VISTA a success. Too many of us worry about the young without doing something about the situation, Frantz said.

"WHAT THEY want is to grow up and play a part in building a better society. Youthful yearnings, disappointments, and sundry complaints are part of the phenomenon of growing up, when, during those anxious transition years it seems necessary to assert one's seriousness by being demonstratively unhappy. Have you ever seen a youngster who has a goal or a major interest unhappy?" he said.

Frantz said he believed this interest is one reason why the Peace Corps has drawn such a dedicated group of youngsters. "There are no 'false' academic requirements for the Peace Corps. Any youngster with the desire and the capabilities can be accepted, no matter what his report card says," Frantz said.

He envisions it as a fantastic training ground for youngsters who later wish to go into diplomatic service. Frantz believes they will be the best qualified because they have actually lived among the people of the emerging nations and will know their problems and their attitudes rather than reading from out-of-date textbooks.

THE CANDIDATE believes the Peace Corps is the starting point for developing a National Academy of Diplomacy for those young men and women who wish to go into foreign service. It should be staffed with the best experts that are available to teach about the various national cultures throughout the world.

Such an academy, he believes, should attract and select youngsters from various nationality and ethnic groups within the United States who have already a cultural and language background of which we should take advantage.



**SOUTH PACIFIC** . . . "You wanna buy pretty flowers?" asks Mary Ann Kaesman as "Bloody Mary" (center) in a scene from the El Camino College theater arts department production of "South Pacific." The musical will be presented May 17 and 18 in the college auditorium. Don Hansen (left) appears as the captain and Ron Scarlata (right) plays Cmdr. Harbison. Tickets are available in the ECC student store.

## HAHN REPORTS

### Added Safety Measures Needed on School Buses

By KENNETH HAHN  
County Supervisor

For a number of years I have been concerned about the safety and protection of our most precious possession—our children—as they are being transported to and from school on buses.

There have been several tragic school bus accidents in this county, resulting in death and injury of young children. Although more than 15 million American children ride school buses, not enough has been done in the past to protect them even though a lot of thought and engineering has been devoted to safety in automobiles and airplanes.

IT WAS at my insistence several years ago that all school buses in California be inspected regularly by the California Highway Patrol. In 1964, on my motion, the Board of Supervisors requested UCLA's Institute of Transportation and Traffic Engineering to conduct extensive tests to determine what practical safety equipment could be provided on school buses.

We obtained an old school bus for UCLA to aid in conducting controlled tests of an actual collision. Lifelike dummies were used in the experiment.

THE RESULT of that test were shocking. The need for immediate action to correct dangerous defaults in the design of school buses, and the need for specially designed safety equipment, was clear.

When the UCLA research engineers released their report in 1967, it was no surprise to find they had rated school bus design low in passenger safety.

Immediately after the report was submitted to me, I informed the other members of the board of the results of the test. They joined in urging Governor Regan and the State Legislature to obtain legislation incorporating the recommendations made in the UCLA report.

Since then, there have been three amendments to the regulation governing the construction, design, and operation of school buses: additional strengthening for fastening seats to the bus body, heavy laminated glass for all windows and exits, and safety belts for the driver's seat.

STILL, many of the most important recommendations of the UCLA report are yet to be implemented, although a resolution to accomplish this is now in the State Legislature.

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