

# Proposition 3: \$250 Million School Bond Issue

By HENRY C. MACARTHUR  
Capital News Service  
SACRAMENTO — For the next several issues this column will deal with the propositions to be voted on at the Nov. 5 general election.

Proposition 3 is a relatively simple legislative act, which asks the people of the state if they want to go in debt another \$250 million for the University of California, the state colleges, and for the replacement of "run-down, dilapidated" urban schools.

The people of the state so

far have never turned down a bond issue for educational purposes, but there always is a first time. With tax tempers being what they are in 1968, it is wholly possible that Nov. 5 may be the first time.

Argument on behalf of the \$250 million tax bite, which actually is not \$250 million, but \$413,125,000 including minimum interest charges over a period of 40 years, are written by Senator Albert S. Rodda (D-Sacramento) and Assemblyman William T. Bagley (R-S a

Rafael) and Winfield Shoemaker (D-Lompoc). Rodda is chairman of the senate education committee.

The arguments contend that the additional \$250 million for higher education is necessary to provide facilities in the future for the University, which is expanding to nine campuses throughout the state, and the state colleges, campuses for four of which have been provided by law, but not constructed because of lack of funds.

Not all of the \$250 mil-

lion, however, will go to higher education. Out of the total, the legislature provided that \$50 million should be spent for renovation of elementary and secondary schools in urban districts which can't afford construction costs.

It's obvious that the educational clique can use all the money it can get for the construction of new facilities. But it's a question as to whether it is necessary for the state at this time to provide another \$250 million for higher education

and the urban schools, as Senator John Harmer (R-Glendale) says in writing the argument against adoption of the bonding proposal.

The Glendale senator points out that the state at the present moment has an outstanding and authorized bonded indebtedness of \$6,279 billion which would be increased to \$6,529 if the bond issue is adopted. And the people of the state would be required under the act to provide an interest payment of \$16.5 million annually just to pay the charg-

es for this proposed new indebtedness, a sum which added to bond retirement costs would be added to the annual budget which has grown to more than \$5 billion a year.

He contends further that the bond money can't be used even if it is available, for more than two years. Further, with unsold bonds authorized by the voters of the state of \$1.5 billion, the bond market is glutted with California bonds, and were the bonds sold, the interest rates would be higher.

"The desired purposes for this bond issue can safely wait for at least another two years when the market will be more receptive, and the cost to the taxpayer not so high," Senator Harmer concluded.

In addition, he pointed out that not only does the state have a large amount of unsold bonds, but cities, counties, local agencies, and rapid transit districts are contemplating bond sales within a short time, which will result in saturation of the bond market.

## What Are You Majoring In?

## HERB CAEN SAYS:

### Kirk Douglas Causes a Stir

Joe the Toe Vetrano, the former 49er star who's now a partner in Del Vecchio's, runs a Sunday bus from his restaurant to Kezar Stadium before the game. "On the way out," he says, "I give a little lecture on pro football. After the game, we come back to the restaurant for a defeat dinner."

Our Victorian houses contain some grotesque secrets, and Auctioneer Reeder Butterfield gets to see a lot of them — blood-curdling and otherwise. A few days ago, he invaded the Divisadero St. home of a great widow lady who died recently and found, spread out on the grand piano, the skin of her pet airzdale, complete with stuffed head. Alongside was a silver-framed photo of the dog in happier days . . . Poet-Singer Rod McKuen, who starved here long enough, is now truly in the big chips and getting chippier. His "Stanyan Street and Other Sorrows" and "Listen to the Warm" will be a Book-of-the-Month dual selection in November — and that means 100 G's at least . . . Mike Reagan, 23-year-old son of the Governor, was here to demonstrate Power Mac, a new lightweight chain saw.

This town, usually blasé about movie stars, lost its cool for Kirk Douglas. When he walked into Kan's, the waiter captain did a doubletake, waiters juggled trays, customers dropped chopsticks and he had to eat with his left hand while signing autographs with his right. At the bazaar across the street, where he bought a kimono, a minor riot ensued and he had to get out of there. On the sidewalk, a pretty brunette snuggled up to him and said, "Can I have my picture taken with you?" "Sure," said Kirk affably, putting his arm around her — whereupon the guy with the camera looked up menacingly and snapped: "Hey, knock that off, that's my WIFE!" Ah, the public . . .

## A Letter . . . ... To My Son

By Tom Rische  
High School Teacher and Youth Worker

Dear Bruce,

The United States isn't the only country that has race and nationality problems, we learned from travelling in Europe this summer.

We met a New Zealander, who solemnly assured us that although some of his best friends are Maoris (the original New Zealanders, a dark-skinned polynesian people), he's not sure he'd want them living next door.

The English, too, have their problems with dark-skinned—Negro and Indian—immigrants from Africa, the West Indies, India, and Pakistan. Papers and book report considerable friction between the whites and blacks.

A Belgian teacher was eager to tell us how we should solve our racial problems, which he felt was entirely different than those of the Belgians. In that Maryland-sized country, there are two warring groups—the Flemings (of Dutch stock) and the Walloons (of French stock).

The country has two official languages—Dutch and French. Signs in the French areas direct you to Anvers, Bruxelles, or Louvain, while the same cities in Flemish areas are called Antwerpen, Brussel, and Leuven.

Although most Belgians speak both French and Dutch, when they get together, they often talk English because they dislike each other so. They're united only by a common religion—Catholicism.

Although the Flemish are in a majority, a majority of the aristocrats and government leaders are French-speaking. Parliament is conducted in two different languages and King Baudouin has to be careful to divide his time between the two areas.

The Belgians are even going so far as to segregate their university classes by nationality (perhaps with some encouragement from the French by Charles De Gaulle). As far as I could see, however, restrooms and drinking fountains are still integrated.

In recent years, the split seems to be becoming more pronounced, and many feel it retards the growth of the country, but it still goes on.

Your for less prejudice,  
YOUR DAD

## Your Right to Know Is the Key to All Your Liberties - Comment and Opinion -

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1968

### Headed for Breakdown

While essential government services are falling apart, more and more of the federal taxpayer's money is being spent on evermore numerous, costly and unneeded programs providing support in one form or another to U. S. citizens. An example is to be found in the plight of the Post Office Department.

If reports are correct, the post office is unbelievably far behind in applying modern technology to the handling of the mails. Curbs are being imposed on postal service to help alleviate the postal deficit, yet billions of dollars under hundreds of programs are handed out each year

in the name of federal-assistance to the American people. At latest count, there were at least 1,000 federal-assistance programs. They range from graduate scholarships to low-cost housing subsidies. Total cost of these programs, it is estimated, is in excess of \$20 billion yearly.

The American people would be better served if government would spend their tax money and its energy on needed government services. Law enforcement, postal service, and airway facilities might be a good place to start. We need this more than a federal wet-nurse that we can't afford to carry us from the cradle to the grave.

### A One-Way Street

All sorts of plans have been put forward to cure our ailing postal system. The noted columnist Mr. Milton Friedman offers a solution. . . . simply repeal the present provision making it illegal for private enterprise to provide mail service. Competition would quickly set modern technology to work in the transmission of mail, and simultaneously lower the cost to the consumer. The government system would have to shape up or ship out."

We have heard much about the merit of government electric plants as "yardsticks" to judge the performance of the investor-owned electric companies. Why not apply the same

reasoning to the postal system and open the way for a private enterprise "yardstick" to judge the performance of the Post Office. Mr. Friedman gives a number of reasons why his proposal for a private enterprise postal operation will never be permitted. Chief among them, of course, is the fact that too many people have a stake in preserving the existing patronage-ridden government postal system.

At any rate, the case of the Post Office is a good illustration of why extension of government into commercial enterprise should be relentlessly opposed. When government enters business, it is nearly impossible to get it out. Government in business is a one-way street.



ROYCE BRIER

### Russians Find the Way To Halt 'Youth' Revolt

A considerable share of the young of America is dubious of the society presumably shaped for them by their elders. Some of them have pro-Moscow tendencies, or did until the Czech intervention.

Some of these are activists in the college revolt sweep-

ing the country between Columbia and Berkeley, though a Marxian "conspiracy" in this revolt is not plausible.

Most of the students, non-Marxists, just don't like the rigid state of the educational tradition, and feel their voice as budding adults is being suppressed by superannuated college controls.

Without derogating their

ence (in) the population, especially youth" . . . The Prague government must "resolutely strengthen Communist party activities in the state agencies, "in the ideological and public spheres."

Opinions on Affairs of the World

cause of freeing education from hide-bound ideas, it is recommended they study the conditions of life imposed by the occupation of Czechoslovakia.

The original incursion of tanks in Prague and roundabout has somewhat abated, but the freedom movement has been effectively curbed for the present cycle. Alexander Dubcek and his people have been forced into a corner where they have no choice but to abolish the rights they so courageously asserted a few months ago.

Last week the terms of this suppression were firmly set forth by Pravda, the newspaper of the Soviet Communist Party. It said it is not enough that the Prague government put down hostile acts toward the Russian soldiery, such as the display of anti-Soviet posters and animosity toward the invaders. These are only "outward aspects" of what the Kremlin euphemistically call "normalization."

Here is the Pravda definition: "normalization means, first of all, the complete exposure and stamping out of the subversive right-wing and antisocialist forces, the elimination of their influ-

## Mailbox

### School Leader Adds Praise

To the Editor:

Many of us with the Torrance Unified School District read your editorial, "Schools Open Tomorrow," in the September 11 issue of the Press-Herald with great interest and gratitude.

It was especially gratifying to note the specific aspects of Torrance schools on which you commented—the accomplishments of teachers and students, the special reading and language programs, the central library, and the manner in which school officials have kept pace with growth while expanding and improving the program over the past twenty years.

But most of all, we would like to thank you for the tribute to the parents—the tutors and taxpayers who are as much a part of the system as the teachers. You are so right! Without the support of Torrance parents for the past two decades, Torrance schools could never have achieved the position of academic excellence they hold today.

Sincerely,  
J. H. HULL  
Superintendent

## WILLIAM HOGAN

### Two Publishers Offer Story of the Beatles

Things are going just fine with the Beatles, those very intelligent, very talented young men from Liverpool, thank you. They don't perform in public any more. They perform on records. Their gross annual income remains at about 1 million pounds sterling. Beatle records, in five years, have grossed a total of 70 million pounds sterling, mostly in foreign currency. There are film royalties, franchises, other income (the British taxes are frightening), all of it filtered through something called Apple Corps, Ltd., the main Beatle business company. And in this country there are TWO full-dress biographies of the young gentlemen composers and performers.

"The Beatles," an authorized biography by Hunter Davies, a Scottish journalist and writer (McGraw-Hill; \$5.95), and "The Beatles: The Real Story," presumably unauthorized, by Julius Fast, an American, and the brother of novelist Howard Fast (Putnam's; \$5.95). McGraw-Hill's winning of-

fer was the authorized biography was \$150,000 as an advance on royalties. Putnam's was in on the bidding, but stopped at \$75,000.

Sam Stewart, McGraw's trade book division executive editor, said in New York, the other day: "Putnam's liked our book enough to bid \$75,000. I guess when

#### Browsing Through the World of Books

they didn't win they went out and got their own Beatle book."

A Putnam's spokesman said Putnam's had been looking around for a Beatle book, and picked Julius Fast to deliver it. Fast has never met a Beatle. Davies, the "authorized" biographer, made a contract with the Beatles that he would be the only writer they would tell their stories to. He spent a lot of time with John, Paul, George and Ringo.

The Putnam's man said: "There is no real sense of intimacy in either book, so that's not an issue." Sam Stewart, who natur-

## Press-Herald

Glenn W. Pfeil  
Publisher

Reid L. Bundy  
Editor and Co-Publisher

Published Each  
Wednesday and Sunday

2218 W. Sepulveda Blvd.  
Torrance, Calif. 90510