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SMALL MEDICAL CENTER
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CHURCHES - SCHOOLS
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PRAYER FOR TODAY

Our Father, bless our homes, that in them there may be reflected a faith that sustains one another even as we are sustained by Thee; a hope that builds for the future even as we are granted a hope eternal; and a love that forgives and redeems even as we are forgiven and redeemed in Thy love. May every child of Thine find his home in the fellowship of Thy family and Thy Son, Jesus Christ, Amen.

—Don A. Sanford, White Cloud, Mich., editor, Seventh Day Baptist Adult Quarterly, The Helping Hand.

EDITORIALS

Monday Holidays

Change Washington's Birthday to Presidents' Day and move it from February 22 to the third Monday in February?

Observe Independence Day on the first Monday in July, regardless of when July 4th fell? Heresy, you say?

Not to a growing number of people who support the idea of uniform Monday holidays.

Last March a Sunday newspaper magazine supplement invited readers to return a ballot indicating their views about changing the dates of certain nonreligious holidays so that they would occur regularly on Mondays. It reported a deluge of returns—180,001 in favor, only 10,004 opposed.

A few months before that, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce polled its members on the question and found an overwhelming 85 per cent approval. Most of the businessmen said the change would help their production and work schedules by avoiding the stop-start interruptions caused by mid-week holidays.

The chamber is now actively supporting legislation in Congress, where several bills have been introduced in both the House and Senate. Although a federal law on uniform Monday holidays would be applicable only to the District of Columbia the chamber believes it would encourage the states to follow suit.

Broadest of the bills is S. 1217, sponsored by Sen. George Smathers, D-Fla. In addition to changing Washington's Birthday to Presidents' Day in honor of all presidents and fixing Independence Day on a Monday, it would move Memorial Day (now May 30) to the last Monday in May, Veterans Day (November 11) to the last Monday in October and Thanksgiving Day from the fourth Thursday to the fourth Monday in November.

Neither this, nor any of the other bills, would affect Christmas, New Year's Day or Easter.

Our present holiday observance dates are less traditional than most people assume, says the chamber in answer to one objection.

Washington's Birthday, for example, was really February 11 under the old Julian calendar in use at the time. The Continental Congress actually approved the resolution of independence on July 2, 1776. This was the date John Adams thought should be celebrated.

Another and perhaps stronger argument is that Monday holidays, by extending weekends to three days, would cause more traffic accidents than one-day, midweek holidays.

Various studies show that sometimes this is true, sometimes not. Traffic fatalities during one-day holiday weekends often exceed those of holiday weekends.

The National Safety Council has stated: "That from a traffic safety viewpoint, one highway deaths provide no argument for or against Monday holidays."

The idea of uniform Monday holidays is not a new one, but the momentum behind it is building. It seems likely that in the not too distant future, Americans, speaking through their state and national representatives, will be given an opportunity to make a final decision about it.

Soviet No Wheeled Utopia

Fond hopes that the Soviet Union's strategy to step up its production of automobiles heralds a consumer revolution in the workers' paradise are detoured by statistics.

The Central Intelligence Agency has delved into the matter. It reported to a congressional subcommittee that a planned increase in Soviet car output from the current 200,000 units a year to 1.1 million in 1975 would roughly equal to that of the United States in 1917.

There are already more than twice as many people in Russia in 1967 as there were in the United States in 1917. A car in every garageski is nowhere in sight.

Opinions Of The People

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I thought that I would stop awhile
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Now I know that many read of it
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You only live from day to day
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You take her to do all these things
Because it's easy there in reach
You laugh and give about the war
About the guys that are over here
You laugh and say you beat the draft
Then you say you don't fear
You have your fancy convertibles
You have your loads of fun
While many of our good buddies
Are walking in war with a gun
You're fighting here in Vietnam
Each day brings something new
But freedom is what we're fighting for
And not all these things that we
Yes, yes, Vietnam is a strange place
It's a strange type of land
But it will have its freedom someday
Reason: We Americans will stand

ST. CHARLES R. CARTRIGHT

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE

In reply to "A Desperate Parent"

In your opinion published Jan. 10, you requested help to expand and repair the Day Care Center for Retarded Children. I'm sorry I cannot help you, but I also have a suggestion.

Vallejo teens are willing to supply such a good cause but usually don't have money or materials to contribute.

If instead, you could help in the form of volunteer work, I'm sure teens will contribute their time and energy. Of course our skills are limited, but most of us have good work skills with painting, cleaning and yard work. Even if you can afford professional workers, they'll be better off with a big crew.

Vallejo teens would also be willing to serve day students if they were needed. I would remember, retarded children often attend public school along with everyone else and those of us who care in other ways would be a little frustrated and honest help can do.

Also, the type of work you would volunteer are usually those who can and are willing to follow instructions.

Of course adult volunteers would have more skills, but adults are also busy people. Teens have the time and energy needed.

If you feel you can use volunteer help the best way to get results would probably be to advertise in the Teen Page, which most teens read.

Thank you and good luck.

MONEY POOR BUT WILLING.

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In response to a recent pro-Viet War editorial, an individual does not have to support the Vietnam war to be an American patriot. There is a credibility gap American nationalism is the answer to solving war problems. In these times of the nuclear bomb, no does American nationalism mean our Vietnam war policy is stable.

A massive blood war is raging in the little Southwest Asian corner of Vietnam. The United States is at undeclared war with North Vietnam and the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam. About one million people have been killed and mutilated in North Vietnam, and about five thousands Americans have been killed. What is the value behind each side that support such a holocaust?

It is the desire for fighting because of their fears. Vietnam defends itself out of fear of being controlled by an unknown nation. The United States has no choice but to beat China in the march to stop something out of fear that it is part of a complex plot to destroy freedom. One or both countries are wrong in their beliefs.

If Vietnam is wrong, they have nothing to lose. The United States is wrong, they have nothing to lose by leaving a lawful land. The enormous cost has to do with the massive slaughter and misery is to be honest with you, the war drag on.

Universally, yes.

DENNIS MCGRAW A.A.

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE

Have we the people of the State of California been "taken-in"?

Harold Reagan and his administration have been in office seven months. Let's recap: First, the governor's mansion was not good enough for people he wanted to see extra tax levied.

Second, the governor's office was inadequate—no carpet and furniture purchased.

Third, mental hospitals and colleges under attack with no money to pay for them.

Fourth, New taxes are a reality—they are paying them daily.

Fifth, the taxpayer was promised—It is still just talk.

I would suggest the question in the affirmative. How about you?

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