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People On the Move

San Francisco, California — Thomas A. Cardoza, 42, formerly District Director of the Internal Revenue Service's Detroit District is the new Regional Commissioner of the Service's Western Region.



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Automobile Insurance Now Mandatory

California's first compulsory automobile insurance law went into effect Jan. 1, and those unlucky enough to be caught without insurance will face stiff penalties.

The law is designed to protect motorists from "financially irresponsible" drivers and owners, and requires every vehicle be covered by minimum collision insurance.

The penalties for violation range from a \$100 fine to loss of driver's license and vehicle registration. Drivers involved in an accident could be required to furnish proof of insurance coverage to Department of Motor Vehicles for an indefinite period.

The owner of the vehicle without insurance, as well as the driver, is subject to the new law.

The American Agents Alliance, an insurance industry association, estimates that nearly 25 per cent of all drivers are currently uninsured.

The minimum cost per year for a 20-year-old college male with a clean driving record and no previous insurance would be \$170, according to Clark Bowen of College Student Insurance Service.

The cost of insurance is dependent on a number of factors including age, marital and school status, driving record and sex.

Bowen said that someone with an extremely bad driving record could expect to pay \$350 or more per year for insurance.

The liability coverage required by the law must include bodily injury coverage of \$15,000 for one person, \$30,000

bodily injury coverage for one accident and property damage coverage of \$5,000.

The law says that anyone involved in an accident without insurance will lose his driver's license, regardless of fault. If fault is proved in a court action, the non-insured driver and the owner of the vehicle will lose their driver's licenses, and all their car registrations will be suspended until they establish financial responsibility.

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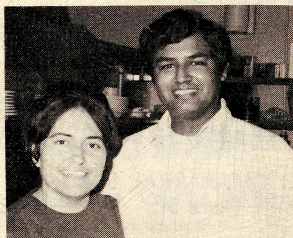
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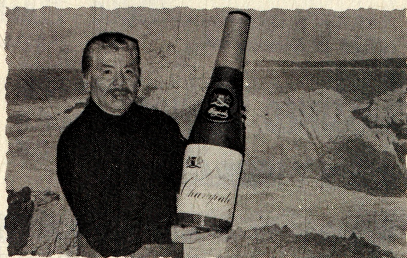
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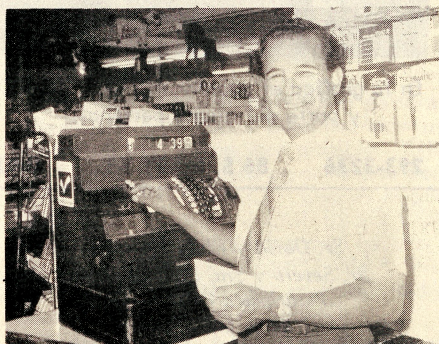
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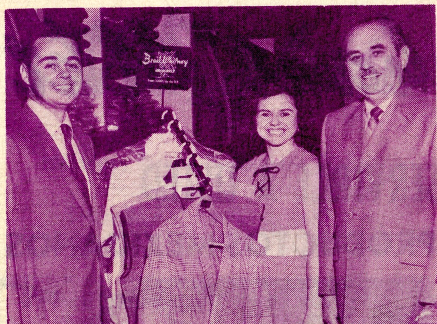
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Año Nuevo Vida Nueva

Muchas personas saludan la llegada de un nuevo año con estas palabras; Año Nuevo, Vida Nueva; pero en realidad siguen la misma rutina de los años anteriores y así pasan la vida, un año tras otro sin cambios de significación. En cambio, hay otras personas que si se inclinan a buscar una vida nueva y en una forma u otra de año en año le dan nuevo derrotero a su vida desde luego con miras a su mejoramiento y beneficio personal o en servicio de la comunidad.

Esto no quiere decir que estas personas piensen en hacer cambios drásticos o radicales en sus costumbres y ocupaciones, pero si procuran enmendar sus pasados errores o indiferencias. Si se trata de un trabajador, buscará hacer mejor sus tareas o trabajos que le encomiendan y así lograr un dominio más amplio de su oficio, con lo cual, puede obtener una promoción y además un aumento en su salario. Si se trata de un industrial, se esforzará en mejorar sus productos, lo cual le dará la preferencia de los consumidores, logrando superar en ventas a los que no se preocupan por mejorar sus productos.

En el caso del comerciante, su propósito debe ser el de ofrecer a su clientela los productos y mercancías más útiles, más bien hechas o elaboradas ya sean estos, muebles, ropa, comestibles etc. etc. y a los precios más bajos posibles.

Los profesionistas también debieran hacer el propósito de aumentar sus conocimientos en el ramo a que se dediquen, con el fin de servir más eficazmente a su clientela; por ejemplo: Un médico procurará estar al tanto de los adelantos de la ciencia médica o por lo menos, de las nuevas técnicas y prácticas en su especialidad. Un médico que no esté al día, puede dejar morir a un paciente, por no conocer las nuevas formas de aplicar algunos tratamientos o algunas operaciones.

Un abogado se hará el propósito de enterarse de todas aquellos decretos o leyes que puedan favorecer a su cliente; si el abogado no está al corriente, puede perder

su caso por falta de conocimientos en las últimas leyes o decretos.

El ingeniero constructor de casas o edificios se afanará en estudiar los mejores lugares para construir, los terrenos más firmes, la mejor orientación y la superior calidad de los materiales.

La lista sería interminable si cada una de las actividades del individuo se enumeraran aquí, en estas reducidas líneas. Pero en general se puede decir, que cada quien en su ocupación, debe buscar la forma de superarse; esto además de ser en beneficio de las personas con quien traten, es también en su propio beneficio.

Para hacer que sean realidad las palabras Año Nuevo, Vida Nueva, podemos hacer un programa muy simple, por ejemplo: "Esto no se puede hacer," debe cambiarse por: **TRATARE DE HACERLO.** "Que es lo que tiene mal?" mejor decir **QUE ES LO QUE ESTA BIEN.** "No hay tiempo para hacerlo," cambiarlo por: **HARE TIEMPO PARA HACERLO.** "Lo dejaré para mañana," debe decirse; **LO HARE HOY MISMO.**

Todos sabemos que cuando el agua se estanca, se echa a perder, se pudre; para que esto no suceda, el agua tiene que estar en movimiento. Esta misma regla se puede aplicar al individuo, si este se estaciona sin moverse de una situación, se quedará estancado, como el agua, pero si por el contrario entra en actividad, busca mejorar, está alerta a las oportunidades y se mezcla en el oleaje del progreso constante, éste individuo está haciendo su parte como importante engrane en la maquinaria que sostiene en movimiento el progreso y la civilización; puede decir con seguridad: Año Nuevo, Vida Nueva.

Otra forma de hacer efectivas estas palabras, es reafirmar nuestras relaciones familiares, olvidando las dificultades que nos han distanciado, reforzando nuestro círculo familiar. Si nos hemos distanciado de nuestras amistades, nos podemos hacer el propósito de reanudar nueva mente nuestras relaciones amistosas.

Entonces podemos hacer del Año Nuevo una Vida Nueva.

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AGE

Being a member of a minority group, specifically, a Mexican-American, I have learned from my own experience—

Age itself, or the process of Aging presents natural problems. That being an individual is a state of mind, physically, mentally and more specifically, emotionally.

Similar to descending on an inclined plane and being pulled by the force of gravity.

The fact that a person feels that he is becoming useless, that he is in the way, that his health is failing, that his hearing is not acute, that his sight is not sharp, that he is not able to communicate adequately what he feels by way of "Love."

My advice to all of you would be to become involved and stay involved. It is a lot of fun for one thing. It opens up unsuspected horizons of pleasure, satisfaction and rewards. At least that has been my experience in my many years of my life.

Joe Gaxiola

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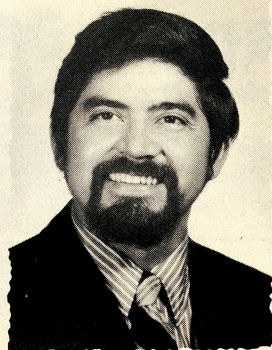
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People Helping People

A MATTER OF SAFETY — Jose Sanchez, left, a compliance officer for the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), takes notes during a construction site inspection as a worker looks on. Sanchez, who works out of OSHA's Fort Lauderdale area office, is often called upon to explain the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 in Spanish to Hispanic American employers and employees.

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L to R: Joe, Mauro, Pete, Jose y Al

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CRITICA SOCIAL



por
**Rudy
Belloumini**



"Las injurias echan más hondas raíces que los beneficios."—Séneca — **INSULTS PROJECT A LOT DEEPER ROOTS THAN THE BENEFITS.**

The SANTA CLARA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT. has hired 29 new deputies during the month of December; they are among 49 "extra help" deputies brought into the sheriff's department after a court action filed by CHICANOS put a freeze on hiring of permanent deputies. The remaining 20 of the 49 candidates either have failed the test or are still preparing for it.

The following is a copy of the CHICANO SHERIFF'S TEST written and circulated within the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Department. It resulted with the suspension of five of the Sheriff's men for 24 hours. What do you think reader?

CHICANO CHERIFF TEST

1. If Juan Hernandez Garcia has a '55 Chevy with 43 purple dingle balls hanging from his windows. How many dingle balls does Juan have? Answers:

- A. Purple
- B. Orange
- C. Blue
- D. Cheevy
- E. 43
- F. All of the above

2. What colors are the red lights on the top of a patrol car? Answers:

- A. 55
- B. 43
- C. 72
- D. Hike
- E. Red

3. The minimum height of a car from the ground is 2 inches. Answers:

- A. True
- B. False

4. The proper (best) method to break a piña-ta is: Answers

- A. Empty tequila bottle
- B. Full tequila bottle
- C. 12 gauge shotgun with .00 buck shot
- D. Mace

- E. Baton
- F. Anti tank weapon

5. Conchita Morales has a welfare check for \$200 dollars. Her favorite wine will cost her \$1.00 per gallon. How many gallons of her favorite win can she buy? Answers:

- A. Red Mountain
- B. Viva la Raza
- C. 200 gallons
- D. Tamale pie
- E. 1 bean for a giant bean stalk.

6. What day is the "best dinger special" at Tacc Bell? Answers:

- A. Sunday
- B. Sunday
- C. Sunday
- D. When Mary Garcia works
- E. On Cinco de Mayo

7. The Cherrif of Santa Clara County is: Answers:

- A. Pancho Villa
- B. Speedy Gonzales
- C. Ricardo Montebalm
- D. Fernando Lamas
- E. Fernando Lamas
- E. Pinky Lee
- F. James Geary

8. Part of every deputy cherrif's uniform will consist of: Answers:

- A. Dingle balls hanging from his hat
- B. A red or blue bandana wrapped tightly around his forehead
- C. 1 roach clip
- D. A plastic nesus
- E. All of the above

9. Please define the word battery as used in the Penal Code. Answers:

- A. Pitcher-catcher combination
- B. Hitting someone
- C. De ting dat poots da juce in your chort
- E. A place where you raise rats.

10. An essay is a type of test question? Answers:

- A. True
- B. False

10. Margarita Frijole picks 20 tomatoes in one hour. How many tomatoes can Margarita pick in one hour? Answers:

- A. 20
- B. None, the Immigration authorities ran her off
- C. 1 hour
- D. None, she is a Frijole

11. Please spell the following word: Sheriff. Answers:

- A. Cheriff
- B. Honky

C. Peeg
D. Federales
E. Sheriff

12. If one train can go from Tijuana to El Paso in 2 hours; and return from El Paso in 1 hour; how many kilos of grass would be carried to El Paso by airplane? Answers:

- A. I don't got to say nothing
- B. None. It would be smoked on the way
- C. Would you repeat the question?
- D. Who the hell is robbing this train



Introducing the city staff for the police office of CRIME PREVENTION and COMMUNITY RELATIONS, located at 2244 Story Road. Standing from L-R: Dee Contreras, Sgt. Bob Lira, director of this Eastside office; Officer Rich Reyes and Rudy Belluomini, HRC Spec. Back row: Officers: Bob Johnson, Rich Baily, Joe Ochoa, Jim McGrew and City Adm. Dick Kleiner. Not in picture are officers Mike Nickols and Jack E. Haff. (Bureau Chief of this Police Unit is Captain Ike Hernandez).

MINI-GOSSIP: ANDY FLORES, City Personnel Dept., tells me about 100 city jobs will be opening NOW for janitors, firefighters, typists, receptionist, part-maintenance men, y que mas, no se; these are federally-funded positions under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CEDA). If you are unemployed, apply at E.D.D. office, antes HRD; referrals will then be made to City Personnel Dept. under C.E.D.A. positions. If you need help, call ANDY FLORES, 277-4000, Ext. 4204 . . . PACHANGUEROS! for your kind of bailes, drop by CARLOS CASTILLO'S "PALACIO LATINO" en San Jose, **es pura movida** . . . Beware of National Talent Associates of San Mateo telling you parents that your children have talent providing you pay \$135 fee and will promise to find high-paying jobs for them. The California Attorney General's office has filed a civil suit against NTA. . . .

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Taller Mexicano de Mecanica



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DON'T LET ANYONE CONFUSE YOU

Do not give up your Medi-Cal card from the Welfare Department. It is the **ONLY** card that gives you the legal right to choose your own doctor. Yes, with your Medi-Cal card from the County Welfare Department you can be seen by the majority of doctors in San Jose and any part of California. Hold on to your Medi-Cal card, and do not exchange it for any other card. Protect your right to see any doctor you want to see.

DON'T LET ANY ONE FOOL YOU

Don't sign-up with any private medical group of doctors. These groups will force you to see a doctor who is a member of the group. You will have to get all your medical care from him, whether you like him or not. You cannot go to a hospital of your choice.

Those who have already signed-up with any medical group should get in touch with their Social Worker at the County Welfare Department who will help them get back their Medi-Cal card, which is the only card accepted by most doctors, and by all the hospitals, laboratories, and drug stores.

NO SE DEJEN CONFUNDIR

Conserven su Tarjeta de Medi-Cal del Departamento de Welfare del Estado de California, que es la unica tarjeta que les da derecho a consultar y ser atendidos por cualquier doctor que ustedes necesiten y deseen ver. Si, con su Tarjeta de Medi-Cal pueden hacerse ver por la gran mayoria de los doctores en San Jose y cualquier parte de California.

NO SE DEJEN CONFUNDIR

No firmen con ningún grupo médico porque esos grupos los limitan a ver sólo a unos cuantos doctores que pertenecen al grupo. Protejan su derecho de ver a cualquier doctor que ustedes gusten.

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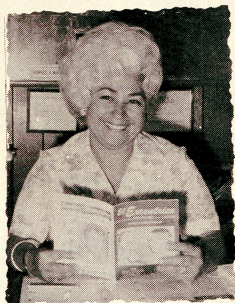
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El locutor de Radio KAZA Fredie Morales luciendo sus pasos de Cumbia y arrancando aplausos de la concurrencia. Quien será el globito?



La Feliz pareja, Alberto Gutiérrez y su esposa. El señor Gutiérrez es locutor de la Estación de Radio KGEL de Santa Clara. Los esposos Gutiérrez envían una sonrisa y un saludo de Año Nuevo a los lectores de EL EXCENTRICO.

Martín Río, Presidente
certificado de agradecimiento
La Sra. Yolanda y su
Latina, de San José.



Los fantásticos Ases de Ritmo. De izquierda a derecha: Roberto García, (Concas). Francisco King, (Guitarina) Roberto Díaz, Director (Trompeta) Justo Valenzuela, (Bass) y Arturo del Río. Todos dicen que son solteros con mucha salsa y buscan novia.



El Club Acuña, hace entrega de un premio a la señora Yolanda Gonzalez. El esposo Isidro son los gerentes de Música

Dolores Alvarado from Yuma Arizona, participo en las fiestas patrias celebradas em San Jose.



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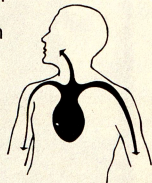
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- The pain or discomfort is often accompanied by sweating. Nausea, vomiting and shortness of breath may also occur.
- Sometimes these symptoms subside and then return. Don't wait. Act immediately.



What to Do

1. Call your doctor and carefully describe your symptoms.
2. If your doctor is not immediately available, get to a hospital emergency room at once.

The decision to obtain help should not be left to the patient's judgment alone. It is also the responsibility of the wife, husband, relative or friend.

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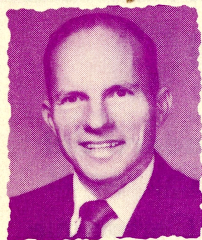
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Walter Chang

4th

Antone Esteban

Best "D"

Julio A. Sierra

Best "Unrated"

David Abramson

Best Past Champion

Dr. A. D. Chappell

2nd

Juan F. Sierra

3rd

Francisco A. Sierra

Co-Champion—Female

Amada Sierra

Co-Champion—Female

Yeida Chang

3rd

Victoria Duarte

Best Girl "19 and Under"

Lorraine Hansen

Best Girl "15 and Under"

Christina Chang

Best Girl "10 and Under"

Monica Sanjur

Champion—Junior

Richard Koepcke

2nd

James O'Hara

3rd

Wally Naranjo

4th

John Hyde

Best "15 and Under"

Alberto Barocio, Jr.

2nd

Wally Naranjo

Best "10 and Under"

Alberto Barocio, Jr.

2nd

Monica Sanjur

Chessplayers meet the second Saturday of every month from 6:45 to 11:15 p.m., at G. W. Savings, 2200 El Camino Real, Santa Clara, Ca.



1) The Co-Champions (Alasua vs. Radke) in the "finals."



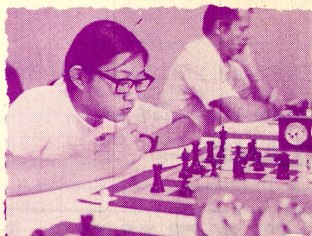
2) The Co-Champions receiving their prizes.



3) The Best Past-Champion, Dr. A. D. Chapell



4) The Co-Champion Female, Amada Sierra.



5) The Co-Champion Female, Yeida Chang.



6) The 2nd Past-Champion, Juan Sierra.

BENEFICIAS PARA LAS PERSONAS QUE ESTAN SIN TRABAJO

Segun informes de State Employment Development Department, muchas personas podrán reclamar su seguro de desempleo, de emergencia este ha sido extendido a trabajadores tales como los de la agricultura, domésticos y empleados del Gobierno; que nunca antes han tenido este beneficio.

Para ser elegible una persona, debe estar sin empleo, debe estar buscando empleo, debe haber ganado por lo menos \$750.00 Setecientos Cincuenta Dlls., durante las ultimas 52 semanas anteriores a la fecha en que presente su declaro y no ser elegible a seguro de desempleo bajo las antiguas reglas.

Se informa que la cantidad de \$750.00 Setecientos cincuenta dollars o mas se pueden ganado en otros Estados, no solo en California.

Las reglas requieren que el patrón o patrones de la persona que hace el reclamo, sean notificados y reporten por escrito cuales fueron las ganancias del empleado y la razón que tuvieron para despedirlo.

Las oficinas de empleo tienen que esperar 7 dias para que el o los patrones contesten.

Las personas interesadas pueden informarse en la oficina de Employment Development Department más cercana a su domicilio o llamar al teléfono 225-2575. Donde pueden obtener mas amplia informacion en Español.

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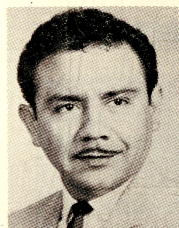
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Club San Felipe



Candy Veliz

A Happy New Year, full of health and prosperity are our most fondest wishes for each and everyone of you in 1975.



Photo shows L to R: Ruben Flores, Al Garcia, Mario Garcia, Amdor Urrabazo and Tino Castillo. They are the back bone of our bowling team however; at this time the back bone is not very strong since we are in last place. We have one consolation, our team can only go up and if not I'll have to import Jess M. Herrera and Wencho Calderon to give our team a few fine points in the art of bowling. Si Chuy!

OIL

The oil countries are giving us a bad time and we are too nice to do anything about it. Why can't Pres. Ford say, You have oil and we have food, no oil, no food. We can survive without their oil, but they can't survive without our food. My opinion is that we have an oil crisis. Por brutos. Excuse my language, but if you can think of a better word say it.

BAILAMOS?

Cheer-up, things aren't that bad, go dancing at Maria's Night Club on N. 13th St. in San Jose. The place is cheerful and you can always have a good time there.

If you need furniture go to Muebles Hacienda at 226 S. First St., San Jose. Our prices are the lowest in the region and everything you buy is guaranteed. Si Necesita Muebles no hay lugar mejor para encontrar lo mejor por menos, que en Muebles Hacienda. Dulce lo espera.

REMINDER

Send in the names of your favorite band, most handsome man, most beautiful lady, favorite nite club, best dressed male, best dressed female, best musician, etc., etc. to Candy, care of El Excentrico.



Photo shows Club San Felipe's sharp shooters, they have gotten so good, that if nothing else they can now hit the target. Disregard the last sentence because this sharp shooter always have a ball when they go on a shoot-out and that's what it's all about.

LATIN PALACE

When on an evening of dancing, don't forget Carlos Castillo, Maria Esther and the Latin Palace, their music is superb. Tell Carlitos, Dulce sent you.

Flash

CLUB ZARAPE

Sammy Lopez and Bob Mercado will very soon open this completely renewed nite club. It is located at 365 E. Julian in San Jose. Formally it used to be El Rumbalow. Bob Aguilar is their manager. Cocktails everyday of the week and dancing on weekends. Watch for the Grand Opening the first or second week in January. Good luck Sammy, Bob and Bob Aguilar. We wish you nothing but success.

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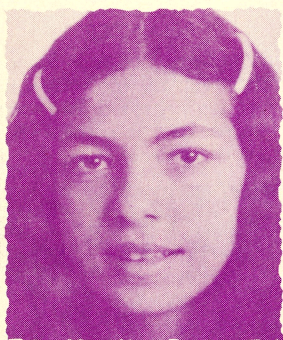


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Odalyz*

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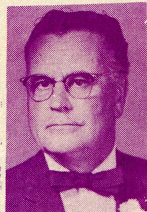
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COMENTARIOS



PEDRO DILLON

Un hermano se interesó, fué a Orán en busca de una Biblia propia y tuvo una experiencia parecida. Tan notable fue el cambio en los hermanos que ahora todo el pueblo se entusiasmó y todos querían conseguir Biblias. El cantinero costó una expedición a Orán de 30 hombres para comprar cuantos ejemplares pudiesen y para escuchar la maravillosa enseñanza. Todos volvieron cambiado igual que don Angel. Cada uno empezó a compartir las buenas nuevas que le habían transformado, y pronto había un buen grupo que se dedicó a esparcir las por toda la zona dentro de un radio de 150 kilómetros.

Cómo el CAMBIO se extiende

ALLA POR EL AÑO 1944, un boliviano que se dedicaba al contrabando pasó por un pueblo llamado Palo a Pique en la Provincia de Salta en Argentina. Dejó con don Baldomero Díaz, dueño de una cantina, un libro que alguien le había regalado, comentando que era muy pesado como para seguir llevándolo y que evidentemente era un libro mágico, porque traía la felicidad a quien lo leyera, juzgando por la gente que se lo había regalado.

El cantinero se puso a leerlo, y a pesar de que muchos detalles eran difíciles de entender, empezó a hablar a todos sus clientes de un Dios a quien hay que reverenciar y obedecer. Uno de ellos, don Angel, sentía una creciente inquietud acerca del mensaje del libro. Así transcurrieron diez años, y un día llegó la noticia de que en Orán vivía un hombre que conocía el libro y podría ayudarlo a entenderlo. Hallándose don Angel cada vez más intranquilo, finalmente emprendió el viaje, que representaba días de cabalgata además de muchas horas en tren.

Una vez en Orán, buscó al hombre que, según dijeron, sabía algo de la Biblia. Cuando encontró la casa, tenía miedo de llamar, pero se asomó por la puerta y vio una cantidad de gente sentada y escuchando mientras un hombre parado les hablaba. Y éste tenía en la mano un libro igual al de don Baldomero. Viendo eso, don Angel tomó coraje y entró.

Esa misma noche don Angel se enteró del verdadero contenido del libro —el mensaje de que Cristo vino al mundo para salvar a los hombres, y que cualquiera que se entregara a El recibiría perdón de sus pecados y una vida nueva. Aceptó las palabras como solución a su propio problema y volvió gozoso a su pueblo. Al llegar, empezó a relatar a todos sus parientes lo que le había pasado y de la gran paz que ahora llenaba su corazón.

No hace mucho, un oficial de policía de la zona, contando sus recuerdos de los años pasados, dijo, "Desde que llegó a la comarca el evangelio, los agentes de policía no tenemos mucho trabajo. Antes había mucha violencia y la gente era brutal. Con frecuencia pedíamos refuerzos a la ciudad de Salta, pero ningún policía quería venir acá, porque tenían miedo. Ahora, en cambio, la gente es buena, y a veces estamos aburridos porque no hay nada que hacer".

Este es sólo un caso de lo que puede pasar en una zona cuando la gente se interesa en el verdadero mensaje de Cristo. La historia del mundo está repleta de ejemplos de pueblos, ciudades y naciones cambiadas. Se han evitado guerras y revoluciones, los esclavos se han librado y la situación del pobre se ha aliviado— todo como resultado del esfuerzo de algunas pocas personas cambiadas por el evangelio.



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NEW BILINGUAL PROGRAM BEGINS NEXT SEMESTER AT SJSU

The SJSU School of Education, the Mexican-American Graduate Studies (MAGS) and the Linguistics Program are sponsoring a new bilingual teacher training program which begins next semester.

The program will train bilingual people to teach, minority peoples of the Mexican and Chicano cultures at the elementary school level.

It emphasizes the training of teachers to help each child develop his intellectual potential through the development of linguistic and cognitive skills in both English and Spanish.

Teachers who complete this program will also attempt to help each child understand his own cultural habits and traits in order to get along with fellow classmates of different cultural backgrounds.

Acceptance into the program requires that each candidate have a valid teaching credential the equivalent of a Bachelor's degree and meet all SJSU admission requirements.

Candidates must also show competency in basic reading, writing and oral language in Spanish and English.

The standard for selection is based on the candidate's competency and potential for success in bilingual educational settings.

MAGS chairman Hector Cordova said the classes will be limited to a maximum of 15 students each semester.

Participants who finish the program receive a Bilingual Cross-Cultural Specialist Credential and an M.A. degree in Mexican-American graduate studies with an emphasis in bilingual bicultural education.

Further information can be obtained by calling 277-2674 or 277-2242, a spokesman said.

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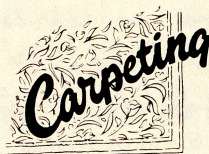
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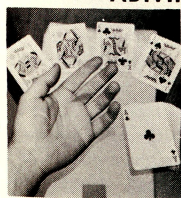
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Minority Women and Their Rights

Women's rights have been taken out of the militant, comical light and given their rightful place in Santa Clara County.

On December 26, 1973, the Board of Supervisors approved the formation of the Commission on the Status of Women. Under the terms of the new County ordinance, the Commission has the authority to protect, preserve and initiate laws to give the women of this County a better way of life.

The Commission is responsible for investigating and preventing discrimination against women in housing, employment, education, credit, legal status and in the media.

Women's rights are basically human rights that have been enjoyed by others but denied to women for many years. The bra-burning stereotypes have been replaced by sensible serious minded women who asked, "Why should women be refused credit? Why should a woman settle for less pay than a man doing the same job? Why do women remain secretaries when in fact they sometimes train the men who become their administrators. Why should the divorced woman tolerate harassment from her ex-husband in order to get child support? Why is the biggest housing problem in the country that of the single head of household minority woman? Why is it when a man is physically attacked the law sees it as assault and battery, while rape becomes a dirty joke with the innocent victim often becoming the defendant?"

These same women who asked "Why?" and were not willing to settle for second-class citizenship have demanded equal rights. The results are in our new legislation. A landlord is obligated by law to base his/her acceptance of a prospective tenant on their consistency to pay in the past. Legislation has been passed preventing lawyers from bringing out a woman's past, as part of a defense in a rape case. It is also against the law for any lending company to deny women the right to a loan when it has been established that they have the ability to pay.

Starting January 1975, late child support payments may be automatically deducted from the supporting parent's paycheck in the same manner as withholding tax. Under the new law, the parent who has custody of the child may ask the district attorney to track down the supporting parent if that person's location or job is unknown.

Commission Director, Rina Rosenberg, notes she is, "particularly concerned with the special needs of minority women who face double hardship as women and minorities and often, triple hardship as women, minorities and breadwinners."

The Commission has set up a Minority Women's Committee — this committee concerns itself with the special needs of minority women. The committee is planning a brunch workshop for Saturday, January 11, 1975, at the Mayfair Neighborhood Center from 8:45 a.m. to 12 noon. Project Outreach, as the event is called, will be the kickoff for International Women's Year.

The Commission's general meeting, Tuesday, January 14th, will also have an ethnic theme commemorating International Women's Year. The public is invited to attend the meeting in the auditorium of the County building at 1555 Berger Drive, at 7:30 p.m.

Ms. Rosenberg promised when appointed Director, that she would comply with Affirmative Action by having minorities well-represented on her staff. In November, she appointed Esther Medina-Gonzalez as her Administrative Assistant. She also picked Irene "Gypsy" Sanchez as her secretary.

Ms. Rosenberg, who has a law degree, comes to the valley from Madison, Wisconsin where she was an Affirmative Action advocate for women and minorities.

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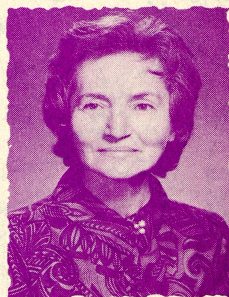
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JUST DIAL for DIAL-A-RIDE

By BECKY CREGER

Your late for work. Your next class is in one hour. You want to visit friends. The car won't start and the garage can't fix it until tomorrow. Then once it is fixed, pay outrageous gas prices.

It's too far to walk, and a taxi is much too expensive.

What happens now?

At the turn of a phone dial, the solution is there.

That's assuming the caller can get through the clogged phone lines to make a reservation with the new Santa Clara County Dial-A-Ride bus system.

The system was designed to alleviate such predicaments as mentioned but confusion, busy lines and anxious people are slowing the process.

A frustrated motorist, a senior citizen, a pedestrian or anyone else can now dial one of four numbers according to his location in the county; North County—896-3100; East—287-4210; West—998-3322; South—683-4151.

He can request to be picked up at his home, then transported to any spot within the county, seven days a week. The fare is 25 cents.

Rider Problems

This routine sounds basically simple. But, due to the problems faced by the Dial-a-Ride program, a rider must undergo several hassles before reaching his destination.

It was intended to take 60 seconds or less to reserve a ride over the phone, then 20 minutes to wait for the bus to arrive.

Unfortunately, an influx of callers requesting information or advance reservations (instead of immediate rides) have bottlenecked the 70 phone lines since Dial-a-ride opened on Nov. 24.

Since the opening, 90 modern red, white, and blue buses have been seen carrying few, if any, passengers through the county.

The buses are supposed to carry only six to eight passengers at a time to prevent delays due to heavy rider loads, according to Frank Lara, public relations director for the County Transit District.

Eight Minute Hold

Five to six receptionists monitor each section of the county, taking calls, feeding the necessary information into a computer, then giving customers approximate pickup times. The information is then passed to the dispatcher who notifies the bus driver in that area.

A caller may be on hold for quite some time. Phone calls have been averaging eight minutes each instead of the predicted 60 seconds, Lara said.

If the caller is lucky (or very patient) his call will be answered, computerized and the nearest bus will be on its way.

The Dial-a-ride buses operate only in their specific areas. They pick up and deliver them to a transfer point if they wish to travel out of the designated area.

The transfer points are either a rendezvous with another Dial-a-Ride bus that would transport passengers within the next service area or a bus stop on the main arterial routes.

The arterials are the traditional fixed bus routes that run along main streets on regular schedules.

Autos Faster

The whole process takes three to four times longer than by car because the rider would first have to wait for his call to be taken at the dial-a-ride center, wait for the first bus to pick him up at his door and then wait for both arterial buses to pick him up at their scheduled stops.

Nevertheless, according to Lara, the Dial-a-Ride buses are doing better than expected despite the jammed telephone reservation lines. The buses are already serving an average of 2,000 riders per day, he said.

Twelve more telephone receptionists will be hired at the end of the month, Lara said, to help untangle the phone backup at the transit district headquarters, 1555 Berger Rd., San Jose.

The ridership is expected to reach a capacity of 10,000 to 15,000 people in six months according to Lara.

When it does, the transit authorities will need more revenue to expand the system to handle the growth, Lara said.

"In May we'll probably ask for more money from the voters," Lara said. "If we can show the people of Santa Clara County that we have a good system, they'll support it."

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