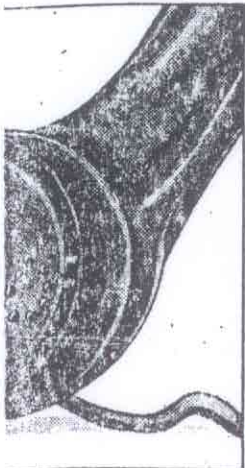


If City Council members are accept these latest response figures, they must be prepared to take the financial steps necessary to bring more officers on line and keep them here. That will require some serious soul searching at budget time. But surveys consistently have said that Dallas residents would be willing to pay for additional protection and improved public safety in this community.



The council's commitment last year to hire an additional 150 officers was a good starting point, but the turnover in personnel nullified any anticipated increase in manpower. Although Police Chief Mack Vines has stepped up recruiting efforts, the last graduating class from the police academy had only 29 officers. That simply isn't enough to replace those who are retiring

or leaving the force for better jobs.

Council members must be prepared to consider better pay for Dallas police officers, additional incentives to convince veterans to remain longer and more programs to encourage citizen support for public safety. Only then can the Dallas Police Department ever expect to have enough officers to respond to calls for help and to address this city's crime epidemic.

COURSE

could be troublesome

some powerful ones — believe that some level of foreign investment eventually may be necessary if Congress is to approve funding for the project.

Whatever the amount of overseas contributions, the results of the research conducted at the collider are likely to be shared internationally. As Robert Park, director of the American Physical Society, explains, the particle accelerator project will produce only fundamental knowledge, and there are no restrictions on the dissemination of such information. Scientists talk.

With doubts already growing that the Bush administration's request for collider funding will be granted by Congress, Rep. Bryant's idealistic stance is a distraction the project's supporters shouldn't have to worry about. The Dallas Democrat's con-

The Sixth Floor

Recently, I visited "The Sixth Floor" exhibit opened by the Dallas County Historical Foundation. Not a memorial to President John F. Kennedy, but a reprise of a tragic time in November 1963, the exhibit is comprehensive, accurate, balanced, non-judgmental and, most importantly, neither morbid nor macabre, but in restrained good taste. It is also a remarkable presentation that compares favorably with the Ford Theater exhibit in Washington, D.C. It can be expected, too, that it will deeply move, in the years ahead, untold numbers of Americans and their families as well as foreign visitors, who shared together those emotional four days in history. Its impact on the young, for whom the event is only history, will be especially powerful. No longer will the numerous people who come to Dealey Plaza quietly talk among themselves, ask questions of one another, and point out various landmarks. They will have a place to go and to try to work out that acute sense of loss felt by so many in connection with the president's death. The foundation is, therefore, to be congratulated for its able work in putting together "The Sixth Floor."

G. ROBERT BLAKEY,
O'Neill Professor of Law,
Notre Dame Law School,
Notre Dame, Ind.

Mr. Blakey was the chief counsel and staff director of the House Select Committee on Assassinations, which looked into the assassinations of President Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

How sad

As I read the March 17 issue of *The Dallas Morning News*, the comic strip *One Big Happy* made me "One Big Disappointed." How sad that our society still makes jokes about placing children for adoption because of a naughty or embarrassing incident in the family.

How many children, who are

LETTERS

friends.

As an adoptive parent of two Korean-born children, I try to make every aspect of their adoption story as positive as possible. A birth mother makes an adoption decision for her child out of love. It is one of the most unselfish acts I know.

It's time for the media to take responsibility for all areas of their publications, even the comics.

SUSAN CHATELAIN,
McKinney, Texas

Thanks, Dallas!

Raising a handicapped child is difficult at best. There are more downs than ups, but life goes on, and we do the best we can.

Our 13-year-old handicapped son ran in the first of the KZPS 5-mile Run at West End on March 11. We went the 0.6 mile with him, and he wanted to quit the last leg of the race. But the many folks who were on the sidelines wouldn't let him. They just kept on cheering and clapping and shouting words of encouragement even though the majority of the runners had already finished.

I just want to say "thanks, Dallas," for cheering us on when we wanted to quit. And thanks to *The Dallas Morning News* for running his picture in the paper.

David thinks he's a star — and he is, thanks to all you kind folks.

MRS. GWEN EDDY,
Mesquite

Positive proof

I am not a citizen of Dallas, so this issue is really none of my business; but if I did reside there, I would call immediately for the resignations of City Council members Al Lipscomb and Diane Ragsdale because of the racial insults they have hurled not only at whites and Hispanics, but at members of their own race. I am referring specifically to the incidents reported by Rena Pederson in her column of March 16.

All we ever hear from Mr. Lipscomb and Ms. Ragsdale is how the

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