

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Spiro Agnew's Resignation

Editor — Politicians of all stripes extend their sympathies to Spiro Agnew and express sadness over the tragedy he has suffered.

There is tragedy aplenty in the case, but Spiro Agnew is its cause, not its victim.

This man, who posed as defender of law and order and our Constitution, received bribe money for the sale of his influence. He betrayed the trust of those he was elected to serve.

Ronald Reagan, Howard Baker and the others would be better advised to shed their public tears on behalf of the American people and not Spiro Agnew, whose contemptible actions have brought him the disgrace he deserves.

KAREN YARR,
DAN BOYD.

Richmond.

Editor — See Spiro preach.
Preach, Spiro, preach.

Honest, moral Spiro.

Goodbye Spiro, effete felon.

Too bad you didn't have to do some hard time.

M. GIUNTOLI.

San Jose.

Editor — The Republican party and the press took much glee in assailing Senator McGovern and his staff for not doing their homework on the selection of Senator Thomas Eagleton as Vice President nominee in 1972.

Needless to say, Mr. Nixon and his staff did not do their homework on Mr. Agnew in 1968, thus causing the problems we have today.

EDWARD J. FLYNN II.
Corte Madera.

Editor — When Aaron Burr was Vice President, and he shot and killed Alexander Hamilton, President Jefferson put pressure on both Houses of Congress to do nothing to his Vice President. Nothing was done.

When the Watergate scandal

crept even closer to the Oval Office earlier this year, Vice President Agnew issued a statement of support for his President.

Where was Richard Nixon when the Vice President needed him? Perhaps the President was relieved the attention was shifted away from him. His lack of support of Mr. Agnew is hypocritical indeed. The wrong man resigned.

RAY E. CUNNINGHAM.
San Jose.

Editor — Leaks. If a public official had told no untruths, leaks would not hurt him. If a public official had not accepted unlawful money, indictment would not be possible.

WILLIAM H. TUTTLE.
Walnut Creek.

Editor — Several years ago when blacks and antiwar demonstrators were committing civil disobedience, Mr. Agnew said in one of his speeches that willingness to accept the punishment was no excuse for breaking the law. Piecing together his words, I guess that Agnew's full theory must run something like this: While willingness to accept punishment is no excuse for breaking the law, it's all right to break the law if there's a chance you can cop a plea.

RICHARD S. INNERST.
Moss Beach.

Editor — One wonders about the American sense of justice and compassion that allows an official charged with a long series of abuses of political power for personal gain to be sentenced to probation and a fine, while others (including my brother) are spending long months in prison and jail for selflessly following their consciences when faced with supporting a war in which they did not believe.

GARTH K. TRINKL.
Berkeley.

Editor — Agnew — the latest in the ever-growing school. One by one, like rotting fish — bloated, shining, stinking — they rise from their pool of corruption to face the baleful and unfamiliar glare of justice and to have the turgidity of their lusting greeds exposed to their unbelieving, awe-stricken audience.

This Administration — so purportedly down on obscenity — has itself scripted the most obscene dramas ever played out on the American political stage.

What are the odds of probability it could be purest chance so many agents have gotten mucked - up wallowing in their nasty pool and their principal remain white as the driven snow? I believe the probability would stretch, beyond the breaking point, the credulity of any but the most mesmerized.

We have here a classic example that will serve to illustrate perfectly that well known theorem first propounded by Confucius, wherein the beloved and venerable sage proposed thusly: "It may be readily observed, by even the most bleary-eyed among us, that those creatures of the upper atmosphere who are similarly plumed, have the undeviating desire and habit of seeking and taking passage together."

JOHN F. LIMPER.
Pacific Grove.

Editor — Upon hearing the details of Mr. Agnew's demise, I was quickly reminded of ex-Senator George Washington Plunkett's words, regarding honest graft: "Or supposin' it's a new bridge they're goin' to build. I get tipped off and I buy as much property as I can that has to be taken for approaches. I sell it at my own price later on and drop some more money in the bank."

It's fun to wonder whether the former Tammany philosopher gave lessons to the former Vice President.

T. TOOHEY.
San Francisco.