

city avenue and Front Street. Signatures of one-tenth of the registered voters in the city are required to force repeal or an election.

The child was with her mother, Mrs. Linda Martin, 17, in a car driven by James A. Calkins, 18, San Rafael.

Deputies said the body has not been located. Griggs is survived by a wife and two children who live in Fresno, deputies said.

The victims were nine Turks and two American employees of a construction company in Turkey.

planes, in a three-day government offensive in the Mekong River delta, an informant said today.

Parents Blamed For Theater Rowdyism

(Editor's Note: This is the second of a two-part series on the growing problem of adolescent and teen-age rowdyism in Santa Cruz movie theaters.)

By Ron Miller

Every adult who has ever attended a Friday or Saturday night movie at the Del Mar theater knows how serious the problem of teen-age theater rowdyism has become in recent months.

Theatergoers lucky enough to find seats in the luge section or upper balcony are bothered only by a constant din that drowns out the soundtrack of the film and an occasional cherry bomb exploding downstairs.

Latecomers are less fortunate. If there is no room in the upper deck of the theater, they must sit in the downstairs section or "junior high heaven" as it is sometimes known.

Those who find seats under the overhanging balcony manage to escape the danger of falling garbage or firecrackers dropped from above. There's still the clusters of ten-age hooligans to contend with, however. They think nothing of putting their feet over the backs of seats and nudging patrons in the head. Peashooters

and rubber bands are status symbols.

"These kids simply have no respect for property or the rights of others," complains George Atton, district manager of the Golden State chain which operates the Del Mar and Rio theaters.

But Atton realizes he is on the hot seat in the rising public anger over theater rowdyism. Outraged parents are demanding better enforcement of the pace within the theaters. One group of irate parents told The Sentinel a boycott of the theaters is planned unless the situation is controlled.

Yet Atton is not convinced further enforcement within the theaters is the answer.

Teen-aged usherettes are ignored, sometimes manhandled and abused when they try to bring about order. On busy weekends, Rio manager Peter Fat spends most of his time patrolling the aisles and ousting youngsters, letting his other chores go.

Since his last manager quit, Atton has been doing the same thing for the Del Mar theater. Finally he decided the situation was impossible and hired a part-time policeman to enforce the peace on weekends.

Though it may have helped somewhat, hiring an officer has not come close to being the answer. The officer can only be in one place at a time. The darkness hides the firecracker tossers and peashooter marksmen. If the officer quiets a group of noisemakers, they let get out of sight and start in again.

But Juvenile Sgt. Charles Derby of the city police department claims Atton is not going far enough on enforcement. He

claims the theater chain is trying to get the police department to clean up its mess.

"This is a situation that could be cleaned up in a few weeks," Derby says. "He should hire two officers and situate one in the balcony while the other is downstairs."

Derby also suggests Atton segregate the seating arrangement in the theater so no one under 18 would be allowed upstairs. He thinks the enforcement could then be concentrated downstairs where the trouble really exists.

"When the kids see they mean business, the theater operators won't have any more trouble," Derby says.

Atton thinks this is the typical attitude of the police department. He agrees that heavy enforcement will stop the trouble. But he also feels the trouble will start all over again as soon as the heavy enforcement is reduced. He doesn't think the answer is to keep armed police officers in all theaters from now on.

"This is a community social problem," Atton says. "Strict enforcement inside the theater is a short-term solution. It overlooks the cause of the problem."

Derby, who admits he hasn't been to the show for years, sees some merit in that idea. He believes the reason behind the theater behavior problem is a demand for recognition on the part of youngsters.

Today's youngsters apparently don't receive the internal sense of belonging that youngsters used to when the family unit was a much stronger facet of the American scene. Atton feels the youngsters turn to their own clannish groups for

the security they're missing, sometimes adopting the behavior code of the teen group for their own.

"Don't think this problem is confined to the theaters," Atton says. "The same problem of discipline is giving teachers fits at local schools."

Atton recalls talking to a school administrator recently about the rowdyism problem. The administrator asked him if kids had started flicking lighted cigarettes and matches in the theaters yet. He told Atton that was the latest fad around the school. "I told him I hadn't noticed it," Atton said. "But it started in at the Del Mar the following week-end."

Even though Atton thinks the police department is taking an unenthusiastic approach to the problem and the police feel Atton is passing the buck, both sides tend to agree that the ultimate responsibility rests with the parents of the youthful offenders.

Parents get upset at Atton when he throws their children out of the theater. Most refuse to believe their children capable of rowdyism; others think the infractions are too minor for such action. Atton believes most parents don't realize the total effect of these "minor infractions" because they no longer attend movies themselves.

"Every single one of my complaints has been from someone who was bothered by the noise personally," Atton reports. "Most parents don't care enough to know what movie they send their kids to, but if it turns out to be an adult movie that shocks them, it's always my fault for showing it."

But how can the burden of responsibility for the problem be shifted back to the parents where it belongs? Apparently it can't be done.

So Atton is starting a campaign of his own. He will try the segregated seating plan. He will keep the police officer on the payroll and crack down more severely on offenders. His list of 50 youngsters who are not allowed in the Del Mar theater will be expanded. But his biggest move will be the initiation of a "youth achievement program" locally.

By organizing school authorities, P-TA groups and religious leaders, Atton hopes to come up with a community-wide plan to make parents aware of the problem and establish a code of ethics for youngsters that will make them ashamed of their poor behavior.

It is an ambitious plan that Atton once used in another community. It caught on well with the parents and narrowed the number of troublemakers down to an easily-controlled few. But it will take many months and the results may be slow in coming.

"I hope it works," one parent remarked the other day. "Personally I have my doubts."

But a veteran sergeant in the sheriff's office thinks he has the ultimate solution to the whole problem. He suggests the theater manager grab onto the troublemakers—male or female—and whack their rear ends hard.

"If the parents hauled him into court, he could sit back and demand they produce the evidence," the officer cracked. "I doubt if you'd see many bare behinds in the courtroom."

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