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Henri Temianka Correspondence; (Ite)

Henri Temianka

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Description

This collection contains material pertaining to the life, career, and activities of Henri Temianka, violin virtuoso, conductor, music teacher, and author. Materials include correspondence, concert programs and flyers, music scores, photographs, and books.

Keywords

Henri Temianka, culture, virtuosity in musical performance, violinist, chamber music, press, September 30, 1980, California Chamber Symphony Society, prisoners, discontent, violence



CALIFORNIA CHAMBER SYMPHONY SOCIETY, INC.

SPONSOR OF THE CALIFORNIA CHAMBER SYMPHONY
HENRI TEMIANKA FOUNDER/DIRECTOR

September 30, 1980

Editor
Letters to the Editor
LOS ANGELES TIMES
Times Mirror Square
Los Angeles, California 90053

Sir:

I am singularly unimpressed by your editorial report (September 30) that California's State prison system took in 9,874 prisoners in 1979, and that this was a record number for the third successive year. During that same period, millions of innocent people in Los Angeles alone also became prisoners. They are barricaded in their homes, in fear and trembling of the barbarous violence at the hands of countless armed criminals who are roaming the streets unhindered; criminals who are secure in the knowledge that an understaffed, demoralized police force will not arrest them, an impotent judicial system will not punish them, and cunning lawyers will easily bail them out in those rare cases where they are apprehended.

The social fabric of this country is in tatters. The breakdown of our society is one that should be of deepest concern to the entire community. Women living alone are in constant fear and terror; innocent people are gunned down every day; in our so-called upper middle class neighborhoods, almost every home has been repeatedly broken into, violated, ransacked and robbed. The only profiteers, aside from the burglars, are the installers of security systems and iron bars, the purveyors of mace and guns, and the insurance companies with their sky-rocketing premiums.

Where is all this leading us? It is leading us to a return to medieval barbarism, to a life of guerilla warfare where every citizen will be forced to keep a loaded gun or mace handy, in perpetual self-defense, barricaded behind walls, bars, security systems, and watchdogs.

This is the issue that should be of prime importance to every voter in the coming elections, transcending every other issue. Is any of the candidates ready to make a commitment to reform and revitalize the judicial system and the police force? If there is such a candidate, I shall vote for him.

Sincerely,

Henri Temianka