

LETTERS

April 28, 1969

Lantern Stiff, Uptight

I feel compelled to advance an observation of the current mode of management at the Lantern.

The current stiff, uptight atmosphere of "candy-counter and entertainment," in contrast to the casual, relaxed atmosphere of "free coffee and MEANINGFUL entertainment" of prior years, is a source of major disappointment to scores of us in the UCSB community who once viewed the Lantern as one of the few businesses in Isla Vista with any merit or integrity.

Obviously, an intelligent theatre manager would realize that student audiences require different modes of attention than the larger Santa

Barbara audience as a whole. Hopefully, such interests were in mind when the Hess Corporation located its theatre in Isla Vista...in the first place.

Today, any semblance of the former attempt to cater to student tastes and interests has vanished with the new management.

Metropolitan Theatres, by not finding a decent replacement for the taste, interest, ability, and enthusiasm of a Jim Babb, has done us in. The Lantern is no longer the source of potential enrichment to Isla Vista it might have been. It has become another addition to your "chain." The question is, whose fault is it?

TED GRANGER