

COMMUNITY OR SERVICE ACTIONS

**Reader Salutes
Mrs. Branch, Urges
Community Backing**

To the Editor:

I can recall as a young child about the hard times we had. Time marches on. Now I am a middle-aged woman and time is repeating itself. We are right in the middle of another depression, and it frightens me to death.

With the crime rate as it is and each day it gets worse. Here in East Palo Alto, there is a little lady that has a heart as big as a mountain and she

carries so many people's burdens ... Black, White, Chicano or any other race, it makes no difference as long as that poor person sought her help. People come from far and near ... Oakland, Hayward, San Francisco through San Jose, looking for this lady's help.

The lady is Mrs. Onedia Branch. She has helped people far back as I can remember. Nineteen years ago, she had no help either from the federal or county governments. The only help she received came from concerned friends and neighbors. And she has helped me and my family when we didn't know where to turn.

I was talking to Mrs. Branch last Friday, and she was very sad due to the conditions of the

economy with Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays upon us. Her heart is very heavy. Not only the holiday that worries her, but every day as people are going to and from her shop and no one comes out empty handed. Times are so hard for so many people. And there is not letup in sight.

If any one reads this letter, and can contribute, if only a can of beans or a quart of milk or a warm coat, for some of these poor people all over the peninsula, please contact Mrs. Onedia Branch, 1651 Bay Road, Community Service Center, Nairobi Shopping Center, East Palo Alto.

May God bless all of you far and near.

Ruth Sampson
1440 Modoc Ave.
Menlo Park

H-20-74

Salute to Mrs. Branch