

2. First long dedicatory poem: Tulare Advance-Register, published to celebrate the completion of the Angra Tower, a distinctive clock-tower of a downtown Tulare redevelopment project. Editorial page (p. 12) of the April 17, 1975 issue. Reprinted here with poet's permission:

#### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

It started with one fresh idea  
that fell upon an other  
then an other  
until Angra Tower began rising in  
Tulare's mind  
turning the first spade of earth  
smoothing trowel on mortar  
brick by brick  
long before the new clock began  
to operate

When builders scooped up  
dust so thick  
it turned high noon to darkness  
the frightened people asked  
"Tia Maria, what time is it  
now?"

A blind woman leaned on her  
cane  
and read the clock's silent face  
she told the waiting crowd  
"It is half-past turning back time  
and always has been  
since Adam squeezed the first  
year through his fingers  
and asked himself  
where did it go?"

A small girl pressed forward  
braiding a ribbon into her long  
thick hair  
she said  
"Tia Maria, I must ask you  
what color will the tower be?"

The blind woman thought a long  
time  
until the image came to her  
clearly  
she answered  
"It will be the color of truth  
and the dome  
like your ribbon  
the color of sky"