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**SAM LEVY**

1307-1313 Sartori Ave. Torrance

Twenty-Nine Years in Torrance

LETTERS to the EDITOR

Editor Torrance Herald:

Please permit me to comment on the high handed and dictatorial action of certain Torrance policemen in connection with my effort, on Jan. 12, to stage an educational and food conservation demonstration in front of Torrance High School at dismissal time. My object was to focus attention on the deplorable waste of many tons of slightly blemished and commercially off-grade, but otherwise high grade food and vegetable crops that are plowed under by farmers both in the city limits of Torrance and in adjoining areas, while consumers are forced to pay high, inflated prices for top commercial grades.

As a teen-age boy, I was a member of 4-H clubs and every year one of the most efficient producers and top prize winners. Some of my present objectives are to promote interest in practical food conservation, interest in home gardening, and to try to interest consumers in forming consumer food buying co-operatives which could lower the cost of some food items as much as 100 percent, could lower the cost of garden seeds more than 100 percent, could lower the cost of garden fertilizer from 40 to 100 percent—and I can present actual wholesale prices vs. local retail prices to prove it. I am one of those who believe we should get at the real and basic causes of high prices and shortages rather than resort to government controls and price fixing, DEALING ONLY WITH THE SYMPTOMS rather than the causes, and hiring thousands more government bureaucrats to consume tax monies and "DO THE PUBLIC" on the pretense of doing for the public.

Last year and in past years our Secretary of Agriculture became a prostitute Joseph and used taxpayers money and thousands of government bureaucrats to buy potatoes and destroy them to give us a more abundant life. Potatoes were practically given to the distillers to use to make more booze for those who insist on getting their spiritual refreshments out of a booze bottle instead of out of a Bible. Millions of dozens of eggs were bought to cause higher prices and more inflation, and now the government has more eggs than they know what to do with. Secretary Anderson stated over the radio

that they had to destroy potatoes instead of shipping them to the starving in Europe because potatoes were too bulky and perishable to ship—but I ask why he and those who have inherited the mantle of that great prostitute Joseph, Pig Killer Wallace, did not have enough common sense to have, encourage or even pay farmers to plant other and more needed and usable crops on the land of surplus, so-called, potatoes were grown on? The use and cultivation of this land, the waste of hundreds of tons of valuable fertilizer, the waste of thousands of man hours, the use of scarce farm machinery was dissipated and prostituted. Knowing and understanding these facts and conditions and many more that space does not permit me to mention, I cannot resist the temptation to try to help do something sensible to help solve some of our problems. Some education and educational demonstrations of a "grass roots and horse sense" nature is necessary. I have therefore felt called to become a part-time Paul Revere, Patrick Henry, Honest John and Mad Man Muntz.

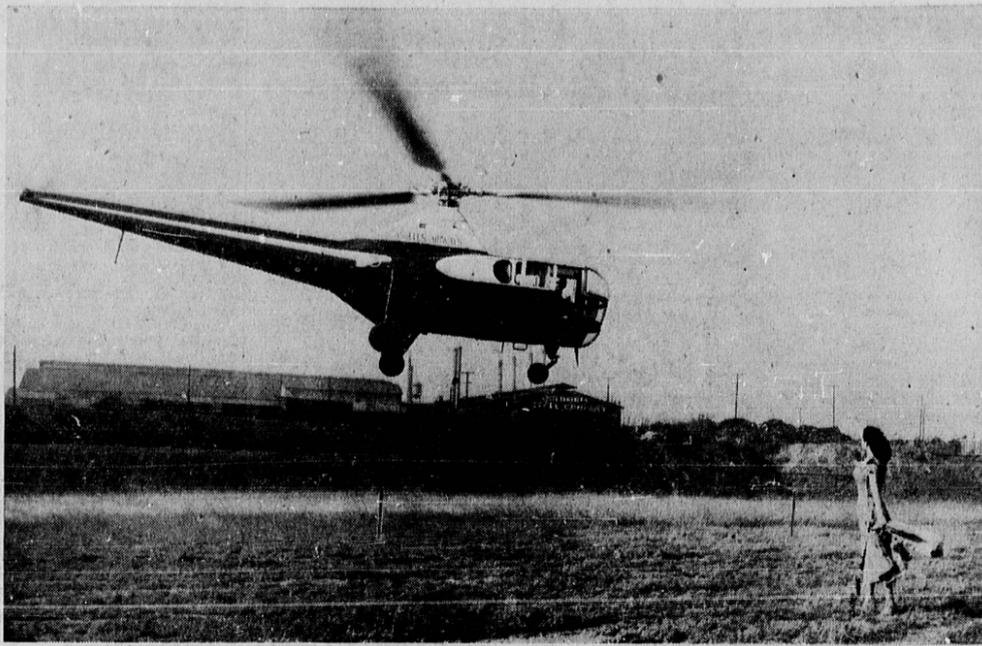
I went out to a farm in the Torrance City limits and harvested about 1,000 heads of small, tender, crisp heads of cabbage that the farmer was about to plow under, and which he was glad to sell me for \$1.00 and I harvested them. I attempted to give them to Torrance High School students as they left the school to go home. Thinking I would receive realistic approval and cooperation, and wishing to accord due recognition to all concerned, I informed the Torrance Herald, the Police Department and the superintendent of the high school of my plans. A police captain and another officer arrived in front of the high school building just as the students came out going home.

The police captain immediately told me he would not allow me to give the cabbage to the homeward bound students,

and if I persisted in doing it, as I stated I would, he said he would look me up in jail. He set himself up in business as a pig food specialist and claimed I was trying to give the students a lot of pig food. He also identified himself as an atomic age and chain-reaction interpreter of law and said that if I gave any student any heads of cabbage and if said student should throw any of said cabbage into the street that I (not the student) would be guilty of throwing garbage in the street and he would jail me on such a charge. He then demanded to see my driver's license, questioned me as a suspected criminal might be questioned, wrote some data in his book and delayed and sabotaged my educational project and demonstration concerning the waste of tons of good and usable human food in this vicinity.

In the course of the police captain's investigation of me, personally, I showed him my trailer license number plate which I had in my car as I have not quite completed the body of the homemade trailer I used to transport the cabbage to the front of the high school. The captain did not make any complaint nor arrest me, before the high school students, for not having my trailer license plate attached to the rear of the trailer (I had it with me in my car, which is legally licensed). But as soon as I got out of sight of the high school another officer followed and overtook me and gave me a ticket for not having the trailer number plate attached to the rear of the trailer—this being at least tantamount to an arrest. If this was not serious enough crime for the captain to arrest me about before a hundred or so students, why was it serious enough crime for one of his men to arrest me about five minutes later?

I at once began to discuss this entire episode, successively with the editor of the Herald, with Dr. Wood of the Torrance



FIRST HELICOPTER AIR MAIL FLIGHT... Torrance officially became a stop on a helicopter air mail route of Los Angeles Airways, Inc. as of Saturday, Jan. 10. In clear weather, pickups are made at 8:18 a.m. daily, with mail closing at 8 a.m. in the Torrance postoffice. Fog has delayed some of the flights. This photo shows Dorothy Ford, moving picture star, waving to the pilot with a letter in her hand as the helicopter comes in for a landing. Columbia Steel Co. Torrance works are shown in the background, and the landing field is on Columbia property just east of the plant. (Photo by Columbia Steel).

School Board, who for the past four years has been my personal physician. Then I went to the Torrance Board of Education building on Torrance boulevard to discuss it with the superintendent of Torrance Schools. I was followed to the Board of Education building by one of the police officers involved and "balled out" for discussing this episode with a "newspaper man."

I wonder if it is the intention of Torrance citizens and taxpayers to pay taxes to pay police officers to engage in this kind of "crime prevention" and maintenance of law and order. In my opinion, when we really

(Continued from Page 7-A)

BETSY ROSS CLUB PLANS MONTHLY MEET

Betsy Ross Star Club members will meet for luncheon and a business session at 12:30 o'clock Tuesday, Jan. 20, in Masonic Temple.

Mrs. Lois Lougee and her committee will have charge of luncheon arrangements.

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REPORT OF CONDITION OF THE

Torrance National Bank

TORRANCE, IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON DECEMBER 31, 1947

Published in response to call made by Comptroller of the Currency, under Section 5211, U. S. Revised Statutes

ASSETS

1. Cash, balances with other banks, including Reserve balance, and cash items in process of collection	881,234.38
2. United States Government obligations, direct and guaranteed	2,315,883.02
3. Obligations of States and political subdivisions	37,325.87
5. Corporate stocks (including \$3,600.00 stock of Federal Reserve Bank)	3,600.00
6. Loans and discounts (including \$6,144.21 overdrafts)	861,111.71
7. Bank premises owned \$34,264.82, furniture and fixtures \$4,800.48 (Bank premises owned are subject to no liens not assumed by bank)	39,065.30
11. Other Assets	13,219.69
12. TOTAL ASSETS	4,151,439.97

LIABILITIES

13. Demand deposits of individuals, partnerships, and corporations	2,028,199.29
14. Time deposits of individuals, partnerships, and corporations	1,697,009.64
15. Deposits of United States Government (including postal savings)	88,906.46
16. Deposits of States and political subdivisions	73,678.45
18. Other deposits (certified and cashier's checks, etc.)	18,058.54
19. TOTAL DEPOSITS	\$3,905,852.38
23. Other liabilities	1,562.64
24. TOTAL LIABILITIES	3,907,415.02

CAPITAL ACCOUNTS

25. Capital Stock:	
(a) Class A preferred, total par \$20,000.00, retirable value \$20,000.00 (Rate of dividends on retirable value is 3%)	100,000.00
(c) Common stock, total par \$80,000.00	
26. Surplus	20,000.00
27. Undivided profits	82,627.03
28. Reserves (and retirement account for preferred stock)	41,397.92
29. TOTAL CAPITAL ACCOUNTS	244,024.95
30. TOTAL LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL ACCOUNTS	4,151,439.97

MEMORANDUM

31. Assets pledged or assigned to secure liabilities and for other purposes	284,720.32
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STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, ss:

I, R. J. Deininger, cashier of the above-named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

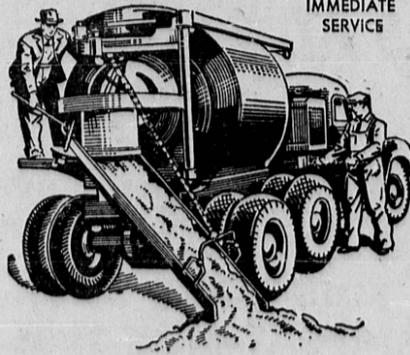
R. J. DEININGER, Cashier

Correct—Attest  
JAMES W. POST  
M. N. FELKER  
CHAS. E. CONNER

(SEAL) Sworn to and subscribed before me this 7th day of January, 1948  
H. E. GREENWOOD, Notary Public  
My Commission expires December 18, 1950

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