

# EDITORIALS

## Alert Auto Dealers

Our local Torrance automobile dealers, who have received their 1955 models, have done an excellent job on their own part of promoting already keen interest in the industry's gigantic effort to make next year one of the most notable in automotive history.

The local introductions have been noteworthy for enthusiasm and ingenuity shown and indicate that these important local business men intend to leave no prospect unaware of the attractive features of their new products. In addition, they have painted up and brightened up their places and trained their staff in anticipation of a hopeful new year.

These local dealers are to be congratulated on their alert, ambitious approach to the highly competitive going that always has characterized the automotive business in its normal periods of production.

Americans are showing more interest this year in the new models and why shouldn't they? The automobile business has been, and will continue to be, the very epitome of American progress and prosperity.

## An Avoidable Accident

It is fortunate that no one was seriously injured or killed in the mishap Sunday evening on Pacific Coast highway when a pilot landed a light plane on the highway after Torrance airport was closed in by fog. We don't pretend to know all of the facts in the case; but, it is basic in aviation that no pilot flying safely ever arrives at his destination nearly out of fuel anytime and certainly not at night in an area notorious for sudden maritime or ground fogs.

There is little or no excuse for any pilot to be trapped by fog in the Los Angeles coastal areas. Simple planning will allow him time to find an open alternate airport within a few minutes flying time or, if necessary, he can retreat to several airports in the desert areas that have almost unlimited visibility, day and night, throughout the year.

This pilot's action, in our opinion, is particularly reprehensible because it causes the general public to lose confidence in private flying generally. The vast majority of private pilots at Torrance airport are careful and competent. They would no more think of arriving over the field at night, with less than enough gas to land elsewhere safely, than a careful motorist would think of driving down a mountain road, 60 miles an hour, in dense fog.

## Not What They Seem

A woman who looked like a high-powered executive, a man who might have been cast as a broker or a college president, and a pair of young lady twins whom anyone could tell were a sister act in show business turned out to be, respectively, a cow-washer, a jet bomber test-pilot and lawyers! And in none of these cases was the TV "What's My Line" panel any smarter than the rest of us would have been in discovering the call of these recent guests on the show.

In a way, it's rather disillusioning to discover that people don't look as we think they should. It may even be that your humble servant doesn't look like an editor! But what makes us think we know what a steel-worker, a judge, a shipping clerk, an ambassador or a burglar ought to look like? Why must a lean actor play a mean role, a fat one the genial benefactor?

It is true that cauliflower ears and a stove-in nose are fairly accurate occupational identifications. And bow-legs are likely to mark the cowboy. In the old days of the stake-hole, a coal-passer's eyes usually had rims of embedded coal. And when they stood at high desks, book-keepers were stooped—and so were most factory workers and farmers in those days. A hollow-eyed person was likely to be a druggist—due to the long hours he put in. But today's working conditions and working hours, time and facilities for rest and play and self-education are crossing us up!

When you stop to think of it, we live in a different world than today's oldsters began working in. Yet our impressions of people are still influenced by the works of writers and artists of the past—which also influence the casting directors who thus more or less confirm our own preconceived notions. People are probably no different than they ever were, but they don't wear their vocations on their sleeves any more.

If you think you can tell a plumber from a preacher, snap on your TV set and see "What's My Line."

## IT'S A FACT

By JERRY CAHILL

**THERE IS NO LEGAL DEFINITION OF POISON!**

**THE GIRL WHO WRECKED A PRESIDENT'S CABINET!**  
**PEGGY EATON—**  
 Wife of John Eaton, ANDREW JACKSON'S SECRETARY OF WAR, CAUSED THE COMPLETE DISSOLUTION OF JACKSON'S CABINET BECAUSE THE WIVES OF OTHER CABINET MEMBERS REFUSED TO ACCEPT HER IN WASHINGTON SOCIETY. EATON AND HER HUSBAND RESIGNED, AND JACKSON DEMANDED THE RESIGNATION OF ALL THE OTHERS (except one)...

**HOW DID BARKNIGHT GET HIS NAME?**

**NEXT ISSUE**

**"FLYING MACHINE"**  
 PATENT NO. 210,794 GRANTED TO EUBEN LUSPER SPALDING, OF KENTON, OHIO, IN 1889... SPALDING MADE BLIDES WITH THESE WINGS...



# THE MAIL BOX

(The Torrance Herald welcomes expressions from its readers which can be published on this page. The editors retain the right to edit the copy for matters of libel and good taste. Letters should be kept brief and must be signed. The writer's name will be withheld if requested. Opinions expressed in letters here published represent those of the writer and not necessarily those of The Torrance Herald.)

## On Horror Comics

Editor, Torrance Herald: I sincerely believe that to remedy conditions permanently, as with all problems, is to begin with the source. That, of course, is not within the infantile mind, but the higher echelon of adult intelligence in every form. I would call it "Adult Delinquency," when, in their avid reach for wealth, no matter in what manner it might be obtained, adults perpetrate the horror comic atrocity on our youth.

Such are the publishers, printers, photographers, etc., who accept and print lurid and immoral manuscripts, drawings, pictures, photos, and advertising in the so-called comic and the millions of pulp magazines. Even what we call the better magazines need much checking—where illustrators' drawings for advertisements of personal appointments for women, or the semi-clothed, tend to cheapen womanhood in the eyes of youth.

I believe all whiskey and liquor advertising and displays should be eliminated. Those adults who think they have to indulge know where to locate this unnecessary liquid, which has caused more deaths and cruelty in the home as well as on highways and byways, and which has weakened the health and character of so many of our present and future generation. And thousands of other magazines advertise in small print for lurid, evil, and suggestive commodities for sale—even as free to anyone (child or adult) who "just writes in."

Those organizations and individuals are really the criminals for they are adults and know whereof they act. They prey upon the weak or innocent (either adult or teen-age) and educate them into evil ways of thinking and doing. They are degrading the human race!

Printers must refrain from accepting material such as I have mentioned, and again teach modesty and decency to a careless generation. My observation of the evil influence includes moving picture industry, radio, television, and all in its phases. There seems to be a very negligent control and censorship therein. Not only in "how-to-do-it" through crime pictures, but the added "suggestive-lure" of physical display of what they call "cheese-cake" and other half-dressed women—in more than delectable.

Even the bathing suits sold and worn by women should cover them modestly, and be worn only at the beach or pool and not allowed to parade on the public thoroughfares as they do now. Even on shopping tours, these females blithely walk about in bandeau and skimpy shorts in the cities. I believe an over-all, universal censorship, with denials of rights to manufacture, furnish,

sell, print, or display lurid, immoral, or sexy suggestive material should be made the law of the land.

I believe the manufacture of toy guns and armament should be abolished! The world cries and prays for peace, yet places weapons in the hands of babes. We have laws against narcotics and crime, yet we have failed to stop crime and evils with these laws, for we have not blamed the source, nor outlawed the sources of the crime.

Federal laws and supervision must leave no loopholes. Narcotics should be under heavier and more stringent control. Life imprisonment to peddlers and sellers with closer and more thorough search of all goods and persons at foreign ports and again at American ports and borders should be in the laws.

First and last, begin at the source of all evil through federal laws and supervision by government and citizens. Parents also would have to keep check at all local levels and report to authorities to aid in this clean-up.

Parents' actions in their personal life should be a model for their own children and the world at large. "Let your life be so filled with decorum and understanding of right living that your light may shine and illustrate your good works, so that children will respect, honor, and be proud to emulate a responsible adult."

Rayonette C. Adams Brown  
1104 Crenshaw Blvd.

## Against Removal

Editor, Torrance Herald: We are definitely against the removal of existing barricades. We also wish to register our strenuous objections to allowing any traffic from new tracts to move through the Hollywood Riviera. Our streets are far too narrow to safely take care of the increased traffic brought about by the many new homes being built in our district without having traffic from other tracts move through here.

MR. AND MRS. DALE DE SONNE  
208 Via Buena Ventura

## Opposes Barricades

Editor, Torrance Herald: I am and have always been bitterly opposed to retention of the barricaded streets between the Palos Verdes Estates and Torrance. Such action on the part of the residents of Palos Verdes is not only un-American but most unfriendly to their next door neighbors. I do not believe that the motion passed at the last meeting of the Hollywood Riviera Homeowners Association is approved by but a very small portion of the residents of this district.

WILLIAM A. MASON  
204 Via la Ciruela

## The Real Question

Editor, Torrance Herald: We have just read the invitation to "vote" on the question of the barricades between Hollywood Riviera and Palos Verdes Estates in Mary and Jack Webb's column in your newspaper of Nov. 11.

We have several points to offer for consideration. 1. Why is a vote on the part of any citizen of either community necessary? 2. Are we requested to vote for the placement or removal of any other type of traffic control? 3. Does the question "Is it the 'American Way' to install posts in a paved street to stop through-traffic" enter into this matter? 4. Actually, aren't we all a little embarrassed because of the questioning of the removal of these posts which separate good friends?

Obviously all concerned have overlooked the real question at hand. There is no community in the country in which posts are cemented across a thoroughfare to stop traffic and certainly the reasons for these are long ended. The real question here is the division of the cost of controlling any traffic which would result from the removal of these traffic stoppers.

Both of the cities of Torrance and Palos Verdes Estates have competent traffic control agencies who are fully equipped to analyze the movements of traffic and the control thereof. Actually, neither the residents of either community nor the city councils should be directly concerned with the removal of these barricades and the placement of whatever control is necessary, according to our good traffic experts whom we have appointed to take care of such problems.

VIVIAN and CURTIS COOL  
717 Calle de Arboles

## They Say

Louis C. Gerstein, Jewish rabbi: "The world today is plagued with a mental sickness because there is not enough spiritual content in our living."

William O. Douglas, U. S. Supreme Court Justice: "The manifest destiny of America is to help the peoples of the world, particularly the peoples of Asia and Africa, to realize their dreams of equality."

# AFTER HOURS

By JOHN MORLEY

This reporter has been in and out of Soviet and satellite territory openly and secretly a dozen times since 1950. I have been studying Soviet Russia, the Soviet system and world Communism since my first reporting assignment to Russia and the Balkans in 1931. I have discussed Soviet policy with Russian officials, Russian Orthodox priests, former Soviet agents, engineers, reporters . . . and displaced persons now on our side and free to talk. I can sum up my conclusions of Russian techniques in one sentence: Russia has been perpetrating the biggest military bluff in history upon a gullible disunited Free World for 24 years.

Since the Berlin air lift we have been warned about a Soviet attack. It never came. When the chips were down, Russia always pulled back . . . in Germany, in Korea, in Iran, in Greece, in Indo-China. Russian gains were by Western default . . . not Eastern victory. Russia filled vacuums created by hungry and hopeless people by false promises. Russia took over nations by conspiracy—and with our consent—like the agreements at Teheran, Yalta, Potsdam. Russia has outmaneuvered the Free World because the Free World was not united and running scared. The facts of the past nine years prove that military showdown was not on the agenda of Soviet policy . . . and is not today, because Russia knows that she cannot defeat the military power of the United States and our allies.

Six Major Russian Weaknesses Here is what I learned on the spot on the borders of Russia in 12 trips since 1950.

1. Russia is not the military power she pretends to be. Russia stole U.S. atomic secrets and probably has some atomic matter. All the atom secrets and German scientists cannot produce atom bombs without billion dollar plants,

laboratories and a constant flow of scientific brains and especially billions in money. I have seen the products of Soviet factories . . . cars, tires, appliances, guns, etc . . . and they all look like something we might have produced 30 years ago. They're a pile of "junk" by U.S. standards. Planes and tanks are the exception, not the rule.

2. Russian leadership disunited. Russia's leaders . . . Malenkov, Krushchev, Molotov . . . are afraid of the Christian mass power in Russia, the Russian army and Marshal Zhukov . . . and each other. The history of the 37-year Communist dictatorship reveals that one by one the most influential Reds were purged by each other. Look at the record. Lenin tapped Trotsky as his successor in 1924 but Stalin forced him to exile and had him murdered. Stalin's closest advisors, Bukharin, Krestin, Zinoviev, were purged and executed. By 1948, No. 3 man, Zhdanov, was liquidated. Malenkov's chief for 12 years was Yezhov. He was murdered. Number 2 man, Beria, was executed by Malenkov. Upon the death of Stalin, hundreds of Stalin proteges, like East Germany's High Commissioner Chulikov, have been dismissed, imprisoned or shot. All of this would amount to the execution of U.S. officials like J. Edgar Hoover, Dulles, Acheson, Barkley, Marshall, Wallace, Wilson, Nixon, Stevenson, Byrd.

3. Russia's military weakness is notorious. Russia has substantial manpower, to be sure. It is loaded with tanks and submarines and certain types of aircraft. But it lacks the most essential quotient in military victory . . . loyalty, allegiance and heart. These are lacking in any Soviet offensive action, as proved in Finland. The Russian army is formidable in defense of Russian soil. It has not proved so in any offensive action. The Russian army is preponderantly Christian. It has not shown any willingness thus far to die for Communist atheism in any offensive action.

Russia's transportation system is inadequate. Russian railroads and roads in 1954 compare with those of the U.S. in 1924. Military offensive require road and rail connections. You cannot roll tanks over distances because of the wear and tear on treads.

It's only ten years since the appalling destruction of Russia's industrial cities by Nazi invasion. Russia's navy is weak for offense. Russia does not have a single aircraft carrier. Russia is strong in submarines, but Hitler with twice the number and infinitely greater experience and technique could not stop the allies in World War I. Russia's strategic air force is nil compared to the United States.

4. Russia is short of food. Civilians can be made to tighten their belts, but not an offensive army. Russia, for example, has a population of 200,000,000, as against the U.S. with 160,000,000. Russia is three times the size of the U.S. in square miles, but the U.S. has more food producing acreage. Over 20 per cent of Russia is desert, 50 per cent is forest, 20 per cent is mountainous, and only 10 per cent is fertile.

5. Russia lacks the four sinews of war: steel, iron, coal, oil. Russia's industrial output today—the biggest in her history—compares with U.S. output of 1905. Russia less than 10 years ago had lost to war damage by Germany 90 per cent of her railroad rolling stock, 50 per cent of her steel production, 60 per cent of her electric power, 60 per cent of coal, 30 per cent of her livestock, millions of buildings, bridges, roads, homes. Russia's production has picked up since the end of World War II. A German combustion engineer, returning from 8 years in Russia as a \$25,000 a year executive, told me in Germany that Malenkov set up a goal of 500,000,000 tons of coal by 1956 . . . the U.S. passed that figure in 1920. The 1956 goal for steel was set at 60,000,000 tons. We passed that figure 20 years ago. And then there is our formidable superiority in atomic weapons.

6. Germany alone and fighting a two-front war came within an eyelash of beating Russia. Russian leaders have not forgotten it. The Christian deserters to the German army ran into millions. It was not until the Nazi atrocities were exposed that the deserters turned against the Germans.

Russia's satellite populations are ominously divided in their allegiance to Communism. The present 99 per cent support at the phony elections I covered in Red countries is of fraud and a sham. The underground has told me in repeated trips behind the Iron Curtain that in a free election today the Reds would be lucky to poll 25 per cent. The last free elections were held in Czechoslovakia in 1946. With the Red army at its borders and

fifth columns already having paved the way to key governmental posts with Red infiltration . . . and three political parties abolished . . . the Czech people went to the polls and in a write-in balloting swamped the Reds by a 62 per cent plurality. It was the last free election to be held in any Communist-dominated country.

Russians are afraid to train offensive satellite armies. Russia did not give Red China one single bomber in Korea. The fear of desertion in retaliation makes the Soviet high command constantly apprehensive. The Poles are the best Communist pilots in the world, yet Poland has been allotted the weakest air force.

The nearer you get to Communism, the better you realize Russia's weakness in offensive military adventure. Russia's reluctance to a military showdown with the West at our weakest point from 1948 to 1950 is proof enough that Russia's big bluff had served her well in scaring the daylight out of us these past few years. It scared us to the humiliating defeats in Korea and Indo-China and even today has the Free World shaking in its boots by exaggerated military strength.

It is not wise to underestimate your enemy, as we did Japan. But early Japanese victories were more the result of U.S. military studies, as Pearl Harbor, and depleted U.S. military strength, than Japanese military power. On the eve of Pearl Harbor, with tensions rising over key military leaders were horseback riding, golfing and partying on the fateful week-end of December 7. So long as we maintain our present military superiority and guard from within, we have little to fear of a Russian invasion.

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