

EDITORIALS

Congratulations to Rotary

The Golden Anniversary of Rotary International is a noteworthy occasion in the life of all America. Significantly, the Rotary Club of Torrance will observe the important occasion at tonight's regular weekly meeting with a past president of Rotary International as the guest speaker.

Rotary International generally is respected as the "Daddy" of all service clubs, for it established the pattern for others that since have become worldwide in their influences for good. Today few communities of any size in the United States are without the beneficial influences of Rotary or some other service club whose objectives parallel the fine purposes of Rotary.

Long before politicians were talking about "One World" or the "Good Neighbor" policy, Rotary was at work throughout the Americas and in many countries of the Old World, spreading the gospel of "Service Above Self" and re-emphasizing the philosophy of the practical application of the Golden Rule in business and all other human relationships.

The community of Torrance has had the benefit of a well organized Rotary club for the past 31 years and over these three decades the Torrance club can point with pride to so many good works that it would take dozens of newspaper columns to enumerate them all. Membership in the local club has always included men who have been the real leaders of the community and who, by their own living, have exemplified the principles of Rotary International.

Beyond the advantages of developing mutual personal acquaintances among members themselves, Rotary has opened the door to many who might not otherwise have been prompted to accept a leading role in community leadership. Men who might otherwise have gone on living a life of singleness of purpose have blossomed forth as broadened human beings with a keen sense of obligation to their fellows and the world at large.

THE HERALD salutes Rotary on its 50th Anniversary and extends special good wishes and congratulations to the Torrance Rotary club on this golden occasion.

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.)

Little Leagues

Torrance Herald: The American and National Little Leagues and the Babe Ruth League wish to thank the people who have been so generous in donating time and materials toward the erection of a baseball field for the boys of Torrance, especially the Latham Equipment Co. of Gardena, Lawrence Linton of Torrance, and J. A. "Tex" Williams of Torrance for the fine cooperation in connection with the fill dirt provided for the past weekend.

We are still in need of labor and materials, and anyone in a position to offer either one, please appear at the ball park location on Del Amo, near Western, any Saturday morning.

A meeting of the Babe Ruth League will be held in the Union Hall at 1316 Border Ave. at 8 p.m. Monday, the 28th of February. Similar meetings will be held every other Monday thereafter at this same location. Anyone interested in baseball is urged to attend.

P. L. McMICHAEL, Vice-president Torrance Babe Ruth League, Inc.

For Annexation

Torrance Herald: As a real estate broker and taxpayer in the city of Torrance, I do not concur in the findings and pronouncement made by the Torrance Board of Education and Dr. Hull. I have been in the real estate business in Hollywood Riviera associated with Victor J. Green since 1950, and during this period I have seen value of properties increase as follows: Residence lots from \$750 in 1947 to \$8500 in 1955. Business lots from \$300 in 1947 to \$20,000 in 1955. Apartment lots from \$1500 in 1947 to \$12,000 in 1955. The same proportional in-

crease would occur in the Great Lakes Carbon Corporation land if the City Council would approve annexation. If the Council hesitates due to certain pressure, they then should place same on the next ballot, leaving all the voters express their choice.

As the reason given by the Board of Education for opposing the annexation, the following is submitted as to school tax that I paid during 1954-55 tax year:

- Torrance \$2,9920
- Redondo 4,9268
- Los Verdes 3,2877
- Los Angeles 2,6039

We do not have any children attending school or other institutions of learning supported by the taxpayers.

For the future of Torrance I cannot see any reason for the opposing viewpoint.

Wishing you greater success with your newspaper, I am,

Sincerely,
M. L. HOFFENBERG

School Reporting

Torrance Herald: The Torrance Board of Education, the administration, the faculty, and all the friends of the schools are very appreciative of the factual quality of the reporting which you are doing on school matters. We are referring, particularly, to the very excellent spread covering the front page of the second section on Thursday, Feb. 10, describing the school situation in Torrance.

We feel that the author of those articles must have taken considerable time to study the program, and visit the schools, taking such excellent pictures, and then putting it in such readable form.

This communication is the result of an official action by the Board of Education.

J. H. HULL, Secretary, Board of Education

THINGS TO TALK ABOUT
BY FRANKLIN J. MURNE
Editor, American Peoples Encyclopedia

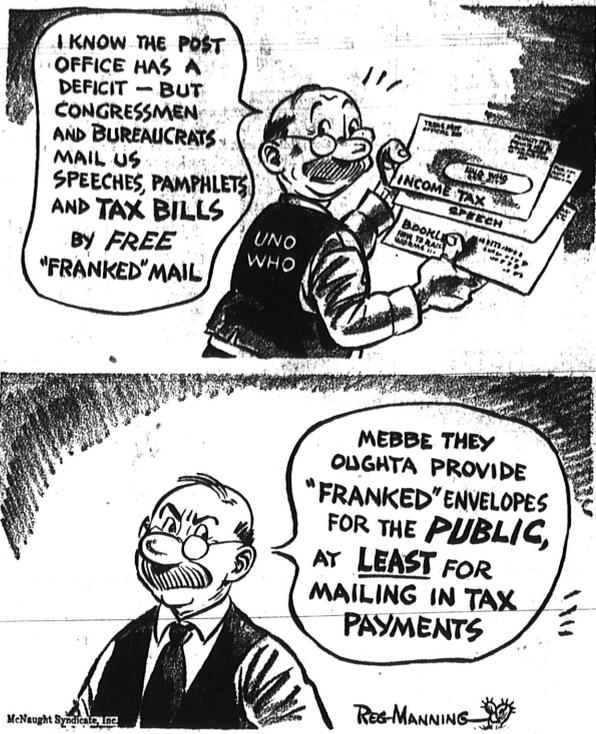
FRANK BEDDOR JR., of Minneapolis, set the long distance water ski record by traveling down the Mississippi river 228 miles, non-stop from Memphis.

AND WE WITHOUT A CAMERA!

More than half of all the transportation facilities in the world are in the United States! These include roads, airways, railroads, waterways and pipelines.

ONE FAMILY OUT OF EVERY FOUR IN THE UNITED STATES OWNS A CAMERA.

A "Frank" Discussion



Public Platform Changes Of All Things

By TOM RISCHER
HERALD Staff Writer

Abe Lincoln's beard would probably have bristled like a scared cat's tail if he had heard some of the things that were said about him in Lincoln Day observances a last week.

Various Republicans, orating in their most flowery fashion, expressed their belief that if Lincoln were alive today, he would:

1. Have been horrified at seeing the party he founded being led down the "road to Socialism" by President Eisenhower.
2. Have been delighted at seeing the progressive course that President Eisenhower is taking.
3. Have been so disgusted with the whole bunch that he would vote Democratic.
4. Have been so "fed up with politics that he would have gone to a monastery.

Politicians often seem to get so carried away with themselves when they start talking that the result is often incongruous. Great American heroes are often invoked to prove that they would have supported popular measures of this day.

This peculiar disease is not limited to Republicans, however. Just a few years ago, speaking at a Jackson Day dinner, President Roosevelt called on the powers that be to provide the Democrats with a "triple portion" of the spirit of "Old Hickory."

It was just two years ago, at the Democratic National Convention, that Gov. Paul Dever of Massachusetts got so carried up in the air that he publicly and praising the Democrats that he lost his voice. Everybody knows that a politician without a voice is like a piano player with both arms in a sling.

At the Republican Convention Sen. Everett Dirksen, of Illinois, in nominating Senator Taft for President, called him "a modern Joshua to lead us into the promised land."

Just what gets into politicians when they get on a public platform is still a scientific mystery, but there must be some magic chemical which transforms them from perfectly normal men into masters of the flourish, the flowery, and, at times, the ridiculous.

For instance, the public has long since gotten over being startled when they see their favorite candidate:

1. Kissing a baby (age 30 days to 30 years).
2. Wearing an Indian war bonnet.
3. Embracing persons of all races, creeds, and colors.
4. Fitching hay in a freshly pressed Hart, Schaffner and Marx suit.

Their behavior is seemingly based on the "just folks" idea, with the oratorical flourishes designed to prove that they

are following in the footsteps of the greatest men who ever lived.

The late Will Rogers once observed that when you met a politician in private he was as normal as anybody, but when he got on the public stage—there was no telling what would happen. He often called them "fellow comedians."

At any rate, it appears that on Lincoln Day, Jackson Day, the Fourth of July, Memorial Day, Veterans Day and, in fact, any other convenient day, Americans are likely to hear these flowery outbursts.

But it is during elections that this verbiage hits its height.

A typical nominating speech at a convention runs something like this:

"Mr. Chairman, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Clark, Senator Twiddle, Senator Waddle, ladies, gentlemen, children and any others whom I may have missed, but certainly did not mean to."

"It is my privilege today to bring before you the name of a man who has served his country well for more years than most of us can remember.

"He is the name of a man who is a friend of the farmer, the laborer, the businessman, the housewife, the home, mother, religion, the Indian, horses, conservation, the Negro, the family, and the rights of the individual.

"He has fought vice wherever he has found it, and has struggled against great odds to maintain virtue against the wicked doings of the people of the other political party. Throughout his life he has gone to church every Sunday (and sometimes during the week), and has donated to charities too numerous to mention here.

"During the course of his political career, he has been everybody's friend, and has worked for the best interests of all. He is above political pressure, and has vigorously resisted the entreaties of lobbyists.

"He is a modern Paul Revere, George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Andrew Jackson, Daniel Boone, and Tom Jefferson all rolled into one."

This beginning will be followed by a lengthy recital, with lavish use of adjectives, of the man's career.

It will climax with a screaming finish:

"And so, it gives me the greatest personal satisfaction to give to you, that man of the people, who is loved from the storm-tossed coasts of Maine to the sunny shores of California—Festiva! X. Quish-quash."

Most Americans know how the speech will go, before it is ever spoken.

WHAT'S THE LATEST on those American fliers in Red China?

Haven't heard anything about them lately. Such storms die pretty quickly, don't they?

So now we're going about business as usual while they continue to rot in a filthy prison camp on a foreign shore.

Wonder if there is still a spark of hope in their hearts? Wonder if they try to focus their eyes on a spot beyond the barbed wire . . . a spot that lies in the general direction of the land they knew as America?

JOHN HVASTA, the Navy veteran who was a prisoner of the Reds for five years, will have a lot to say when he speaks tomorrow at 7:15 p.m. in the First Congregational Church in Los Angeles.

He'll tell about constant beatings, long and exhaustive interrogations and solitary confinement "which," he readily admits, "left me feeling senseless and on the threshold of insanity."

Hvasta went to Czechoslovakia in 1948 to further his studies under the GI Bill. Just short of a year after his arrival, he was arrested as "a dirty American spy."

He was 20 years old.

HIS CAPTORS demanded a "confession." They wanted the name of his "spy-master." Rather than reel off names "of those who were as innocent as I" Hvasta endured beatings on the soles of his feet and imprisonment.

Well, he finally made his escape . . . made a bid for freedom with six fellow prisoners. Two were recaptured and executed.

Hvasta dodged the Comrades for 20 months, making his way to Prague where he managed to slip past two Red guards and into the U. S. Embassy where he was granted asylum.

Today, the young man is calling upon the American public to remember those who are yet imprisoned in European Red satellite countries and in Red China. He's already spoken to more than 60,000 people in person and has appeared frequently on radio and television.

"ACTION, NOT WORDS, will produce results," he maintains. "We must organize public opinion . . . let the Reds know that 160 million Americans mean business. If peace is to be achieved, then let's start with the release of those who fought for it!" Hvasta concluded.

Yes . . . the storm's died down, but the American air men can retain a spark of hope.

Hvasta is not alone in his crusade . . . for their freedom.

The SQUIRREL CAGE

By REID BUNDY

When we got rid of the depression-sired bureau of the press by their initials only, we thought we were on the road to "normalcy," whatever that is, but we see that the shades of PWA, WPA, NYA, CCC, AAA, and NRA are still with us.

Instead of identifying only federal government bureaucracies now, however, the initials names may identify anything from a voluptuous movie queen to a snub detector, and, frankly, it's getting a little confusing.

Just the other day, for example, some bright clerk came up with the complete smog glossary of initial names and wound up with APE—air pollution expert.

Now he may be right, but a thing like this could get out of hand.

Take the movie queen identifier, for example, immediately thought of Marilyn Maxwell, and not Monroe like I supposed. It could even be Mary Martin, for that matter. It could even be Myrtle Mergatroyd, our first love. Who knows? Nevertheless, they're going so far that a "constant reader" needs a glossary of the more apt initial names which will be coming along. As our contribution to the understanding of our readers, we herewith submit some terms which will be popping up in the news soon.

GOOP—On first glance, you might think this refers to a character trait prevalent in some of your friends (not mine) but you are wrong here. It stands for Orientation Observation and Orientation Federation. True, this will see limited use, but if you store this bit of wisdom away, you should be able to use it handily shortly after the first of February, 1956.

BOOB—like the first initial name given, this one may remind you of a friend (not mine), but if you'll stop and think for a minute, you'll see it plainly stands for the Believers of the Omniscience of Oulja Boards. And any one that would is.

NUT—Here's a new one that you should be running into any day, now. When you hear this you'll know someone is campaigning for Nicksels for Ubangi Tribesmen. The poor tribesmen of Ubangi are about the only people left on earth who are not being used to provide a reason for telethons, door-to-door canvassing by kids with hastily re-labeled tomato cans, and community drive drives, complete with chairman. Volunteers will be around any day, however.

There you are. There are literally hundreds more, but space limitations prohibit listing them all—we just skimmed the cream of the new alphabet crop.

We would appreciate it if you would remember us, however, and when a GOOP, BOOB, or NUT taps on your shoulder, say,

"Oh yes, I read about you in the Squirrel Cage."

Boris Woolley doesn't attach any special significance to it, but he reports that the day he notified the city that he wanted to be relieved of his duties as city prosecutor he was given four (4) parking tickets by Torrance police.

The Southern California Hardwood Flooring Council has figured out that Southern homeowners took nearly 75 trillion (that's \$7,500,000,000) in their homes last year. Stretch all those steps out in a line and they would reach from here to Macy's basement.

Did you ever get locked out of your house or car? That very thing happened to a couple of ladies we know, recently. The first one was delivering a few hand-picked rocks to the home she and her husband are building in Palos Verdes. She had picked them up at a building site, a firm and took them to the site of the new house in the trunk of her car. After unloading the stone, a helpful workman slammed the trunk lid down on the car. That's right — the keys were laid in the trunk. He then took out the back seat of the auto to recover them.

Another lady we know was out hanging up clothes at her fairly new home the other day. When she started back into the house, she was locked. The baby was inside alone. A frantic call from a neighbor's house to her husband, working downtown, brought him out on the double to open the house. They now have an extra key hidden out so that won't happen again.

AFTER HOURS

By JOHN MOLEY

One of the severest critics of Chiang Kai-shek and Nationalist China is Dr. K. C. Wu, former governor of Formosa, and now living in Evanston, Ill. I had met Dr. Wu in Formosa and was his guest on every trip to the island.

Until 1953 Dr. Wu was a close confidant of President Chiang Kai-shek . . . and one of his staunch supporters.

On April 10, 1953 the Executive Yuan on Formosa accepted Dr. Wu's resignation as governor on "account of ill health" and his request to fly to the United States for medical treatment was promptly granted.

Since his arrival here in April, 1953, Dr. Wu has made various derogatory appraisals of Chiang Kai-shek and the Republic of China. In lectures and writings he has bitterly assailed the Nationalist government as a "police state" and a "dictatorship."

Shortly before leaving Formosa Dr. Wu wrote the following preface over his signature to a book on Formosa, while he was still governor in 1953:

"Formosa," Dr. Wu wrote, "is a bastion of Free China in her struggle against the Communists and is strategically of supreme importance to all democratic nations with vital interests in the Far East." I have two copies of this book. One of them was given to me by Dr. Wu . . . and the other during my last visit with the Generalissimo and Madame Chiang Kai-shek in their home at Grass Mountain, just outside Taipei. The book is published by the China News, Taipei, under the title, "Directory of Taiwan."

This and other laudatory statements of Dr. Wu on Nationalist China are a far cry from the derogatory and contradictory statements he is making in his writings and speeches while a guest of the United States, which a nation has expressed its confidence and support of the present government of the Republic of China and its dedicated leader, President Chiang Kai-shek.

If the Nationalist government were a police state, as Dr. Wu claims, he would not have been given permission to leave Formosa, since his relations with government officials had become quite strained by 1953. If the Nationalist government had anything to hide, they would not have allowed Dr. Wu to come to the United States, where he would be free to criticize it.

Reds Have No Legal Claim to Formosa. Since Formosa broke into the headlines a few weeks ago, much confusion has resulted as to who has legal claim on Formosa. Russia and Red China insist that Formosa belongs to the Communist government. Such claims are the usual Red-propaganda to confuse, divide and frustrate their own stooges and the Free world.

Red China has no legal claim to Formosa and the Communists know it. Formosa was ceded to Japan at the end of the first Chinese-Japanese war in 1895 under the Treaty of Shimonoseki. On Dec. 1, 1943 Roosevelt, Chiang Kai-shek and Churchill declared at the Cairo conference, "that all territories seized by Japan from China, such as Manchuria, Formosa and the Pescadores, should be returned to China." This was affirmed by the Potsdam declaration of July 20, 1945. The United States liberated Formosa from Japanese military occupation on Sept. 2, 1945 formally invited China to administer Formosa pending final action by the United Nations, or by the allied powers. No final action was taken by the UN because the Chinese civil war complicated the question of ownership, with the National-

ists occupying Formosa and the Communists the mainland. That's where matters stand today.

A Brief History of Formosa. Outside of the United States Formosa is referred to as Taiwan. Since the Yuan dynasty (Mongolian) controlled the island to about 1368 A.D. it was called Taiwan, which in Chinese means, "Terraced Bay." The Portuguese navigators were the first Europeans to land on Taiwan about 1600 and called it Formosa, which in Portuguese means "Beautiful Island." The Dutch invaded Taiwan in 1624 and ruled it until 1661, and during that period the name Formosa was maintained. The Ming dynasty, crumbling before the invading Manchus, fought the Dutch off Taiwan and made the island a refuge for Chinese fleeing from Manchuria. After a short time the Manchus invaded Taiwan and occupied it for over 200 years. The population grew from less than 100,000 to some 5,000,000 by 1895, when China was defeated in the Sino-Japanese war and at the Treaty of Shimonoseki ceded Taiwan to Japan.

For some 50 years Japan ruled Taiwan as a supplement to the Japanese economy. Taiwan was treated as a Japanese colony, and exploited to the fullest. From the beginning the Japanese administrators experienced general resentment from the people of Taiwan. It took years for Japan to bring the resistance under control. When Japan invaded Manchuria in 1931, the Chinese on Taiwan resumed their sabotage against their colonial oppressors.

There have been to Taiwan several times in the past four years. I am returning again shortly. I have called Taiwan "the beachhead of the Free World in the Far East." The Kuomintang, Dr. Sun Yat-sen's Nationalist party, which sponsored the Three People's Principles and formed the backbone of the Nationalist government under President Chiang Kai-shek, is rebuilding and healing the wounds of the past. It is dedicated to the last man to liberate the mainland. Taiwan today is an inspiration of courage, faith and human dedication to freedom from Communist oppression.

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IT'S A FACT

By JERRY CAHILL

AS A MICHIGAN D.S.M., I NEVER SAILED ON SALT WATER. BUT I BECAME AN AUTHOR OF A SERIES. WHAT WAS HIS NAME? ANSWER NEXT ISSUE.

THE DOUGLAS AIRLINERS WERE CONCEIVED ON A RAILROAD ENGINE. HENRY WITZEL AND ARTHUR CHANDLER, CLEVELAND, DREW UP BLUE PRINTS WHILE TRAVELING BY TRAIN TO KANSAS CITY.

THE ORIGINAL NAMBY-PAMBY! AMBROSIO PAMPLI, 19th-century English poet. NOTE: ONLY WIKELY SENTIMENTAL PHOTOGRAPHS THAT HE TOOK. NAMBY-PAMBY WAS NOT A CHILD BECAUSE SHOWN WITH HIS ANTIQUARIAN.

WAGNER WHEELER - ENTIRELY SURROUNDED BY THE SUMMER HOME OF E. C. HAYLOR, 1890-1910. (See page 14)

