

EDITORIALS

Airport Threatened

A serious threat to the continued growth of Torrance Municipal Airport, one of the few first class private airports left in Southern California, was revealed last week when city officials alerted Congressmen in Washington that the Army planned to install a Nike site on the airport which would seriously curtail future plans for the field.

No one, including the city officials who are protesting the site, can argue that the Nike sites are not a highly important link in the defensive chain ringing the Southland. But, by the same token, so is a first class airport capable of handling all but the largest planes.

The Torrance Municipal Airport, operated as a P-38 base during World War II in conjunction with March Field operations, was turned over to the city following the War as surplus property with the proviso that its use be restricted to airport functions.

There must be other sites available for installation of the guided missile launching base in this area. To deprive the area of much needed airport facilities, for what could be an indefinite period, would be a major blow to the city, the area, and the Southland. It would cost several million dollars to duplicate the facilities at Torrance Municipal Airport, and the chances of any agency doing this is remote indeed.

We agree with the city's protest and suggest that our representatives in Washington exert all possible efforts in saving our airport. It's a valuable asset.

THE MAIL BOX

Editor, Torrance Herald:

With 94 per cent of our fund campaign goal actually in hand, and other monies expected over a period of the next two or three months from employe solicitation, it appears that our 1955 Red Cross fund campaign has been a distinct success.

You contributed to this record through the generous support your newspaper gave the local committees and the hundreds of volunteer door-to-door workers who brought the money in. Front page placement of stories and pictures not only explained the need,

but encouraged the campaign workers in their efforts.

In the months ahead when ever you read that a life has been saved by Red Cross blood or through first aid taught in a Red Cross class, I hope that you will realize personal satisfaction in having helped to make it possible.

W. B. Ross, Director
Public Information Dept.

The Freelancer

By TOM RISCHÉ, Herald Staff Writer

It used to be that the weather was something which everybody thought was in the hands of God.

Nowadays, instead of praying for rain, people are paying for rain. All of this has led many people to wonder whether everybody wasn't better off when God had control.

According to Dr. Irving Langmuir, pioneer rainmaker, man's effort at controlling the weather may have been responsible for both floods and droughts in many parts of the United States in recent years.

The disastrous Missouri River flood of 1951, a Georgia hurricane in 1947, and recent droughts in the Southwest all may have been caused by rainmaking experiments, he said.

All this leads Dr. Langmuir and others to wonder whether man hadn't better quit messing around with the weather. The fact is that some parts of the country are getting more rain, which is good, but that other parts of the U.S. aren't getting as much, which is bad. It helps some people and hurts others.

When a man buys a piece of property, he used to study weather conditions to see how much rain he could count on for his crops. Now, he has no certainty that those black rain clouds which used to float by won't be whisked somewhere else by rainmakers.

It is understandable that less fortunate areas want the clouds "risked their way."

This could lead to a battle over who owns the clouds which float overhead, just as there is now a fight over who owns the water which flows along the earth.

The problem is a knotty one, since nobody has any assurance that rain would have fallen in any one area anyhow. Nobody has any real proof that rainmaking does any good, except that rain now falls where it didn't use to, and doesn't fall now where it used to.

Anyhow, where farmers could once call on God to straighten out the weather, they now have to call on the courts. A lot of them think that God was a better judge than man is now.

The weather, which has been a good topic of conversation since Adam met Eve, is even a bigger one now.

If the weather isn't good, who's the blamer?

The weather bureau still claim that they just predict the weather, not make it. It doesn't seem as if their predictions are any better now, though, since man started messing with the weather.

LAW IN ACTION

KEEP DAMAGE DOWN

Even though you are the injured party, the law of torts holds that you must take reasonable steps to keep the damage to you down. Unless you act reasonably, you cannot collect for the damages that result from your failure to act.

Suppose through neglect John dropped a match in some gasoline and set fire to your garage. It burned part of the building and left your tools out in the rain. You saw the tools lying around but decided to let them lie there for a while. You were sure. Several days later you saw that your tools were rusted and useless.

When you sued John for damages, you wanted to get the cost of repairing the building plus the damage to your tools. John claimed that he should not pay for the tools. And he was right, as the court held.

Why can't you get damages for your tools? When you are harmed by the wrong of another, the law calls on you to cut down the damages so far as you reasonably can.

Of course, you do not have to spend a lot of money or take dangerous risks. But within reason you must use the means at hand to prevent needless damage. You could have easily covered up your tools or moved them in out of the rain.

Where you do not try to cut down the harm, you can get only those damages which you could not have reasonably avoided.

Here you could have kept the damage to your tools down merely by sheltering them without much cost or risk. The law calls on you to do so.

NOTE: The State Bar of California offers this column for your information so that you may know more about how to act under our laws.

When A Glacier Thaws—



It's Your Country

By JOHN W. BECK

Our Political Disease

PREDICAMENT: With the "red" fringes screaming demands that Mr. Eisenhower take "an open stand against the Bricker amendment"—a repetition of presidential fornicities that hardly seems necessary in view of last year's performance—it appears that the treaty-clubbing amendment may be in for some rough going. This year we have additional Executive interference in the form of White House orders preventing Secretary of State Dulles from giving testimony on the amendment.

Nobody is the situation helped or clarified by some of the once conservative senators, columnists, and commentators who have professed to favor the Bricker amendment. Among them are men who have spent the best years of their lives taking the hide off FDR, Harry Truman, and Dean Acheson, but who recently have become apologists for Mr. Eisenhower who appears to be doing his level best to carry out the policies laid down by FDR, Harry Truman, and Dean Acheson.

Such confusion is symptomatic of a political disease which afflicts people who are obsessed with party labels, political expediency, hero worship, and bandwagon riding. When Mr. Eisenhower reaffirms his "open stand" against the Bricker amendment, as he undoubtedly will unless it is sufficiently watered down to meet his internationalist complex, certain senators, columnists, and commentators will find themselves in an exceedingly uncomfortable predicament.

LOOK TO HOUSE: Urgent, as we need the Bricker amendment in its very strongest version, perhaps we should avert our eyes from that embarrassing spectacle for the moment and take a look at

the House of Representatives. At least two House members have shown spine-stiffening action which merits the support of every American who cherishes the Constitution and wishes to preserve the freedom and sovereignty of this Republic.

On Jan. 31, 1955, Rep. Usher L. Burdick (R., N.D.) introduced in the House of Representatives H.R. 3296, a bill "To rescind and revoke membership in the United Nations and the specialized agencies thereof, and for other purposes."

H.R. 3296 further provides that all appropriations for the UN, and its agencies be rescinded; that the International Organizations Immunities Act of December 29, 1945, be repealed; and that any and all Executive orders extending or granting immunities, benefits, and privileges under said Act be rescinded, revoked, and held for naught.

UNUSUAL COURAGE: Rep. Burdick, a Republican, could not be unaware of our supposedly Republican President's passionate devotion to the United Nations and other international organizations. Mr. Eisenhower has made his internationalism quite clear, both in his book "Crusade in Europe" and in practically every public utterance since he became President. It must, therefore, have required unusual courage for a Republican congressman to introduce a bill which would take the U.S. out of the UN and thus prevent the surrender of American sovereignty through that particular conspiracy.

Naturally, H.R. 3296 was given no publicity and no discussion. On the contrary, it was swept under the rug with all possible speed. The rug in this case being the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, a committee which is

most liberally studded with left-wing internationalists. There it undoubtedly will remain unless it is forced out by public demand.

SUPPORTING ACTION:

Meanwhile another Republican congressman has shown similar courage and independence, which again places the House in refreshing contrast to the more subservient Senate. On April 24, speaking on a nationwide radio program, Rep. H. R. Gross of Iowa said the United States should withdraw from the United Nations "forthwith."

The UN Charter, said Gross, "stands as a constant threat and peril to the Constitution and precious liberties and rights of American citizens." Further, that the UN is a "spawning ground" for spies and subversives; as well as a sounding board for Russian propaganda. If enough people heard Gross' statements they should muster support for Burdick's bill H.R. 3296 to withdraw the U. S. from the UN. At least the spark is there; it is up to the people to fan it and not allow it to be smothered by silence.

Obviously, neither the Bricker amendment nor H.R. 3296 would cure the political disease which threatens the life of this Republic, but they would be a long step in the direction of a cure. Of the two, H.R. 3296, revoking membership in the UN and its agencies, would be more beneficial for it could be more quickly enacted. It would eliminate at once the hideous dangers which confront us in the UN and its monstrous treaties and conventions such as UNESCO, ILO, Human Rights, and Genocide.

The SQUIRREL CAGE

By REID BUNDY

SATURDAY BLUES

Rain, rain go away.

Little Reid wants to play golf.

Eager young man named Ritz Miller has been asking me lately to say something about his campaign to have all motorists turn on their headlights whenever they are driving their autos, and to leave them on regardless of the time of day.

Miller has gone to considerable pains to prove his point, and has collected accident statistics, photos, and details from all corners of the nation. Most of them, he claims, might have been avoided if the motorists had turned on their headlights.

A car or truck a mile away will be recognized quicker if it has lights on, Miller claims. He also points up such other benefits as distinguishing vehicles approaching out of the sun and those vehicles whose color scheme tends to blend with the background.

He may have something.

The current issue of a Hollywood trade paper carries a neat little subscription box on the back page with the caption: "Spare yourself our high pressure coaxing letter. Subscribe now!" No one can say he wasn't warned.

Did you ever try to pronounce Ballona Creek, that ditch of water running through Culver City and West Los Angeles which is the scene of the UCLA-crew races? Well, let me tell you there are as many ways to pronounce it as there are people trying. Just in the City Council chambers here during the past few weeks, when the creek came under discussion in connection with the dumping of Los Angeles sewage, you could hear half a dozen pronunciations. City Manager Stevens, former Culver City city manager, gives it the Spanish pronunciation which is common among residents of that area. He calls it Buy-yona—which is probably just about right. From there on it goes through ball-loona, bal-loona, Bay-loona, bay-loona, etc. Especially etc.

"It's the little things in life that tell." Dodo Owens said as she hauled her kid brother out from behind the sofa Saturday evening.

"P.S. Sick, sick, sick"—the quote of the week.

Glazed Glances

By Barney Glazer

My nose has always been out of joint trying to figure this one. On our street a warning sign to motorists reads pleadingly: "Don't Kill Our Children," yet I've personally heard at least a dozen mothers on our immediate block scream at their children: "Sometimes I could kill you!"

. . . . In our town, a couple have welcomed their 12th child but can't think of an appropriate name. Why not call it Quits? We hear that Aga Khan wants his son, Aly, to settle down. Wants the kid to stop building castles in the air and start building heirs in the castle Hep talk from a teenager: "My mother really sends me. She sends me to the store, she sends me to the neighbors, she sends me to school, she sends me"



Just to prove that the privacy of my home has been invaded—let me speak of last night when I heard my wife shout something bitter and caustic, so I strode into the room with a chip on my shoulder demanding: "What did you say?" Without looking up, she dismissed me with this curt reply: "I wasn't talking to you. I was telling off this wise-guy television announcer" I visited a local Chinese restaurant, waited nervously for my fortune cookie, anxiously broke it open, and there was MY MESSAGE: "Please send help. Have been shanghaied by the Canton Cookie Company" Don't ever ask Robert O. Vincent, erstwhile newspaper editor, whatever happened to his cow because he'll dutifully reply: "Oh, that's just another story."

So help me, I swear it's true. A man's television set broke down while he was watching "Medic" and he sent the repair bill to Blue Cross! Now that the old-time waltz, "Melody of Love," is a repeat hit, our kids are finally learning how to walk and fall in love gracefully, the same way their parents used to do. I've always trembled to watch two growing children fall in love and pursue their romance to a wedded end while dancing and listening to the turbulent and violent strains of "Oh, Rock and Sock" or "Oop Sheop Dragnet" When his phone rang, a local citizen suddenly fell into a pukeish mood and answered: "Harper's Bar—our fourth jigger will lay you out blind," and wouldn't you know it would have to be his minister calling to invite him to become an elder of the church!

We know a man who married a woman attorney just because he anticipated huge financial returns from suing anyone and everyone who even as much as sneered at him. He's the most disappointed man in town and all because he's the most law-abiding fellow in town because his wife is constantly coaching him how to avoid becoming involved in litigation A tiny Negro lad stood alongside a

man selling balloons. He asked: "Mister, if a white balloon broke loose, would it fly real high?" The man nodded. Again the youngster inquired: "If a yellow balloon broke loose, would that fly high, too?" Yes, it would, the vendor agreed. Finally, the boy asked: "Would a black balloon fly high, too?" Bending down, the salesman said seriously: "Yes, son, it would, and just remember that color has nothing to do with it. It's what's inside that makes it rise."

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Crossword Puzzle

1. Horizontal
2. Deep ravine
3. Hole in the ground
4. Edible issue
5. Obed
6. Pronoun
7. Hundred
8. At
9. Anglo-Daxon money of account
10. Rhin
11. East Indian tree
12. Mud deposit
13. Put on
14. Within
15. Common (Abbr.)
16. Negative
17. Donee
18. Reclamation of surplus
19. Era (Abbr.)
20. Implant
21. Command
22. Twenty seven
23. Entire
24. Floot with current
25. River (Span.)
26. Netline
27. Reduce in rank
28. Lieutenant (Abbr.)
29. Exist
30. Cation
31. Subterranean cell
32. Base metal
33. VERTICAL
34. Heavenly
35. Flower wreath
36. Young sheep
37. Fruit drinks
38. Rumen
39. Pronoun
40. Between nations
41. Transaction
42. Kind of textile
43. Kind of textile
44. Asian silkworm
45. Particler
46. Prean for par-mast
47. Flying mammal
48. Napped (april)
49. Pertinacious to
50. Injure
51. Turkish
52. Struck
53. Acid
54. To be sick
55. Nave
56. To be sick
57. Descend (far)
58. Toward
59. Lumber
60. Aid
61. Lake (Combine term)
62. Negative

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Look for Answers on Page 11

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