

# EDITORIALS

## The City Steps Out

Step No. 1 toward obtaining an adequate court system for the more than 100,000 residents of Torrance, Gardena, Lomita, and Rolling Hills was taken this week by the Torrance City Council with the instructions to the City Attorney that a resolution be drawn formally offering a site on the new Torrance Civic Center to the County for the purpose of erecting a municipal court center for the district now served by a court situated within a few hundred yards of the district's boundary.

On motion of Councilman Willys G. Blount, the Councilmen present voted unanimously this week to formally offer the Civic Center site to the county for court purposes.

This is one of the steps recommended Monday by the HERALD in its lead editorial. The Court Steering Committee, made up of leading Torrance residents, also was asked by the HERALD to make its own report on the County survey which has been in process, apparently, since last April. The HERALD further asked that city officials and residents of the area now served inadequately by South Bay Municipal Court let the County supervisors and other officials know that they are fed up with the inconvenience of being served by a court whose location was apparently chosen without consideration for the thousands of persons it was designed to serve.

The HERALD can no longer ignore the fact that nearly half the area served by the present South Bay Municipal Court is occupied solely by fish in the Pacific Ocean.

The HERALD can no longer ignore the fact that a large percentage of the residents of the South Bay Municipal Court District are put to an extreme inconvenience—some of them forced to travel from Whites Point near San Pedro to the Hermosa Beach city limits to pay a \$2 traffic fine.

The Torrance-Peninsula area is now large enough to demand and expect to be treated as a community of more than 100,000 persons, not as a pawn to be passed back and forth in political "deals" or ignored as an unwanted stepchild.

The present disgrace which is being heaped daily on the citizens of this community can no longer be tolerated.

Establishment of a Torrance court center to serve the people of the South Bay Judicial District is long overdue. The time to correct it is now.

## A Lesson in Failure

Because industrial growth, particularly in the light or technical field, is so vitally needed in Torrance it is regrettable that all affected parties could not have reached agreement on the proposed McDonald development at Carson and Crenshaw.

It appears now that this highly desirable improvement is lost and that the property involved can continue to be an eyesore or may become something worse.

The McDonald development proposed a number of attractive industrial buildings of a type every progressive community in the United States is angling for.

Careful perusal of the minutes of meetings both before the Planning Commission, which wisely approved the rezoning and the Council, which eventually turned it down after virtual approval, leads us to the conclusion that all along the way there has been misunderstanding.

There was misunderstanding on the part of the objecting property owners, we think, because the applicants did not make altogether clear their full intentions in concrete enough form. The objectors also apparently overlooked the fact that they face a very bright future for their investment as Carson develops into a main arterial route with assured commercial and industrial development.

From this one failure the community can, we believe, gain a very valuable lesson. Industrial development of this type is so very important to the future of Torrance that it must be most seriously considered and most carefully handled if the city is to grow and prosper.

Of course the rights of every property owner must be given fair consideration. But there should be an open mind on the part of all elected and appointed officials and their decisions should be finally predicated on what is best for the community as a whole. Nothing else should rule their thinking.

## The Freelancer

Progress is great, but sometimes it's sure expensive.

Probably 99 per cent of the population has at one time or another frequented one of the huge new supermarkets which are springing up all over the area. They look fine, and they market their wares in a most enticing, attractive way.

That's just the trouble. Back in the days when I went to the neighborhood store for a pound of oleo (who can afford butter?), you came out with a pound of oleo and maybe a candy bar.

Nowadays, when I go into a new supermarket for a pound of oleo, chances are I'll come out with a jar of strawberry jam (on sale for 39 cents a gallon), 12 ears of corn (priced at only 50 cents a dozen), a gallon of ice cream (a steal at only 98 cents), a gallon of dill pickles (this week only for 99 cents), two boxes of breakfast food (complete with Davy Crockett masks, on a one cent sale), and a can of peanuts (fresh-roasted and nutted to me).

The worst of it is, I probably have forgotten the oleo and spent about \$5 in the bargain. Supermarkets were made

for weak-minded people like me, I guess, because I can't stand dill pickles anyway.

When I pass by these huge displays of goodies, I just can't contain myself and I've gotta buy some of them. I may not want any dill pickles or peanuts or ice cream, but they look like such a bargain it seems like I'd be losing money not to get some.

Then, as I march out to my car, the great light starts to dawn. How am I saving money if I bought something I didn't want or need anyway? Nevertheless, I do it every time.

Prices may be higher in some of the small neighborhood stores, but I've found that I sometimes spend less money there. I don't eat as well, however, because there is less to eat.

The poor consumer really hasn't got much of a chance when the supermarkets spend lots of time and money trying to find out what the average person likes and how he likes to eat it.

By the time they get through with their surveys, they know my mind better than I do. Pretty sneaky.



## AFTER HOURS

By JOHN MOBLEY

HONG KONG—Every day hundreds of Chinese, pro-and anti-Communists, cross the border in and out of Red China. Every noon the Canton train arrives at Lo Wu with its cargo of traders, spies, refugees. Every day the train leaves the territory of Hong Kong at Lo Wu for Canton and Communist China's interior, loaded with traders, spies and a few old Chinese going home to die on the soil of their ancestors. From such as these this reporter picks up on-the-spot, the incomplete pieces of the jigsaw puzzle and fits them into a pattern of fact, or falsehood about Red China today.

There is no other source I know available to the free world today for factual information from inside Red-China. The released prisoners, missionaries, etc., having been confined for years, can add little or nothing to the conditions in China today. Those who escape by one means or another are still the best source, if you know whom you're talking to. My old friends in Hong Kong, Saigon and Taipei have exposed me recently again to a number of escapes and refugees from the mainland of China. Here are some exclusive confidential facts I picked up about conditions inside Red China today.

There is hardly a day goes by that does not reveal evidences of escapes from Red China. They swim the two-mile strait from Amoy to Little Quemoy under the guns of the Reds . . . they escape under the barbed wire to the territory of Hong Kong . . . they escape via the thousands of Chinese junks that plow the China Sea and between the islands of Red China. I have not heard in many trips here of a single instance of anybody escaping to Red China, for surely the Peiping radio would expose it for its propaganda value. A Nationalist officer told me that escapes to Quemoy have been mounting ever since the 14,000 Chinese prisoners from Korea chose Formosa instead of returning to Red China.

I talked with one of these 14,000 Chinese who refused to return to Communist China. "Out of 14,000," he said, "5000 were Korean Chinese and 9000 from China. We all wanted free lives. From an entire group of 21,800 in my prison camp in South Korea, only 105 chose to go back to China. Some 14,000 of us chose Formosa and the rest of the 7700 decided to live in South Korea. Conditions in China are intolerable under the Reds."

The impact of this decision of 21,700 out of 21,800 not to return to Red China was the most resoundingly ideological defeat in Communist history," President Syngman Rhee told us in Seoul one day recently. "The impact of this decision of 21,700 out of 21,800 not to return to Red China was the most resoundingly ideological defeat in Communist history," President Syngman Rhee told us in Seoul one day recently. "The impact of this decision of 21,700 out of 21,800 not to return to Red China was the most resoundingly ideological defeat in Communist history," President Syngman Rhee told us in Seoul one day recently.

A middle-aged Chinese working in Hong Kong, who escaped recently, told me of purges, suicides and executions that shook the imagination. "Why did Peking announce that one of the leading Communist leaders, Kao Kang, Manchuria leader of the Peoples government, commit suicide," he said, "in announcing it to the West they gave the impression of guilt, whereas

in the Chinese culture suicide usually indicates an expression of protest when all other means of registering disapproval fail."

Another told me of mass executions of the aged and the sick. One Red official told him in Shanghai that China's population is increasing at the rate of 20,000,000 a year and "there isn't enough food to share with the old people."

"The greatest problem in China was always overpopulation," a Christian Chinese said to me in Saigon. "I escaped in a junk with my parents to save them from execution, for this is the Communist way of reducing the family. Not one child of 70 or over remained in our village the last few months before we fled. They were all taken to 'rest homes,' which everyone knew were their graves. No word ever came back to the village from any of those taken away."

The story-book city of Peiping, with glittering Manchu palaces and grimy dirty peasant huts was described to me by another escapee as a bustling, gay, vice-ridden place, the like of which never existed in old China. By day the Communist men and women dress in a standardized blue trousers and coat with blue "engineers-cap" to match. By night the silks, brocades, furs

and velvets are worn by the women and imported woollens and silks by the men. Houses of prostitution, gambling and opium dens, night clubs, have multiplied in recent years. Theaters show only filmed versions of Chinese operas and Soviet pictures.

An escaped Chinese sentry, who used to guard the border, told me how he aided one group of 18 escape after killing the officer in charge. "I arrange it all because," he said to me, "I couldn't take it any longer. They tortured my family and friends even though I cooperated with the party."

He told me of his last trip to Peiping last July. He saw five new luxury hotels, one exclusively occupied by Russian officials. He reported many new government buildings. "I saw new American cars, radios and appliances for sale in the government-controlled stores," he said, "but out of reach of all but few."

"The stores are well stocked with foreign goods, but very expensive," he continued. "Soviet made cars, Zim and Zis, predominate, but prohibitive for the middle class. We rode on new Sikoda buses from Czechoslovakia, but the old U. S. trucks converted into buses are still the best riding and most popular in Peiping."



## LAW IN ACTION

### THE BIG COURT AND THE LITTLE PEOPLE

Our Supreme Court's big decisions often deal with little people, and seemingly trifling things like the litter on streets.

1. Take Griffin, Georgia, a town which made you have a license to hand out leaflets. There a man invited arrest, and broke the law on purpose.

And through the state courts and at last to the U. S. Supreme Court went the case. At stake: The freedom of the press. Was distribution a part of the right to a free press? The city had kept no one from printing; it had merely stopped them from handing out the printed matter.

Where did the court look for light? First to the Bill of Rights—which sets up the right to a free press. Then the Judges read Post John Milton's *Areopagitica*. He had written his great essay on the free press long ago because England had banned one of his pamphlets. From him truth need never fear a free and open contest with falsehood.

At last the court decided: The city had struck "at the freedom of the press by subjecting it to license and censorship."

If you can license a free press, the court said, you can also charge for the license, deny it, or grant it on terms pleasing to those in power.

These are old dogmas to cripple a free and vigorous press. "Liberty of circulation is essential to liberty of publishing." Otherwise why publish? 2. Or take the flag saluting: West Virginia made all school children pledge allegiance to the flag or be expelled.

Now, during World War II feeling ran high. The Board thought that our security rested on the unity the flag stands for.

Children must salute and say the oath, the Board held, whether they believed in what they said or not. A religious group balked.

They owed allegiance only to God, they said, though they would pledge "respect" for the flag.

Again, the Supreme Court went to the history books: All free since Rome had tried to crush the Christians came from a belief in the need for national unity. Rome thought the Christians would disrupt the Empire. But from eliminating dissent, the Romans had at last sought to get rid of dissenters.

The court did not uphold the forced flag salute. "To do so would be to make a man 'utter what was not in his mind.' In short, our constitutional freedom of speech may also give you the right to silence.

Note: The State Bar of California offers this column for you to know more about our laws.

## The SQUIRREL CAGE

By REID BUNDY

One of the troubles with this country, we read the other day, is that all of the middle-of-the-roadsers are driving cars.

While you're thinking that one over, we might contemplate a suggestion passed on to us by Charley Gots (who is about to finish the first phase of a super remodeling job on Daniel's Cafe here). Charley maintains that everybody should develop a pipe smoking habit.

"Pipe smokers are never hurried into fast decisions," Charley says. "If someone comes into your office and puts you on the spot for a decision, reach for the pipe. Clean the stem, the bowl, put in some tobacco, tamp it down, light a match—see you've taken up quite a bit of time which you can spend thinking about the answer." Not only that, but some pipes can be smoked for several minutes—especially if the question is a tough one. Cigarette smokers are at a disadvantage; they pull out a pack, light one and there is nothing left to do but answer. Charley may have something there.

How do you like the new lights on Marceline along the Post Office block? Those mercury-vapor lamps certainly put a new glow on Torrance after sundown.

Viola Klug, who lives out on Palos Verdes Blvd., thinks the Halloween "Trick-or-Treat" kids should have a pat on the back, at least those in the Allied Gardens area where she lives. "They were so nice," she claims. "They came to the door, took their treats, said 'Thank You,' and went on their way without so much as tiding a screen." The story was similar throughout town with isolated cases of vandalism cropping up here and there. After reading the downtown papers, it appears that our Torrance boys and girls conducted themselves in a commendable manner, just as Mrs. Klug states.

Here and there: Saw one man unload a huge truck of toys at the Cabellito Ave., yesterday morning. Carl Goetz, who spent many years in the Orient, said it was Hong Kong, there would be two dozen coolies doing the unloading. . . . City Hall regulars are again being asked for a long siege without their corridor drinking fountain—there are nearly half dozen of those five-gallon jugs of spring water sitting on the floor by a dispenser. . . . Saw the mayor checking the engraved stop signs at 182nd St. and Crenshaw Sunday. They were still there. . . . Some of the long faces around Torrance High have turned to smiles now that the Tartars moved over into the winning column last week against Los Angeles. They plan to repeat the trick on the 10th against Redondo for the old grads who will be back for homecoming festivities. . . . May even do it against Centennial tomorrow. . . . The mallards are being bled for failure of a school bond issue a back in a Kansas community, according to my home town paper. He delivered all the County tax bills the day of the election. The bonds were soundly defeated at the polls.

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## Glazed Glances

By BARNEY GLAZER

A local citizen decided that when he died he definitely wanted to take it with him. He selected three friends and gave each the sum of \$50,000 with the promise they would place the money in his casket just before he was buried. The citizen succumbed and following his burial the three friends met to compare notes. Said one: "I put all the money in with the exception of \$3,000. I had some illness in my family." Said the second friend: "I put in all the money except \$5,000. My house mortgage was due." The third friend smiled and announced smugly: "Well, I can truthfully say that I didn't keep a dime. I made out a check for the entire sum and put it in the casket."

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Did you know that when a friend says "God bless you" after you sneeze he is protecting you in a moment of great danger? It's an old superstition that when you sneeze, your soul may escape from your body. . . . Kim Winona, full-blooded Sioux Indian girl, says with a smile "My husband and I never fight. I'm a Sioux and my husband's grandmother was a Custer. You see, our forefathers settled the family differences some time ago during that Little Big Horn incident."

Herb Caen, who raises it in his San Francisco Examiner column, claims it's against the law to jaywalk and that's why the Bay City has so many excellent jaywalkers. We think we have the best jaywalkers right here in the Southland.

Herb, so you wouldn't care to engage in a horribly one-sided contest, would you? . . . Then, Mr. Caen states that the Greatest Adventure of all time is getting caught in the middle of Market Street, in his hometown, during a signal change and wondering which way to run. That's dominating and checkers, Herb, compared to losing your hat on the Los Angeles Freeway system and then getting out to retrieve it.

Radio announcer: Make this test: Drop into a glass a Bayer Aspirin. Now drop in an aspirin fully-clothed. . . . Father: If you only earned better marks, son, it would give me a world of pleasure. Son: "That's all you think about—pleasure, please, please! You've got to learn to suffer a little, dad!"

Our town's leading grandparent calls visiting time of his offspring "loving time."

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### On Your Guard

**LINCOLN UNDER FIRE**

THE 160TH REG. OHIO NATIONAL GUARD, DEFENDED FORT STEVENS WASHINGTON, D.C. WITH PRESIDENT LINCOLN PRESENT, WHEN CONFEDERATES ATTACKED ON JULY 18, 1864. LINCOLN WAS ALMOST HIT BY SHARPSHOOTERS.

**GREAT GUARDSMAN**  
LIEUT. GEN. RAYMOND S. MULLAN  
HOLDER OF MANY DECORATIONS FOR BRAVERY, ROSE FROM PRIVATE TO BRIG GEN. IN OKLAHOMA NATIONAL GUARD. HE LATER BECAME A LIEUT. GEN. IN REGULAR ARMY.

**VETS ON GUARD**  
VETERANS UP TO AGE 65 CAN JOIN NATIONAL GUARD ANTI-AIRCRAFT UNITS DEFENDING MAJOR POPULATION AND INDUSTRIAL AREAS.

**AIR GUARD READY**  
IN CASE OF SNEAK ENEMY AIR ATTACK, AIR GUARD FIGHTER PLANES COULD GET INTO ACTION IN MATTER OF MINUTES.

### Did you know that YOU MAY GET CASH TO PAY OLD BILLS!

Here's good news for you. If you are worried over unpaid bills, or installment payments that are too large for comfort, you may get cash here to clean them all up. . . . you will then have a smaller payment, one place to pay each month, and you will HAVE EXTRA SPENDING MONEY.

This is all you have to do. List your obligations in the space below, then come in . . . phone . . . or write our office and our manager will quote you a small monthly payment with one of our "CONSOLIDATION" loans.

**Figure how much you need!**

- MEDICAL or DENTAL ATTENTION
- FURNITURE PAYMENTS
- TAXES
- AUTOMOBILE PAYMENTS
- MISCELLANEOUS BILLS

— VETERAN OPERATED —

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