

EDITORIALS

Our Junior Chamber

It is axiomatic that the future of any community rests in the quality and character of its young men. Before World War I it was assumed that a young man should wait until he was middle-aged or older before he dare express a public opinion or be so presumptuous as to try to take a position of leadership in community affairs. All that was changed by the organization on a national scale of the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

It is a hopeful sign for this community that it now has a most active Jaycee unit composed of some 85 young men under 35 who already have demonstrated real capacity for leadership.

Last week the Jaycees observed their annual Founders Week with a banquet at which they presented their "Distinguished Young Man of the Year Award" to a most deserving individual, Sgt. D. C. Cook of the Torrance Police Department's juvenile division.

The young sergeant distinguished himself in the role of police officer but still found time additionally to actively promote worthwhile juvenile activities and to take a leading part in community events. He has been an inspiration to all young men of Torrance and, although he is not a member of the Junior Chamber, he has given every member of that organization something to strive for in the year to come.

THE HERALD congratulates the Jaycees on their many accomplishments during 1955 and looks forward to the pleasure of reporting many more of their achievements in 1956.

To Run or Not to Run

It is expected that along about the 15th of February, if not sooner, President Eisenhower will announce his long-awaited decision about seeking a second term.

Some of his friends, in their eagerness to have him run again, suggest that duties of the presidency be lightened and that some powers of the office be delegated to the vice-president and other assistants.

Ike is not enthusiastic over that idea. He has indicated he will not become a part-time president. He will either decline to run, or, if he accepts the nomination, it will be with the determination to fulfill completely the duties of his office, if elected.

His decision to run or not to run is not in the hands of the politicians. It is a personal choice and the President will base his verdict upon facts known only to himself. Mamie's influence will probably outweigh the proddings of party leaders.

In a recent poll of heart specialists, three out of five expressed the opinion that Ike's health is safe enough to withstand the rigors of another four years of the presidency. Immediately Republican newspapers headlined the poll result: "Heart Specialists Say That Ike Can Run." Democratic editors emphasized that forty per cent of heart specialists polled expressed doubt as to his physical fitness, adding that any doubt concerning the physical ability of a presidential candidate should be a matter of grave concern.

Ike is paraphrasing Hamlet: "To run or not to run, that is the question..." and we think he is quite competent to answer the question for himself without any prompting from the sidelines.

Greatest Tumbling Act In Vaudeville



AFTER HOURS

By JOHN MORLEY

France... Fact and Fallacy Writing from Paris in these columns on June 23, 1955, we said: "France is not falling apart because it is not in the character of the great French people to lose their freedom and their love for the free life in this most democratic country." We also reported that "a paper and book merchant from St. Cere-du-Lot in the name of Pierre Joujade was pulling greater crowds in his rallies for the 'Defense of Small Business' than the Communists of Maurice Thorez, and fast becoming a political factor in French politics." In spite of the popular gloom of many U. S. Observers, as a result of the French elections of Jan. 2 last, this reporter is strong in his conviction that France will make the necessary political adjustments and retain its strong position in European affairs.

The peculiarities of the French electoral system are as confusing to the French voters as to the rest of the world. Too many parties (28), too many disagreements among party members themselves within parties, too many political aspirants for every office (an average of 5,000 seeking 627 Assembly seats) and too much tax corruption among the high and low, making political stability uncertain and remote.

From the returns of some 25,000,000 ballots cast for 627 seats in the French National assembly, it is now evident that the split between Premier Mendes-France's Socialist-Radical republican front has given France another impotent government and created a vacuum that was filled by the Communist party and by Mr. Pierre Joujade. Here's what happened.

Under the system of "electoral combinations" any group or coalition of parties which enters such an agreement and captures over 50 per cent of the votes in any French district, wins all the seats from that district in the National assembly. This is true even though the individual group, left to run by itself, may poll less than 20 per cent of the popular vote. Under this system in 1951 the Communists polled as high as 40 per cent of the vote in some districts.

but due to the "electoral combinations" of other parties polling more than 50 per cent of the vote combined, they lost all the seats in those particular districts. In order for the Communists to win the district's seats, they must poll alone more than 50 per cent of the district's vote. Because of the absence of this "electoral combination" in the French elections of Jan. 2 last, the Communists were able to poll more votes in some districts they had lost previously, because of the inability of Premier Faure and Mendes-France to cooperate, and the unwillingness of the Mendes-France's Mollet "combination" to function as in 1951.

In these elections the Communists lost ground in the popular vote but gained 44 seats in the National assembly, bringing their total, with their non-Communist supporters, to 150 as against 106 they held in the election of 1951. This is a formidable and serious gain. This will make it more and more difficult for the non-Communist parties, divided in themselves, to give France anything resembling a stable government. But for the pessimists to say that France is going to pot because of the unfortunate Faure-Mendes-France split is sheer ignorance and absurdity in evaluating the effects of French politics.

The system of allowing 28 political parties to function is silly. This is not the fault of the French people, but the result of selfish politicians in cahoots with greedy political bosses. The method of the French electoral system allows parties to present lists of candidates in each district under the "combination" plan, or "apparentment," whereby the combination—say, of four parties, which polls 15 per cent for a total of 60 per cent—wins all the seats against a single party which polls 40 per cent by itself. While this has been working against the Communists, sooner or later it could work against the non-Communists. In either case, it is not a fair cross section of the power of a political party.

Monsieur Joujade, who is

"Defense of Small Business" new party won about 12 per cent of the French popular vote and 51 seats in the National assembly, is a kind of modern political phenomena in French politics. Observers in the U. S. have called him a "Fascist," which he is not. They have called him an "archivist agitator," which he is not either. Joujade is a Rotarian in the small village of St. Cere-du-Lot and, like thousands of small business men in France, operates a small paper, stationery and book store. Also, like millions of Frenchmen, he is disgusted at French political tax corruption and feels that the small business man is singled out by the bureaucrats for penalties and tax impositions. He began in 1953 to organize small business men whose property was threatened by foreclosure for failure to pay taxes, while the rich got away with literal tax-mandates. When French political parties and police prevented him from exercising his legal rights, he rallied the small business men in parades and protest public meetings.

Joujade is a conservative, who hates Communism and Socialism. With 51 Poujadists in the National assembly now, the small business man is going to have representation he never had before. These 51 extreme Rightists are going to be a real threat to the 150 extreme Communists and their followers in the assembly. There is no evidence that Joujade has any dictator aspirations, but there is much evidence that the corrupt French tax picture is going to come out in the open and with it some of the corrupt political practices which have hamstringed France so often in our generation.

The SQUIRREL CAGE

By REID BUNDY

Fell to chattin' about the "good old days" with a couple of cronies in Walteria the other day and found that the three of us had shared similar experiences as flaming youth, experiences which few young Torrance lads will ever face.

The discussion started off on the topic of things "back home" and we found that the three of us were natives of neighboring areas in the great plains area of the west—back in days when a nickel was a nickel.

We could all remember working for \$1 a day and board, (or less), and our first part time jobs with an hourly rate—ranging from 23 cents an hour to 35. One finally got a job in town that paid \$12 a week. He was really living.

Things are different now. A kid out of high school looking for his first job often is more concerned about hours, retirement programs, insurance plans, sick leave, paid vacations, and automatic raises, and car allowance. And most of them get it.

That's progress in the living standards which young people of today have difficulty understanding.

But that's enough of the Bundy Memoirs for today. I'm saving the rest for "LIFE" magazine.

I didn't realize it until I read a survey report on the other day but four out of five women haters are women.

Which reminds me of the lady at the bridge table saying she always counts 10 before saying anything when she is angry. "By then I can think of something real nasty," she said.

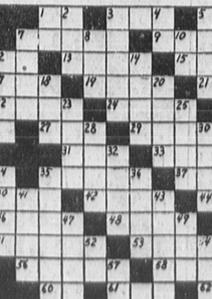
Yesterday was lawn mowing day around the plantation, which emphasized again that what this country needs is a medium priced power mower that can be operated from an air-conditioned room.

Or, for another switch on the old "What this country needs" routine is one we heard the other day (and I should have put this up closer to my opening remarks about the "good old days." But we heard the other day that what this country needs is a good five-cent nickel.



CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- HORIZONTAL
1. Bone
2. Heavenly body
3. REWARD
4. Public hall
5. Note of scale
6. Diminutive suffix
7. VERTICAL
1. Natural force
2. Berch
3. Scatter
4. Negative
5. Substance of book
6. Kind of tea
7. Merit
8. Elie
9. Number
10. Coll
11. Retain
12. Mexican laborer
13. Greek letter
14. Billed
15. Go out
16. Bilical character
17. Dull finish
18. Leg joint
19. Russian ruler
20. Emblem



- 21. WPO
22. WPO
23. WPO
24. WPO
25. WPO
26. WPO
27. WPO
28. WPO
29. WPO
30. WPO
31. WPO
32. WPO
33. WPO
34. WPO
35. WPO
36. Festive
37. Precious stone
38. Nucleated cell
39. Walked
40. Diminish toward end
41. Mesh fabric
42. Corn pit
43. Nobilia
44. New England (Abbr.)
45. Compass point
46. Thus
47. Fracuse

THIS WEEK'S ANSWERS
Atlas Features Syndicate
responsibility the hard way also. Lacking proper insurance, you can put up cash or a bond for the same amounts, or show that you have a settlement from all parties in the accident.

Glazed Glances

By BARNEY GLAZER

Sign on a local firm's bulletin board: "Attention, all salesmen. When we ask you to get into the 'field' more often, we don't mean that you're to go golfing!"

You probably know the man. He's mean, nasty, cruel, hard-hearted, selfish, and all in all he derives pleasure from making other folks miserable. Summing it up, he's in charge of Vital Sadistics.

Jimmy Durante said it like nobody else can say it: "I love show business, I love to be famous, I love to be recognized, I love to be stopped for my autograph, and I love being mistaken for Clark Gable."

This is my personal description of glittering, gorgeous, glamorous Kim Novak: "She could walk up a dead-end street and bring it back to life."

Just before they led my nephew Shnook off to jail, he made this speech: "So what? So don't I know it's against the law to print money? Did I print real money? I printed counterfeit money!"

Here's our Big Giveaway Quiz for today: Guess which President's picture is on the \$1000 bill. Having a hard time, folks? Okeh, I'm an easy-going Quizmaster. I'll let you take one quick peek into your wallet. Hurry, now!

When I attended school, I learned there's a certain line somewhere in the ocean, when crossed, will make you lose a whole day. Now that I'm driving an auto, I learned there's another line in the middle of the highway where you can do much better than losing one measly little day.

Ray Erwin quotes it in his Editor and Publisher column, about the Sacramento Bee story which read: "A smoker shortens his life by six hours every time he goes through a pack of cigarettes." The next day, the same newspaper ran this headline: "Chain Smoker Finally Succumbs at 108." (Okey, Ray, it's cute. But if this guy had been smoking cigarettes, instead of chains, he NEVER would have made it!)

What local business executive has installed a parking meter in his office directly in front of his desk? All salesmen and loitering visitors have to drop in a few coins to let them know when their time is up, and no refills are permitted.

I walked into my office yesterday just in time to receive a phone call. I was on the phone for 45 minutes, and when I hung up, my secretary, Miss Shoenaw, sighed: "Gee, I'm sure glad you were here to get that call. I'd hate to have to take that long message."

Just about to take off on a transcontinental jet plane, I saw an anxious test pilot said to his wife: "Now, honey, be sure to drive carefully through that heavy 6 o'clock freeway traffic. I'm worried about you."

I have an idea that should make me rich and all of you folks fat. I'm going to manufacture a combination television set and refrigerator.

The alcoholic was frightened by a two-headed monster. He rushed to the doctor, begging for the cure. Said the medic: "The charge will be one thousand dollars." "What?" screamed the proof-hooked addict. "I won't pay it. I'm going home to my monster and make friends with him!"

Now here's a piece of advice which, in my opinion, is somewhat overdone, over-stuffed, and over-rated: "The only way to get anywhere these days is to use a lot of push." Ask me! I tried in or a door marked "Pull."

My Pennsylvania leg man wires me that Liberace's picture, "Sincerely Yours," is being shown in the Quaker area with this new title: "Sincerely Thine."

My Aunt Drakop has her own special system to drive a baby buggy. She tickles the baby's feet.

I've known it all these years but this is the first time I've been able to put it in words—MY IN-LAWS ARE OUT-LAWS!

Today's Do-It-Yourself tip for my loyal readers: How to make your upholstered chairs last 10 times as long—make all the family sit on the floor.



LAW IN ACTION

ARE YOU FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE?

Your car crashes and someone gets hurt or killed, or it does \$100 or more in damage. First, report the accident to the Motor Vehicle Department at once, surely within 15 days. Like tourists, California drivers now can no longer dodge the process server by high-tailing it out of state. As a condition for using highways, both residents and visitors may now be properly served in a lawsuit regardless of whether or not they are in California when served. Ignore that notice and you may find yourself in "default" with a big judgment over your head, and not covered by your insurance.

Besides, whether you are to blame or not, you have to prove you are "financially responsible" if you are in an accident. When you report the accident, include evidence that your insurance covers you up to \$1,000 for property damage, or \$5,000 for one or \$10,000 for two persons injured or dead.

You can prove financial responsibility the hard way also. Lacking proper insurance, you can put up cash or a bond for the same amounts, or show that you have a settlement from all parties in the accident.

What if you cannot do this? Well, the Motor Vehicle Department can lift your driver's license, your license plates and registration cards, and cart your car off to storage for which you pay the rent. Besides, you may be fined up to \$1,000 or jailed for 90 days—or both.

When driving another's car, make sure he has public liability insurance.

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Advertisement for 'The March of Dimes' featuring a bar chart showing vaccination percentages: Diphtheria (75%), Smallpox (50%), and Polio (4%). Includes text: 'JOIN THE MARCH OF DIMES - JAN. 3-31' and 'America went into 1956 with the great bulk of its population still unprotected by Salk polio vaccine.'"/>

Advertisement for 'Things to Talk About' by Franklin J. Meine, Editor, American People's Encyclopedia. Includes illustrations of a man and a woman, and text: 'The retail sales of toys in this country in 1954 topped the billion dollar mark for the first time in history, amounting to \$2.50 worth of toys for every man, woman, and child.'"/>