

EDITORIALS

If Lincoln Walks

If Abraham Lincoln still walks at midnight, as the poet wrote, his immortal heart could well be stirred by mixed emotions. In the South there is talk of nullification. In the North there are men who decry such talk in one voice, while in another they berate with equal vigor anyone who roots out a Moscow-motivated enemy of the Union.

If Lincoln walks, he may well wonder at the irony, the hair-splitting logic, of a current two-pronged attack by liberals on a southern Senator because he opposed the Supreme Court's ruling that outlawed segregation and because he is attempting to expose Communist and fellow travelers in vital areas of our national life.

The first sin of Mississippi's James O. Eastland, to the liberal way of thinking, was his opposition to the Supreme Court. But in that he was joined by many legal experts, a number of whom did not share his personal feelings about segregation itself. His second, and greater error was to let his security subcommittee interrogate some New York Times staff members who admitted past association with communism. That, the Times charged, was sheer retaliation for its criticism of Eastland's stand on desegregation. The liberals, and the Daily Worker called it an attack on the free press. The free press itself, however, generally did not agree.

If on his birthday yesterday, Lincoln should have walked again, he may well have wondered if the world did little note nor long remember. We, for our part, might wish for more rail splitters, fewer hair-splitters.



LAW IN ACTION

WHAT HAPPENS IF —? In this chancy life of ours, it is the law's business to take a long look into the future and say what would "happen if."

For in your contract, leases, wills, insurance policies, escrows, and the like you had better say what would "happen if" some of your best laid plans go awry. Such events the law calls "contingencies."

Who gets the "earnest money" you put down, if you can't go through with buying that house? What if you want to pay up and save interest? What happens if a partnership goes sour, or a partner gets sick, or dies?

What happens if the people you name in your will should die before you do, or if you all perish in a common catastrophe like a car smashup?

The law is wise but it cannot do your thinking for you. It settles such questions but not always to your liking. If you don't make a will, the law says who shall get your property. If you leave certain things out of a contract, the law assumes that you meant to put some certain things in. But how much better it would be in the first place to put them in the way you want them, by asking "what if?"

Take your will now: Your first duty of course, is to take care of your wife and children—those nearest to you. But it won't hurt anything to put "contingent beneficiaries" in your will in case something happens to thwart your first intentions.

Review your will every year or so to see if it meets the new things that have come up, or write in "contingent beneficiaries"—those who will receive your property if your first beneficiaries should die before you do.

You may long ago have written your son into your will, but what about those

lovely grandchildren he and his wife have presented to you since you wrote the will? What would happen to them if things go wrong and your son should predecease you?

Or take your widowed sister and her children now. Suppose you and your immediate family should be wiped out: Would you want your property to go equally to her and to your well-heeled bachelor brother? Or would you prefer to leave your brother some token of your affection,

and then really take care of your sister? As you near the other end of life, you find many who have out-lived their families. Their estates will go to the state of California, if the will writer has not named contingent beneficiaries—friends, associates, a hospital, a church, a favorite charity, or some educational institution.

You may be impatient with the law's long memory. Such things never happen, you think, but the court records are full of plans which failed. And so the law has ways in which you can provide for "what happens—if." One way is the device of contingent beneficiaries in your will and insurance policies.

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

The Squirrel Cage

By REID BUNDY

A small group had gathered to hear the local finals in the American Legion Oratorical contest in the Civic Auditorium—so small a group, in fact, that the program was delayed a few minutes in the hopes that some late comers might struggle in. After it was apparent that the audience was about as large as it was going to be, Mrs. John A. Shidler (Rosemary DeCamp to the thousands of TV fans), who was one of the judges, got the show on the road when she piped up with, "Let's turn down the house lights, put on a crowd record and put the show on the air." It was a shame that more people couldn't hear the three boys from North High School speak on the American Constitution. They were good.

Tom Rische, former HERALD staffer, now editor of the Highland Park News-Herald, was comparing notes with us the other day of mail deliveries between the two newspapers. (We each subscribe to the other's paper to see what is going on elsewhere). We learned something very surprising. It's a lot farther from Highland Park to Torrance than it is from Torrance to Highland Park, believe it or not. Copies of the HERALD mailed here before daylight Thursday reach Tom's desk in the Friday morning delivery—just one day old. Copies of his News-Herald, however, mailed there before sun-up Thursday don't reach my desk until the following Wednesday. We haven't found the route used to send stuff down here, yet.

Question Of Etiquette



Glazed Glances

By BARNEY GLAZER

My Aunt Draykop was listening to the radio during our recent heavy rainfalls. Said the announcer: "All listeners are urged not to use your telephone unless it is absolutely necessary. Please limit your calls. An emergency exists. So, please, listeners, no chat chat."

Whereupon, Auntie exclaimed: "Oh my, that reminds me. I must phone Elsie and find out where she bought those kitchen curtains."

Leo Guild tells his tongue-in-cheek yarn, about the disc jockey whose performance for 11 years was always perfect. Never an error or oversight. But suddenly he fell apart. A record would finish its tune but keep clicking away for two minutes instead of being turned off. The disc jockey visited a psychiatrist and went \$100 without benefit. Finally, the truth dawned on him. For years he had been stepping out of the booth for

a smoke while the record was playing. The trouble all started when he switched to king-sized cigarettes!

Suffering from a bad cold, my Niece Kvetch resorted to an old-fashioned remedy of Calvert and hot water. That night, she tucked her tiny daughter into bed and whispered: "Good night!" The youngster giggled: "Mommy's usg gady's perfume!"

One night, while we were hosting a party of friends, our fox terrier Trippy suddenly arose from his corner, trotted over to the television set and switched to another channel. Our guests gasped. Then, when the picture started to flip wildly, Trippy again scampered over to the set, re-moved the back, and made many adjustments until the picture was once again restored to normal. "Why that's the most amazing animal I've ever seen!" exclaimed one of

our guests. "I've never seen a dog who is so intelligent!" "Oh, he's not so intelligent," I assured my guest, "why he watches only cartoons and space patrol programs."

Groucho Marx knows a couple who broke up because of incompatibility. He had no income and she wasn't patable.

"I never wear a belt and neither do I worry about it," brags my Uncle Shloomp. "I simply put my pants on the honor system."

There are those who like television and those who do not. But there is also a friend of mine who travels the middle road. He says: "I never watch television. That way I preserve the illusion that I hear it is."

Man's greatest problem these days upon entering a department store with his wife is how to get to the outdoor motor department without going through dresses, furs, and furniture.

If I were a barber, I would help all the thin-haired men by charging them only 75 cents for a haircut, and then I would help the barbers' cause by charging \$3 for children's haircuts.

Then there was the man who escaped from a lunatic asylum. Out of sight, out of mind.

For years, I've prided myself on being a linguist. Now, I must admit that I can master all tongues except my wife's.

Had a terrible fright this morning. Got on my bicycle backwards and thought someone had stolen my handlebars.

The Race Is On



AFTER HOURS

By JOHN MOBLEY

(Special Note: "Times of Cyprus," Nicosia, circulated in the Middle East; the "Dallas Chronicle," Dallas, Ore., are now publishing the syndicated column "After Hours.")

On Oct. 30, 1952, the week before the presidential election in November, we said in "After Hours" that Dwight Eisenhower should win by 300 electoral votes to a landslide. We reported that an upset was in the making in usually Democrat Virginia, Texas and Florida. The results vindicated our conclusions. We appraised the political outcome on the basis of personal observations in the 48 states, during the 1952 campaign, talking to political candidates, campaign managers and workers... and to the rank and file of people in all walks of life in every part of the nation. We hardly ever listened to a political speech, or read any of the partisan editorials for either candidate. We dug out the political trends for ourselves.

On our tour of the nation in 1952 we saw the following signs pointing to overwhelming support of Eisenhower: 1. The "Ike" stickers on the windshields of workers' cars in the industrial centers of Akron, Detroit, Chicago, Pittsburgh, Toledo, Cincinnati, New York. 2. The personal popularity of Eisenhower over that of Gov. Stevenson. 3. The issue of the Korean war had the voters war-weary at that time and this favored the Republican party.

Since my return from around the world last September, my lectures have taken me across the nation again and will continue to take me in most of the 48 states between now and next November. From time to time I shall report in these columns what I see and hear on political trends, free of prejudice or personal preferences. These columns are read by Republicans, Democrats, Independents, whose judgment and good sense we respect. In all probability we will never disagree on the issues in any political party, because partisan extreme points of view are not in the vocabulary of the make-up of this reporter.

Covering the nation since last September and privately talking to the political experts of both parties, the political writers and some of the major political contributors in both parties (who are the best barometers of political shifts), we have come to the following conclusions at this point:

1. As we said in "After Hours" on Jan. 12, 1956, President Eisenhower will be the Republican candidate "if he can walk to work." We said this before his announcement that he is still undecided and when some columnists interpreted this to mean he would not run. We pointed out in our column his statement to us in Paris just prior to the 1952 race, when Mr. Eisenhower reminded us that "I'm a soldier... and no personal considerations of health, family, or retirement would be considered, if I thought I could serve my country and the people wanted me."

2. I found not one woman's club I lectured to anywhere,

or any mixed program in large or small cities, or any farm organization from California to Kansas, or any group of industrial workers in plants like Lockhead, Firestone, Douglas, etc., where I did not observe an overwhelming preference for President Eisenhower over any other candidate in either party. Millions of letters and resolutions have reached the White House from such groups urging the President to run. If he does, he will have an advantage over any other candidate that nothing less than a political miracle could overcome... like the political miracle in President Truman's victory in 1948 over Gov. Dewey.

3. I recently addressed the California Farm Bureau conference in Monterey and some 16,000 Kansas State Teachers, agricultural leaders in Topeka. I have also talked privately with some national farm leaders. My conclusions are that the farm vote will be solidly behind Eisenhower... with the possible exception of Minnesota.

4. Adlai Stevenson is very popular among the rank and file Democrats, but Gov. Harman is preferred by the Democrat business men as "more capable for the job." Sen. Kefauver is practically out of the picture for the presidency at this point. He is well liked personally, but the reaction of Democrat officials is, "he just hasn't got the national stature for the White House."

5. Vice President Nixon is mentioned as presidential timber "four years from now." He has the inside track if Eisenhower does not run. Sen. Knowland is way behind Nixon in national popularity, although many concede he is more politically matured for the presidency. Chief Justice Warren is unacceptable to the Republican National Committee, because "he would split the Republican party wide open between the conservatives and the liberals." In view of this, President Eisenhower is the man who must make the race to insure his party's unity.

The most likely candidate is President Eisenhower is too sick to run... He Vice President Nixon. He will receive the private endorsement of the President, Nixon or Knowland against Stevenson will be a closer race, but the women's vote could be decisive in victory for the Republican ticket. Absence of war... Full employment and prosperity for most of the people usually spells victory for the party in power.

From what I have seen and heard since September, if the election were to be held this week to choose between President Eisenhower and Gov. Stevenson, the President would win in another landslide.

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IT'S A FACT By JERRY CAHILL

Advertisement for 'The World's Most Valuable Patent' featuring a portrait of a man and text about a 'MIRACLE OF THE BURMA ROAD' and 'THE BATTLE OF THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT'.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for horizontal and vertical words. Includes a list of 'THIS WEEK'S ANSWERS' at the bottom.