

EDITORIALS

The Park Reports

The wraps are off the city's new \$6000 park survey and, all in all, it appears to be a most comprehensive and intelligent report.

The proposals contained in the survey call for adding another 231 acres to the city's park system, and development of present sites at a cost estimated by a professional survey team to be around \$5,000,000.

The need for recreation areas is undisputable — business, industry and homeowners of the city can agree that parks and leisure-time activities can do a lot for the city and its workers.

The system employed to develop the park program, however, may not be so undisputable. It will affect every taxpayer in the city—some a lot, some just a little.

The HERALD suggests that residents, clubs, groups, and organizations study the plan presented to the city this week. Copies are on file at the recreation department office, the City Clerk's office, and elsewhere in the city. A copy may be seen in The HERALD'S editorial department at any time.

Residents will probably be called on to vote on the proposals in some form in the near future, and they should study the program thoroughly.

THE FREELANCER by Tom Rische

High Price of Mud

A major crisis arose at a downtown Torrance office last week.

Members of the office staff were afraid they were going to be hit right where they live—in the coffee cup.

A rumor started circulating that the neighborhood coffee shop was going to start charging a nickel a cup for refills on a cup of mud. To add insult to injury, the rumor had it that, henceforth, coffee wasn't to be included in the price of the lunch.

In that particular office, nothing since the initiation of the "new look" in dresses caused such a furor.

The manager of the coffee shop was threatened with the loss of the business from that particular office, and plans for a coffee pot-for-the-office fund were made.

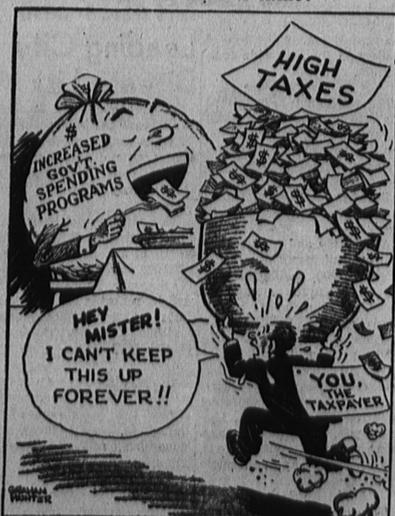
"It's just the principle of the thing," one woman declared resolutely. "It's a little thing, but it just irks me to pay more for coffee after all the trade I've given that place."

"I don't mind paying more for my hamburger, my soup, my dessert, and my liquor, but raising the price of coffee is—well, it's just outrageous," a man muttered darkly.

We can remember the good old days when coffee was only a nickel for all you could drink. The excitement that accompanied the price range to a dime reached a fever pitch and coffee pots made their appearances in countless offices across the nation.

Wherever they are, office workers look forward to their coffee break to break the

TIME TO CALL A HALT!



YOUR PROBLEMS by Ann Landers

She Picked Three Lemons

Dear Ann Landers: You referred recently in your column to a "three-time loser."

Why not try to be a bit kinder to those of us who have lost in the marital game. It's perfectly possible to pick three lemons in a row. I know because I did.

Please, Ann, don't add to the general misconception that a woman is beyond hope because she's had three failures. I'm not proud of my record but I find myself forced to "joke" about it or get into a verbal fight.

I'd like to marry again—but how? I've learned enough about life through my bitter mistakes so that I'd place a higher value on a husband now.

This is a lonesome life—with very little alternative. All bachelors over 35 are a sorry lot. They're either disgustingly egotistical, mama's darling, neurotic or alcoholic. The divorced men are usually spoken for before the divorce. This leaves one choice—a married man. I know this isn't "nice," in fact it's frowned on by society. But I don't want to enter a convent and I can't reconcile myself to living this way. It's a tough world, isn't it?—Three Time Loser.

Yeah, and it's going to be a lot "tougher" unless you get your thinking squared away.

Maybe the reason you've picked three lemons in a row is because you've been picky in a lemon grove. Peaches don't grow there.

A woman who makes such sweeping generalizations about ALL bachelors over 35 wouldn't know an exception if she saw one. And to assume ALL divorced men in advance is another mistake. You don't even mention the widower who may have children to raise. Perhaps this sounds too much like work, but it could result in a most rewarding marriage.

Your closing thought that it's either a married man or a real clue to your unhappiness. Some people find the world "tough" because they make it a lot tougher on themselves than is necessary.

Dear Ann: You have made indescribable trouble for me. Ever since my husband read your answer to the man whose wife was such a clean housekeeper that she followed him around with a damp cloth to wipe his hands; life has been impossible.

You said the woman was "SICK" and advised him to revolt. Well, I'm one of those neat women who like a clean house and now my husband is "revolting." This once considerate man now throws his clothes around and clomps into the living room in muddy boots. When I protest he says, "You're SICK. Write to Ann Landers."

What I want to know is—how clean is "sick" and how

Comforting News



FROM THE MAILBOX by Our Readers

Grades Versus No Grades

Children 'Bloomed'

Editor, Torrance Herald: I hate to see the attack now being made on the grading system in Torrance schools. I have seen my own children "bloom out" under the Torrance schools after a disheartening experience in another Southern California system which used grades.

Two of my children failed because of bad teachers and were put behind in their classes because they didn't make "good grades." Since we came to Torrance, both children have been getting good reports. Their teachers have been saying they really work hard although they don't learn as easily as some of the "bright" kids. I certainly hope nothing is done to upset the wonderful system now used here. I would hate to see my kids have to go back to fighting for grades instead of learning how to be adjusted citizens.

If you are keeping a vote, count me as favoring the system now used.

MRS. SATISFIED

Old-Fashioned Parents

Editor, Torrance Herald: My husband and I have been for the ABC method of grading from the start. We have two children in Torrance schools. Both of them started in kindergarten. At present, one is in the seventh and the other in the third.

In all those seven years, we have yet to find out just where our youngsters stand academically.

Our question has been that the teacher happens to like or dislike the particular child. If she likes him or her, she's a doll, she gets along well with the other children, she's so polite. But if the teacher doesn't happen to like her, she's rude, she doesn't apply herself, she has no friends, etc., etc.

One year in particular, our son started first grade with a wonderful woman who loves all children. He had a very good report. He was applying himself, doing very well. In the middle of this year, his teacher became very ill and had to quit teaching. The new teacher was a very fine woman and a good teacher, but her reports were exactly the opposite. He was practically a brat. Throughout all this, we still didn't know if he was passing, failing, or an honor student.

We are, definitely, some of those "old fashioned" parents who prefer the "old fashioned" way of grading. I'm hoping by the time the two little ones who are still home go to school, they will have changed back to it, from the first grade on.

IN THE DARK

Editor, Torrance Herald: We are relative newcomers to Torrance, having lived here less than five years. Our first year in Torrance, we sent our two older children to Torrance schools. We had no complaint about the schools except that we were completely in the dark about the work they were doing.

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We all know the home is not the place. The athletic field is nice if your child is so inclined, but it is the every day use for practical purposes that teaches the youngsters to compete in an adult world. After all, these are not just little children. They are little people whom we will expect to be adults and leaders in a very few years.

Mediocrity has never, and will never, be the goal of a leader.

MRS. T.S.

It's 'The System'

Editor, Torrance Herald: First, let me commend the Torrance Herald for bringing this to the light. Although it's a little late in coming, better late than never.

We, the parents, should have been asked to vote on this seven years ago, instead of a chosen few. We are the ones who have been paying the taxes and voting for more schools. For seven years, it's been a losing battle. Why short change us?

In 1948, we moved to Torrance and they had graded report cards. We at least knew just where our children stood in their education.

Why wait for the rude awakening in high school? When you build a good house, you begin with a good foundation, one that can take it—shocks and all. (Isn't that like life?) If they can learn to take it when they are younger, they will be so much better off in later years.

I also believe that grades should be given from first grade on. From the parent conferences I have had with the teachers, I can read between the lines. The teachers are doing a fine job. They are doing only what they are told. It all boils down to the system.

By the way, what ever happened to penmanship? In our schools, it's a lost art. I have three children in school and that's a lot of typewriters.

MRS. C. J. PHILLIPS

Phony Issues

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