

EDITORIALS

A Story of Need

One question to be asked of any proposal to bond a government to finance construction of new facilities—are the facilities really needed?

One major issue on the ballot to be handed to Los Angeles County voters next Nov. 6 meets this qualification adequately. That is the bond issue to finance new hospital facilities at Harbor General Hospital near Torrance.

Figures compiled by Director A. L. Thomas at the hospital amply substantiate the need. The hospital was built during the war as an Army installation, and it was built to Army specifications—the buildings scattered, and connected by miles of long and sometimes open corridors.

A number of the buildings are made of paperboard—none sit on solid foundations, and all feature old if not obsolete plumbing, water, and electrical facilities.

The hospital has passed the point where it is economical to spend money on repairs to keep the buildings functional. It would be more economical to build new facilities.

DURING THE PAST YEAR, the hospital has cared for 13,374 bed patients and 113,158 outpatients, Thomas reports. During the past 10 years, the bed patient load doubled, and the outpatient load has increased seven times.

The population of the area served by the hospital is approximately 850,000. All of this must be served by the 515 adult beds, 45 bassinets, and 240 tuberculosis beds.

The 101 buildings which comprise Harbor General Hospital are scattered over approximately 50 acres of land, and are temporary, wooden-framed, one-story buildings.

Most of the buildings are covered with shiplap on the exteriors, but many are built with paper-covered building board.

Interior illumination of the buildings is poor and consists for the most part of the original lighting installed by the Army. Lighting in the wards normally consist of a row of electric fixtures in the center of the big room. There are no wall or reading lamps.

Plumbing service lines are exposed to the interiors of the rooms, and are carried from building to building in the corridors.

THE MILES OF CORRIDORS — the main corridors alone measure 1.11 miles—poses a very serious problem in communication and transportation.

A nurse taking a patient to X-Ray from one of the wards may have to push his stretcher two-thirds of a mile. And, in the case where emergency equipment is needed on one of the outside wards, the nurse may have to travel two-thirds of a mile to reach the central supply area to obtain that equipment.

The laboratory performs 26,000 tests a month, and reports of these tests are sent into the hospital with a courier whose route takes him through the hospital once each half hour.

All other phases of hospital operation face similar obstacles.

The hospital uses an average of 220,000 pounds of linen each month but has no laundry facilities.

Space within the hospital is completely occupied and the expanded patient load is just crowded in.

THE UNFINISHED INTERIORS, exposed service facilities, and the 4000 windows in the hospital—most of them with 8 to 12 panes—make the maintenance problem enormously out of proportion to normal hospital operations.

All of this could be corrected with the design and construction of new, multistory hospital facilities; facilities which would meet state hospital codes, fire safety regulations, and could make proper use of the equipment and personnel available to the administration.

There can be no question about the need, and The HERALD recommends a "Yes" on County Proposition No. B, the hospital bond issue on the Nov. 6 ballot.

A Political Yardstick

Before one gets carried away with enthusiasm by all the things political candidates promise to have the government do for us, it might be well to consider what has made this country what it is today.

Most of the social and economic gains in this country have come from efforts and initiative of the individual and not from government planning: Bell developed the telephone, Fulton invented the steamboat, Ford built the first low-cost car, Franklin discovered electricity, Wright created the airplane, Whitney designed the cotton gin, and so on indefinitely.

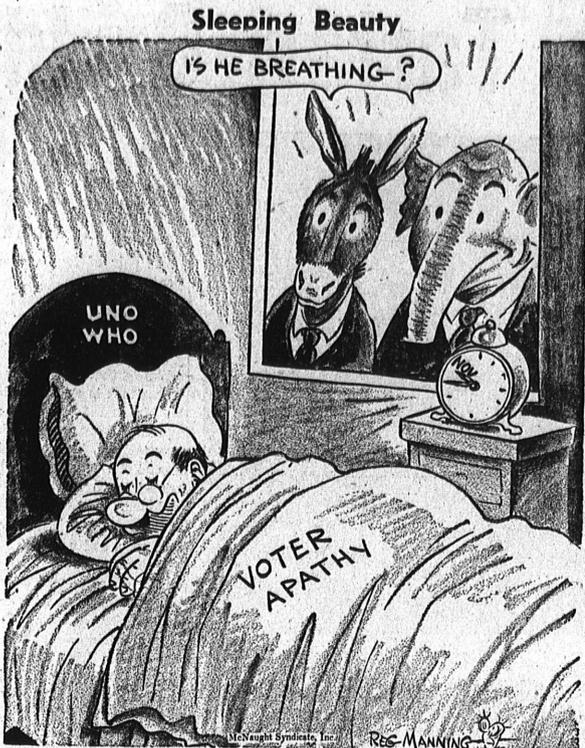
Without the work of the individual, we would still be living under a feudal system that allowed us only a bare subsistence. It is the accomplishments of the individual that have lifted us to present levels—not the accomplishments of government.

American progress is rooted in individual freedom, and that points to a yardstick that can be used in judging those candidates who would bring about a society where "do-all" government would reduce the individual to the status of a statistic.

Man has a job to do on this earth. He must be willing to struggle and sacrifice to do his job without calling on the government for help.

Nothing except the air we breathe is really free.

INTERNATIONAL FALLS (MINN.) DAILY JOURNAL: "Nationalization, a form of socialism under which the government controls basic resources and industries, is a two-way street. . . . The return of a nationalized function to private operation is both possible and feasible. . . however, it is much easier to scramble than to unscramble. . . England's conservative government has been finding this out. . . . Since coming into power in 1951, the conservatives have tried to denationalize only two, the trucking and steel industries. Neither effort has been entirely successful."



YOUR PROBLEMS

By ANN LANDERS

Dear Ann Landers: I'm 23, have a good position and haven't led what you'd call a "sheltered life." At the moment however, I feel helpless and naive. Will you guide me?

I work in an import business and have been completely captivated by a young man from another country. He's handsome, gay, kind and gentle—but speaks very little English. Although we communicate rather well, considering the language barrier, there are times when I don't understand everything.

He invited me to dinner at his apartment (just the two of us) and plans to cook some native dishes. He wants me to hear the folk-music of his homeland and see his jade collection.

It all sounds fascinating, but I've never been to a man's apartment before and I'm unsure of myself. What do you say, Ann? Can I handle the situation? Please advise.—BOOTSIE

Jade collection? It used to be etchings. This man may not be able to speak much English but he's THINKING in his own language. When a woman accepts an invitation to dinner in a man's apartment (just the two of them) there's usually some cooking than native dishes.

Dear Ann: I had a bad cold the other day and stayed home from work. My wife went to the grocery store and the telephone rang. I answered it of course.

Some fellow must have got our number mixed up with the Coast Guard because he wanted to know if "the coast was clear." What do you think about this Ann Landers?—BOMBARDIER

I think this gag is older than I am. Stop it, Buster, you're knocking me out.

Dear Ann: Two years ago I encouraged a married man to be nice to me. I was divorced and had two kids to care for. I was down on my luck and this man offered to pay my rent and give me some extra things on the side. You know very well a man doesn't do this for nothing. You can guess the rest.

We saw a lot of each other and he gave me some expensive gifts. I knew he wasn't rich but I asked no questions.

When I found out his family was actually in want because he couldn't get this thing on me I quit seeing him and told him why. Now I've met a man who wants to marry me. But I can't get this first man's wife and family out of my mind. Do you think I'd feel better if I went to her home and gave her the expensive gifts her husband bought for me? Please advise.—C.S.

YOU may feel better but how would SHE feel? Stay away from this woman. She's had as much of you as she can take.

If the sight of these gifts needles your conscience why not give them to the rummage sale? No matter how down and out a wife may be second-hand gifts from "The Other Woman" would be most unwelcome.

Dear Ann: A very close buddy of mine is getting married. He asked his brother-in-law to be best man at the wedding.

My mother thinks I should have been given this honor. I feel he asked his brother-in-law because he didn't want to choose between me and another very close pal. The three of us used to be together all the time.

What is the proper etiquette for selecting a best man? Can you straighten me out?—D.M.

CONFIDENTIALLY: HOPE—There's no such thing as "etiquette" when it comes to choosing a best man. The selection is based solely on sentiment.

It could very well be that your pal didn't want to choose between you and the other close friend. Don't harbor any resentment. And by the way, how did your mother get into the act?

DISGUSTED: The above advice goes for you, too, and double in spades.

UNLOVED, BUT HOPEFUL: Your insecurity makes you feel this way. Trust and believe in him.

Ann Landers will be glad to help you with your problems. Send them to her in care of this newspaper. Copyright, 1956, Field Enterprises, Inc.

Out of the Past

From the Files of The Torrance HERALD

10 Years Ago This Month October, 1946

Reed H. Parkin, president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, announced that his organization would circulate petitions protesting the installation of parking meters by the city. . . . J. E. Smits was appointed to act as superintendent of the Los Angeles County Harbor District hospital in Torrance. . . . Torrance's oldest resident, C. F. Fiesel, 1442 Carson St., recalled when the city's population in 1893 consisted of the owners of a 60-acre farm located where the elementary and high schools now stand.

15 Years Ago This Month October, 1941

Artists' sketches of the new high school building, soon to be constructed in Torrance, were featured on the front page of The HERALD. . . . Torrance High's varsity footballers trounced Bell by a score of 12-0. . . . M. J. Fix and H. M. Tolson, proprietors of the M. J. Fix Co., a truck tire business, were instituting a profit-sharing plan for their employees.

20 Years Ago This Month October, 1936

W. H. Bratton, local Pacific Electric station agent, was to be formally installed as a member of the Torrance Rotary Club. . . . Lead by Officer Percy Bennett, the Torrance Revolver and Rifle Assn. lost a shooting match to the sheriff's civil team by a score of 1332-1316. Bennett had a high mark of 271.

25 Years Ago This Month October, 1931

Spokesman for the Torrance Relief Society reported that over 200 local families has received aid, in the form of food baskets and clothing, over the past nine months. They estimated that not one area in Torrance is free of some sort of personal privation. . . . C. A. Paxman, George Probert, and B. C. Buxton were appointed by the Chamber of Commerce to manage the baseball park at Border and Carson. . . . Statistics were quoted indicating that over half of all babies born in California were born in hospitals. This was the first year that such a proportion was noted.

The SQUIRREL CAGE

By REID BUNDY

Nathalie Bucknall of the Los Angeles Health Department was telling Don Perkins, public relations director of the Greater Los Angeles Chapter of the National Safety Council, recently about her difficulties encountered many years ago when she first tried to talk with a British telephone operator. But she still thinks she did better with the prefixes that the Cockney who was calling an "Ealing" exchange and spelled it out for the operator like this:

"E-for 'enry, A-what 'orses eat, L-where you goes to, I-what you sees with, N-what lays eggs, and Gee Whiz."

Perkins also points out that Mr. Compton is the mayor of Lynwood.

Did you hear about the two whales who met on Mr. Magoo's "Mal-i-bu Beach"? Said one to the other, "Long time no sea!"

Another press release we plan to read later: "Every poultry rancher in the southern Los Angeles area who does not belong to the Los Angeles County Farm Bureau can expect a personal visit from a . . ."

As you no doubt realize, the election is not far away. So, for your information, here is the way the United States' voting percentages ranked with a few foreign countries the past few years.

In 1952, only 83 per cent of America's eligible voters voted in the presidential election. In recent general elections, the percentages read like this: Britain, 77 per cent; Sweden, 78; Norway, 79; Denmark, 81; New Zealand, 92; Italy, 94, and Australia, 96.

Torrance did a good job of voting in 1952 when 88.6 per cent of the registered voters here went to the polls.

Deal of the week: Spotted downtown on the rear window of a late model sedan, a decal showing a slightly unhappy Bruin in a UCLA grid helmet peering over the edge of the Rose Bowl along with a huge red rose. Caption: "We Shall Return."

Speaking of the Bruins and the Rose Bowl, current rumor now is that SC and UCLA will announce their bolt from the PCC during the halftime of their annual grid clash here Nov. 24.

There appears to be only slight possibility, however, that either school's band will greet Stanford gridders with that old Dixieland favorite, "When the Saints Come Marching In." It's been suggested.

The surest way to tell a dedicated sports car driver is by the gleam in his eyes, according to a fellow down the street. The gleam in his eye, it's pointed out, comes from the sun shining through the hole in his head.

An ancient Rolls-Royce with the longest hood—pardon me, bonnet—was attracting crowds while its owner shopped in nearby stores here Friday.

And a lot of vets downtown thought the war was on again when they saw a barrage balloon flying over the city. Turned out to be tied down to a new auto show room.

The Freelancer

By TOM RISCHÉ

What is it that makes a box-office idol a box-office idol?

If I knew, I'd be one. Take the latest here of the bobby-sox set—Elvis (The Pelvis) Presley. What's he got that I haven't got?

For one thing, he's got more money, a collection of teddy bears, a dog named "Sweet Pea," a collection of Cadillacs and Lincolns, and several new houses. All of these are things he got just recently as a result of whatever it is that he has.

He also can play the guitar, which I can't do, but that's just a matter of practice.

I can caterwaul just as loud as he can, and maybe even a little better, or so my wife tells me. If what he's got is talent, then the world is square. (Some of the bobby-soxers would vouch for this fact.)

In one department, he can wiggle a mean pelvis, but I'll bet that with a little practice I could do as well. This seems to be a secret of his charm, although for my money, some of the burlesque girls have him way outwiggled. What they've got is art. What he's got—well—what is it?

Maybe there's still a chance for me. . . .

What is it that makes Elvis the delight of teen-age girls who swoon when he howls, rips his clothes off his back, and sleep on his front lawn?

Is it the voice, the guitar, the wiggling, or is it just Elvis (The Pelvis)?

If the truth were known, it's probably the disapproval of parents (who were wiggling to the Charleston and the Black Bottom a few years ago) that makes the teen-agers like him. As Eve proved in the Garden of Eden, forbidden fruits are the most tempting.

Seems like teen-agers have to have somebody to swoon over and Elvis just happened to be wiggling his pelvis at just the right time. Parents, who view all these gyrations of Elvis' midsection with alarm, convinced their offspring that this was something a little naughty.

Meanwhile Elvis goes on bellowing to guitar music and making like a female Sally Stand. It isn't really dirty. It isn't disgusting. It's just silly.

While he's buying his Cadillacs and new homes, he might save his money. The teen-agers are going to grow in a couple of years.

Maybe there's still a chance for me. . . .

What would you reply if you were asked: "What is the bedrock of life?" I'd say: "Faith" . . . Leo Guild reports that when Gloria Swanson and Wallace Beery used to make movies on the old Esplanade lot, Wally would boost Gloria over a fence and they would eat in the quiet of a cemetery. After lunch, Gloria used to boost Wally over the fence.

Maurice Chevalier is still going strong at 68. . . . TV and movie producers are now making Christmas pictures like mad for December release. . . . It takes the wool of 20 sheep and the hides of 10 taxpayers to clothe an American soldier. . . . Today's safe wager: if you're over 40, and you still have your tonsils, adenoids, and appendix, you must be a doctor!

Husbands who bury themselves in a television screen and ignore their wives are beginning to clutter up the divorce courts. . . . Bob Vincent tells about the young girl who watched her first ballet and wondered: "Daddy, instead of those girls walking on their tiptoes all night long, why don't they just get taller girls?"

No sooner had Bing Crosby announced to the London press that the demand for his recordings were down to "a faint whisper" than Capitol Records proudly boasted that Crosby's "True Love" record was Number One in sales. . . . Walter Mendenhall tells about the doctor who complained that the patient's check had come back, whereupon the patient replied: "That's funny. So did my lumbago."

KTLL's publicity director Howard Worman had an accident while gardening. When asked if it was serious, Howard replied: "No, I was lucky. Never touched my green thumb. Only broke my leg" . . . Banks and loan companies will tell you that the two most important areas which affect the sales price of your home are: the kitchen and bathroom.

A brilliant real estate idea in San Francisco permits you to buy a new home and trade in your old house, same as they do in the auto fraternity. . . . Split-level and Colonial styled homes are gradually catching up on the ranch house popularity. . . . Kiddie Krax in our Kommunity: the lad who said he wanted to be a priest so he could pray. "And for whom will you pray?" he was asked. "For the people in Hollywood," he replied.

My Japanese correspondent reports that the chaste geisha wears a patch of red cloth in her hair. No patch means she has a payer of the rent. . . . Here's a tip for your next party. Nothing better than necking to break the ice for your guests.

GLAZED BITS

By BARNEY GLAZER

This gallery conductor will soon prepare and manufacture a scientific and secret toothpaste which includes as one of its magic ingredients a substance which comes from a camel's hump. Our guarantee for a lifetime free from cavities: you've never seen a camel at a dentist's office, have you now?

We predict that the novel "Bon Voyage" will soar to best-seller peaks. . . . Leroy Rosenbergs boasts that the football team at his school, Iowa Wesleyan, is undefeated and he's hoping for the best when they play their first game.

Jimmy Durante loves to sell U. S. Bonds because, as Jimmy explains it: "I got a piece of the company" . . . Statistics concerning accidents at railroad crossings prove one thing: that locomotives are definitely not afraid of automobiles.

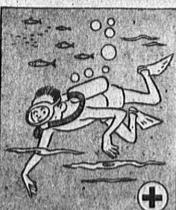
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SAFETY HINTS from the Red Cross



Skin and "SCUBA" (self-contained underwater breathing apparatus) diving can be fun, but be sure of three things: that you're a good swimmer, that the underwater equipment you use is reliable, and that you learn how to use it.

TORRANCE HERALD

1619 Gramercy Ave.

PA 8-4000

Established Jan. 1, 1914

Published Semi-Weekly at Torrance, California, Thursday and Sunday. Entered as second class newspaper, January 30, 1914, at Post Office, Torrance, California, under act of March 3, 1879.

KING WILLIAMS, Publisher

GLENN PFEIL, General Manager

REID L. BUNDY, Managing Editor

Adjudicated a local Newspaper by Superior Court, Los Angeles County, Adjudicated Decree No. 215470, March 30, 1927.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: By carrier, 45c a month. Mail subscriptions, \$4.50 a year. Circulation office PA 8-4000.

