

EDITORIALS

The Challenge of Sputniks

Sputniks I and II have hurled a challenge to our educators as well as to our scientific experts. The import of their launching is, of course, being discussed at every level.

Candidly, we have never been impressed with the "adjustment for living" thinking that seemingly has permeated all levels of the public education system.

Educators by and large have been prone to concern themselves with the mediocre and in their almost frantic desire to strike a common denominator, the conscientious or gifted student has often suffered.

Disclosure of what Russia demands of its youth in science and mathematics should spur the re-evaluation of our entire school program. We are not suggesting we emulate the Reds. Far from that.

This, plus a liberal dosage of classroom discipline—even if some Johnnies do feel frustrated, will do much toward better preparing America to meet the challenge of those who seek to destroy us.

Opinions of Others

In its simplest terms, Sputnik is the symbol not so much of Russian scientific superiority as of the failure of American—and Canadian—education.

We took discipline out of learning and turned our children over to fumbling theories. The Russians tried that, too—for a while. They imported the ideas of Dewey and tried them out.

In this case, it is we, not the Russians, who are stubbornly wedded to a discredited and dangerous doctrine. And until we change, the Russians are going to continue to outstrip us in the production of scientists and technicians.

THE SQUIRREL CAGE By Reid Bundy

Whose Plumbing?

The boundary line through the center of the Riviera Beach Club has been a source of annoyance for some years past—the dance floor has been in a different city than the bar, part of the building could remain open after midnight for dancing, part of it had to close under city ordinances of the past—all in all, it has been a confusing situation.

But, something new was reported this week by Harry Wisdom, operator of the expensive beach front club. A Redondo Beach plumbing inspector, called out to check some new installations under the building, had no way to determine which part of the new facilities ran under Redondo's side of the building and which were under the Torrance side.

Awful dark under there, you know, and he couldn't make out the boundary line very well. So, before he had stopped he had checked Torrance's side, too.

Wisdom, who explained his problems to Torrance city officials recently, isn't sure just where he stands. Maybe they should make his area a no-man's land.

A spy reports that a street ending at a nearby cemetery is marked with a sign which says: "Not a Through Street." About two blocks away is another street marked with the sign: "Dead End Street." Both could be right.

Disappointment in the Look magazine coverage of the city's All-America qualities has been expressed in several quarters. Those most interested in the publication of the article indicate that a better selling job for the city's outstanding industrial opportunities would have been appreciated.

On the other hand, many people thought it was wonderful. There it was for all to see, their own Torrance written up in a national magazine. We think it's wonderful, too.

If you try to call the school administrative offices and wind up talking to a nice young lady at a local finance company, you probably have used an old telephone number and you have picked up the bright new edition of the city's shopper guide and business directory distributed recently by the Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

For the information of all concerned, the school's telephone number was changed a year or so ago and their old number later assigned to a new loan firm. With school taxes what they are, though, the old number may be the one you really want.

California Musical Chairs



YOUR PROBLEMS by Ann Landers

Problems, Always Problems

Dear Ann: I'm sure you'll remember me. I wrote last year and signed the letter "So In Love." The fellow was Jerry. You told me he was too old for me and you were right, so I dropped him.

I wrote again six months later and signed the letter "Scarlet O'Hara." The boy that time was Tony. You advised me to give him the air because he kept after me to do things that weren't right.

I went with a boy named Greg after Tony but I didn't have to write for advice on him as my Dad caught him borrowing our car one night and I had to agree this wasn't very nice.

Now my problem is Bruce. He's darling looking and wants me to wear his sweater. My folks are against him because he got a girl in trouble two years ago. She was older than he was so I figure it was more her fault than his. I'll admit he has a hot temper and his religion is different from mine. Please, Ann, help me again. You've been right so far.—Gardenia Girl.

P. S.—I am now 16, and mature for my age.

Dear Gardenia: How can you tell the names and numbers of the players without a scoreboard? You seem to be very busy for a 16-year-old, even one who is mature for her age.

A boy whose religion is different from yours has one strike against him at the outset. The rest of the description doesn't sound so hot either. Since the Romeos seem to say hello and goodbye like French premiers, I suggest this one join the others.

Dear Ann: What is your advice in a situation where a very attractive and eligible man makes violent declarations of his love while he's under the influence of liquor, but is cold as a mackerel when he's sober and asks that you not take him seriously? Please answer soon. I'm a sensible woman and have been able to handle my affairs with aplomb in the past, but now I admit I am stymied.—B.H.

My advice is to take HIS advice—don't take him seriously. If he has to get shellacked in order to tell you of his true feelings, he has too many paralyzing inhibitions to make a good partner for life.

If you wonder if this man cares for you, the answer is probably yes. Alcohol sets free the censoring agents of the brain and the naked truth is often exposed after a few stiff belts. But who wants a man who has to get himself oiled up in order to express genuine devotion? If his love can't stand the cold

light of a sober dawn it is too immature for serious consideration.

Dear Ann: I am fed up on my in-laws I could just scream. Every time they have out-of-town guests they haul them over to our house. We never get any peace, they just ring the doorbell and when we turn on the porch lights, there they are. It's maddening because it happens so often and we never have any warning. There are times when we're busy with house repairs, sewing or just relaxing and watching TV. Occasionally we have company of our own.

I'm sure my in-laws figure it's much easier to bring their company to our house for US to entertain than to spend an evening with them alone. My husband doesn't want to say anything because he might hurt their feelings. Don't tell ME to tell them because if I had that kind of

nerve I wouldn't be writing to you for help.—S.P.

I don't know what kind of nerve you think it takes to insist that people respect your privacy, but if you don't have it, then there's nothing anyone can do for you.

Since these intruders are your husband's parents HE should ask them to at least phone in advance and let you decide whether or not you want company. You've both encouraged this barging in by your repeated failure to speak up. Silence is often interpreted as approval.

Confidentially: A shamed Girl: Of course you can wear white, if you've never been married and haven't had a child out of wedlock. Your mother is being too technical.

(Ann Landers will be happy to help you with your problems. Send them to her in care of the HERALD and enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.) (C) 1957, Field Enterprises, Inc.

THE FREELANCER by Tom Rische

Where's Florence?

There was considerable discussion in Torrance last week as to whether the city should enter a float in the Rose Parade next January 1.

Nobody objected to the idea of entering a float, but lots of people were wondering how it was going to be paid for.

There were some who contended that entering a float wasn't worth the money it cost—that it was an extra frill that wasn't justified in the age of high taxes.

Others felt that a float would be a very good thing to publicize the city.

It wasn't so long ago that anybody who told a stranger that he was from Torrance got a blank stare and the remark, "Florence? Where's that? Is that somewhere near Florence Ave., there in the slums?"

Today, however, the situation has improved, with the city's receiving the All-America award and the fact that the city's 90,000 residents point out with pride their friends where Torrance (not Florence) is located.

Torrance is not the site of any noted landmarks, scenic wonders, or tourist attractions; hence, it was a city that many people passed through unknowingly. This condition has been corrected by the erection of a number of large signs at the main entrances to the city proclaiming "Torrance—the All-America City." (That sounds a little like "Jack Armstrong—the All-America Boy," if you say it right.)

Anyway, some of the metropolitan newspapers began to notice that Torrance exist-

ed for some other purpose than being the site of some grisly murder or traffic accident.

Its fame is gradually spreading and the Rose Parade is one way to spread it even further. TV watchers in Mooselooke meguntic, Mo., who see the name, "Torrance," on a float in the parade might even run to their atlases to see where Torrance was located.

This is a time when everybody seems to be blowing his own horn and Torrance might as well blow its own. Residents of the town probably would be willing to come through with the cash—in \$1 donations if the city asked them to.

After all, everybody likes to say that he comes from someplace that's important.

If you announce that you live in Torrance, it's a little disconcerting to have somebody reply, "Florence? Where's that?"

It's just a matter of civic pride.

It's worth a buck to me. How about you?

and I Quote

"A frigid silence at home is often a sign that a man will have to thaw his own dinner."

—Hal Chadwick.

"To me, old age is always ten years older than I am."

—Bernard Baruch.

FROM THE MAILBOX By Our Readers

Wanted: A Torrance Float

Editor, Torrance Herald: I was greatly surprised to read on the front page of today's Herald "Torrance asked to enter Rose Parade" in which Dick Fitzgerald, manager of the Chamber of Commerce is quoted, "he asked to withhold the announcement because he didn't know how the money was going to be raised."

I find that by referring back 11 months to Mr. Fitzgerald's statement in the Herald of Jan. 6, 1957, he is quoted, "Plans to enter a float representing Torrance in the 1958 Tournament of Roses at Pasadena are now being made—this would be a great thing in publicity for Torrance if we could do it."

At this point, let me state that by no means is this a personal attack on Mr. Fitzgerald's statement but rather a defense that may explain to the citizens of Torrance what appears to be "double talk."

I would like to refer to your splendid editorial of Jan. 6, 1957, referring to my query about Torrance not being represented in the 1957 Rose Parade in which you state, "No one seemed to oppose the idea of Torrance entering a float in the internationally renowned parade."

In the days following, I found how wrong you were; certain "leaders of industry" avoided me as though I had the "plague", others upon whom I forced the issue of a float surprised me also for instead of the expected comment of "what can I do to help," I was continually asked "how much is this thing

going to cost ME?" I am sure that Mr. Fitzgerald knows the feeling I felt, all too well as he undoubtedly had similar experiences 10 fold in the weeks and months following Jan. 6.

If I am wrong, I will gladly stand corrected but the apathy that I met was appalling! Nevertheless, in the following months, your closing line of the before mentioned editorial continued to traverse through my mind. "Let's be represented in 1958 in Pasadena." Everyone's statements both pro and con revolved around one word... MONEY.

I respectfully submit the following proposal for raising the funds for our 1958 float. We will sell stamps, similar to the Easter Seal stamps, etc. These stamps will bear the "All American Award" shield much the same as the windshield sticker now being used to publicize Torrance.

I have personally let out bids on these stamps and have the following quotation to offer on 1,000,000 stamps, two colors on white stock, gum med, perforated and printed in sheets of 100 by the Allied Label & Lithographing Co. of Los Angeles, to-wit: \$300. net.

I propose that these stamps be sold at the face value of one cent per stamp which would result in a gross of \$10,000, were they all sold, deducting the original cost of the stamps, we have a "Float Fund" of \$9700.

It is my presumption that many local business men would gladly buy these stamps at a dollar per sheet of 100 to affix to their corre-

spondence also in discussing this among my neighbors leads me to feel that the citizens of our community would gladly purchase them at the rate of 10 stamps per person.

The sale of the stamps could be made by all members of the Chamber of Commerce, civic and industrial organizations. We only have 47 days to go, I've "quarter-backed" this project this far, anyone feel like taking the ball from here?

FRANK H. FROHNHOFFER

The Bond Election

Editor, Torrance Herald: On behalf of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, please accept my sincere appreciation for the efforts expended by the Torrance HERALD in behalf of the recent special election in Torrance on Oct. 29.

Naturally, we of the Chamber are somewhat disappointed by the failure of two of the four issues facing Torrance voters to receive the necessary votes, however we are even more concerned over the apparent apathy of Torrance voters in problems affecting our community. Undoubtedly there were many factors both economic and political that affected the outcome of the election. We can truly say that we cannot place any blame upon your fine paper and its wonderful support.

Thank you again for your support and cooperation. A. E. THOMPSON President

REYNOLDS KNIGHT

Wanted: More Scientists

The Russian satellites have done what no amount of oratory could do to shatter American complacency and make us look hard and long at the tremendous gains in science and engineering Russia has made over the past 30 years.

While the United States enjoys a substantial lead in the number of college graduates, we are currently employing fewer people in science and engineering than the Russians, according to Dr. Nicholas DeWitt of Harvard University's Russian Research Center. Furthermore, he told a recent conference on engineering and scientific education, the material incentives offered Russian scientific personnel are "substantially more generous than those offered in our society."

And a scientific career is about the safest way of life there is in the Soviet Union, this educator points out. "Psychologically, the sciences, under Soviet conditions of totalitarian control, are seen as intellectually more rewarding—and politically less hazardous—than other fields of endeavor," he says.

SOARING MITES—A major change in American agriculture has been taking place during the last 20 years. As reported by Cargill, Inc., the nation's leading handler and processor of farm products, soybean production in 1956 was nearly 10 times what it was in 1936. Consumption of both soybean oil and meal was nearly twice its 1946 rate.

Value of the 1956 crop to farmers was in the neighborhood of a billion dollars. The 1957 income will be higher still, due to record yields per acre, according to Cargill, largest processor of vegetable oils in North America.

Use of the beans is effecting great changes in N.S. and world diets. Consumption of the edible soybean oil here has skyrocketed, and the high-protein meal that remains after oil extraction has gone a long way toward boosting the production and value of the meat that Americans have been eating at an ever-greater rate. Export of oils, chiefly to the Orient, has helped to upgrade diets that had been dependent almost solely on cereals such as rice.

THINGS TO COME—An umbrella of translucent plastic has a small purse for tokens and coins attached to its handle, so they're readily available for rainy-day shoppers. . . . A portable washing machine weighing only nine pounds can be set into a sink full suds to handle a four-pound bundle of wash in seven to ten minutes. . . . Snow glasses have a special "winter lens" that eliminates deep purple shadows and screens out sun glare.

MIGHTY MITES—Semiconductors—those tiny, match-head-size basic components of electronics—are produced by an industry whose business this year will exceed \$125 million. This is an industry that barely existed five years ago! Sales for the year 1960 are forecast at \$350 million and by 1961 volume should exceed \$450 million.

The business of making electronic components that replace vacuum tubes many times larger and perform more efficiently under vastly

more rigorous environments shows one of the slackening tendencies that beset other industries, according to a leading semiconductor manufacturer, Hughes Aircraft.

Joseph S. O'Flaherty, manager of Hughes' semiconductor division, said the division now expects 1957 sales to total at least 25 per cent more than was forecast at the start of the year. Yet, with dollar volume increasing about 70 per cent over 1956, unit volume will be doubled, O'Flaherty said. New efficiencies, economies and technical advancements in production have cut the price of, for example a germanium diode used in computers, from \$5 four years ago to 70 cents today.

FLU FLURRY—Flu has already cost American business and industry millions of dollars in lost time of employees, most of whom today are covered by sick leave that pays them for the week or two of absence that the new type bugs seem to demand.

Some offices and factories, operating under production deadlines, have had to put the healthier workers on overtime to meet work loads resulting from absences. Department stores in some cities claim sales suffer because mothers are staying home to care for sick children. Theater operators say the Saturday children's matinee business has slumped noticeably.

BITS O' BUSINESS—Levels of engineering, scientific and administrative employes in American industry rose an average of 5 per cent between June 1955 and June 1957, compared with 8.6 per cent average rise for the previous year.

STAR GAZER - Your Daily Activity Guide According to the Stars. To develop message for Sunday, read words corresponding to numbers of your Zodiac birth sign.

Torrance Herald

Member of National Editorial Association, California Newspaper Publishers Association. Published office and plant, 1619 Gramercy Ave., Torrance, Calif.

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

KING WILLIAMS, Publisher. GLENN W. FEHL, General Manager. REID L. BUNDY, Managing Editor.

Adjudicated a legal Newspaper by Superior Court, Los Angeles County, Adjudicator's Decree No. 218470, March 30, 1957.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: By carrier, 45c a month. Mail subscription, \$5.40 a year. Circulation office PA 9-4909.