

# EDITORIALS

**THOUGHT FOR TODAY** — *The people of America will never buy socialism in one package. But they will buy TVA, Social Security, compulsory health insurance, federal aid to education, and all the others, one at a time.* — Norman Thomas, 1940.

## Lights on the Hill

Sharp criticism of the city council's approval of a lighting assessment district which included homes in the Victoria Knolls area continued to be voiced this week by residents who had sought unsuccessfully to block that part of the district last week.

The district approved by the council included more than 2000 lots extending from the Victoria Knolls area south of Pacific Coast Hwy. and Crenshaw to areas of North Torrance.

Vigorously protesting the installation of lights were residents of Calmhill, Ridgland, Matfield, and Highcliff Drive who claimed the lights would not enhance the value of their property, would detract from the "serene country atmosphere of our area," is a needless expense of tax dollars, and would destroy the view of surrounding hills and cities.

Criticism of the council stems from the claim of residents that they were not given a fair hearing on their protests when the city held a public hearing on July 14.

Petitions signed by 26 homeowners representing a bare majority of the 51 Victoria Knolls homes included in the district, protested the district. Councilmen were told that others also were opposed but had not been contacted for signature.

We agree with the residents' claim that the hearing was closed abruptly without an adequate study of the issues involved. The fact that the council has a long time to deal with after the hearing, which was cited by the council in favor of the matter, is not a valid reason to postpone adequate public hearings.

HERALD does believe, however, that street lighting is a political in a metropolitan area, and that adequate lighting, protection and traffic safety depend for a great part on ample lighting of the city's streets.

The matter will come up again when assessment district proposals are offered for other Victoria Knolls streets and elsewhere throughout the city. We would like to suggest that even if the council's agenda is lengthy, the people be heard.

That's the way we do business in America.

## Opinions of Others

Someone said the hardest job of all is that of finding a soft job. He might have added, if you work hard enough to find a soft job, you'll have developed a distaste for it.—Hobart (Okla.) Star-Review.

☆☆☆

Our national debt may reach the moon before any rocket does.—Stratton (Colo.) Press.

## In Years Gone By

Peddlers on the streets of Torrance were the targets of a drive which got under way here 35 years ago this week. Signs reading "No peddlers or canvassers allowed" were printed by the HERALD after the police department had received scores of complaints against the droves of canvassers who had been bothering householders throughout the city. In the HERALD of July 25, 1924, an invitation was issued to residents to pucker up their sign free of charge at the HERALD office. Police officers promised to carry through on complaints received by persons who continued to be annoyed by peddlers after posting the signs.

A new record in oil well

completions was made that week by the Shell Co. when five wells went into production for an aggregate initial yield of 1110 barrels. During the same period the Chanslor-Canfield Midway Oil Co. brought in two new wells on the Torrance lease.

Oil was making big overtures towards being the city's prime source of income 35 years ago, judging by the following items which all appeared in the July 25 issue of the HERALD: Petroleum Securities Co. was drilling nine of its 12 line wells; CCMO's Dominguez No. 2 was pumping into a single sump-hole with no accurate estimate on point; and forty barrels a day were being gleaned at Dominguez No. 1.

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Clues include: 1-Sobbed, 2-Horned animals, 31-Paris stock exchange, 12-Competing at speed, 14-He defected, 15-Cubic meter, 17-Conjunction, 18-Simian, 19-Kentis, 20-Away, 21-Pronoun, 22-Man's name, 23-Beverage, 24-Bull, 25-Waste silk fibers, 27-Bained, 28-Muse of history, 29-Plumlike fruit (pl.), 31-Wider, 34-Containers, 35-Liberates, 36-Roman gods, 37-Beam, 38-Soles, 39-Pronoun, 40-Indefinite article, 41-Iroquoian, 42-Indian, 43-Country bumpkin (colloq.), 44-Longs for, 45-Occurrences, 46-Of meat, 47-Arrows, 11-Reproach, 12-Twelve dozen, 13-Walked on, 14-Detroit, 15-Invitation, 16-Land, 17-Invitation, 18-Assumed, 19-Black, 20-Masses of floating ice, 21-Folded, 22-Wander, 23-Climbing, 24-Pierces, 25-Hasards, 26-Kind of cheese, 27-Pecores, 28-Hasards, 29-Frolic, 30-Wild buffalo of India, 31-Clue, 32-Near, 33-Before, 34-A state (abbr.), 35-Pronoun, 36-Near, 37-A state (abbr.), 38-Pronoun, 39-Near, 40-A state (abbr.), 41-Near, 42-A state (abbr.), 43-Near, 44-A state (abbr.), 45-Near, 46-A state (abbr.), 47-Near.

## Decoration Job



RAMBLINGS by Ronnie Saunders

## I Almost Ate the Daisies

Somehow the word has got out that I read—I mean really got out. People who used to barely give me a curt nod when I drove by are phoning with lists of books I must immediately read; strangers hint broadly when I walk past the pocket-book rack in the supermarket on my way to a quarter of a pound of cheese; and friends are dropping over nightly with their overdue library books, solicitously explaining that they couldn't possibly return them until I had seen them.

After staying up half the night trying to get through the piles of books that have overflowed the bookcases, headboards, night-tables and medicine chest, I spent the hours before dawn today trying to figure out what has brought about this sudden state of affairs.

I finally narrowed it down

to two possible explanations. After flatteringly consoling myself that of course it was merely an attempt by my public (well, there are some people that read me... my friends?... well, my neighbors?... all right, then—my husband—yes, he does; I won't make his breakfast until he does) to gain favor in my private opinion poll, the second explanation presented itself. Suddenly, like a bandaged toe, it has become all too apparent that there are areas in which I'm lacking. The sudden kindnesses are attempts by the assorted friends, neighbors, and supermarket browsers to give me a gentle shove in the direction I should have been heading in a long time ago.

Some of the titles I was advised not to miss just in the last few hours were: "The Hidden Persuaders" (I'm still trying to figure out the ambiguous significance of that suggestion); "The Status Seekers" (same author as "Hidden Persuaders"—I'm sure the librarian will have some wild guess as to whom?—it might be); Your Gifted Child (yes, today he really came home gifted—he brought me boysenberry tonic he got from a medicine man at Knott's Berry Farm with his day camp group; "One Little Boy" (but I've got TWO already); "New Ways of Discipline" (in self-defense I must explain that those old ways are MY old ways, and it's those old familiar ways of mine that give me my sense of security); and "Anatomy of Murder." The sweet little thing who suggested that book smiled as she presented me with a copy of "The Ugly American." But I'm not sensitive, and I'm sure there was nothing personal about... hmmm!

Well, anyway, I really didn't mind too much when I had to break open the boys' piggy bank to pay other people's back library fines. And I didn't mind too much getting out of bed just as I'd fallen asleep to answer the phone when someone had a good title to suggest. But when my husband decided—after one of those arguments where the whole point of arguing is the flowers or candy that are bound to follow—to make up by bringing me home "Please Don't Eat the Daisies" I nearly did—eat the daisies I mean.

There was only one way, I decided, to put an end to this mass movement to do a "Pygmalion" on me. My only defense against the sudden bombardment of culture could be a symbolic gesture (I had read through the psychology volumes before making this decision—that's where I learned the word "symbolic gesture.") I decided to give away "Please Don't Eat the Daisies." A dear friend (that is one who never suggested even a comic strip

## THE SQUIRREL CAGE by Reid Bundy

# On Training Fleas, Tongues

Man has done many marvelous things. Father Hugh Percy told his parishioners at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church on a recent Sunday. "We've all heard of circus acts which feature a trained hippopotamus along with a flea act."

But, the rector pointed out, for all of this man has not been able to train his tongue. "Ill-mannered kids stick it out, and ill-mannered adults let it run away from their brain," he said.

He's got a point. If man could only train his tongue as he does the wild animals of the world.

The HERALD was soundly criticized this week by a resi-

dent of the Victoria Knolls area for a story which we published last Thursday. It was the story about street lights on the hill, included in an assessment district after a majority of the residents had petitioned for them.

We were not criticized for what we said in the story—in fact, it was agreed that the story was an accurate report on what had transpired at the council meeting on the subject.

What brought on the abuse was what was not said. We didn't refer to the city council as dictatorial, totalitarian, and we did not say the street lights were "jammed down the people's throats" after they petitioned for them.

We were accused of being a mouthpiece for the city council—which is far, far from true—and were likewise accused of flaunting the freedom of the press by not doctored up the manner which the resident apparently would have liked.

Freedom of the press is not a license for irresponsibility. And so long as my small voice can be heard here, the HERALD's reporters will continue to treat news matters objectively and present all pertinent facts without opinion or comment—unless so labeled.

Our comments, if any, will be published in the editorial columns and identified as our comments.

FROM OUR MAILBOX by Our Readers

## Flying Saucer Data Asked

Editor, Torrance Herald: We are advised that "unidentified flying objects" were seen over your area on May 1, 1959.

Because of our deep scientific interest in all aerial phenomena and our desire to solve the riddle of the so-called "unidentified flying objects," we would greatly appreciate your assistance in locating witnesses to this phenomena.

We are asking that all persons witnessing aerial phenomena over your area on said date please send a report and diagram of their observation to our office. All names will be held strictly confidential unless otherwise stated.

Reports should be sent to Aerial Phenomena Research Group, National Headquarters, 5108 Findlay Street, Seattle 18, Washington.

MARGARET RITCHIE, Associate Director.

## Recipe Wanted

Editor, Torrance Herald: Will someone please send in a recipe for French Apple Pie?

T. F. MARTIN, Torrance

Editor's Note: Okay, you gals. We have a request for a French Apple pie recipe. If you've got one that the family thinks is great, just call Edna Cloyd here at the Herald and we'll take it from there.)

## Backs Freeway

Editor, Torrance Herald: This is a copy of a letter I sent to the California State Highway Commission Thursday:

I am sure you are aware of the urgency and need for completion of the Harbor Freeway since published figures indicate that it now carries more traffic than any other freeway or highway in California.

At an earlier date when an effort was made to secure allocation of funds for the Harbor Freeway section between 124th St. and 190th St., the cities, organizations, and Chambers of Commerce south of 190th St. joined me to expedite construction of that portion, and I would now add my support to the many organizations that are now urging allocation of money for

completion of the Harbor Freeway.

I would also urge that a separate barrier be placed between opposing lanes of traffic in that portion now under construction (from 124th to 190th streets) so that it will not be necessary to interfere with traffic after the freeway is open.

I feel very strongly that this safety provision is needed and that now would be the time to install it.

KENNETH HAHN, Supervisor

## Something Wrong

Editor, Torrance Herald:

There is definitely something wrong between the Los Angeles Board of Education and the suburban towns' education systems.

Our sixteen-year-old son, a sophomore at North Torrance High School, failed the second semester Spanish and registered for Summer school but was sent home because there were not enough students to make up a Spanish Class.

Therefore, we called Gardena High School, as we live within walking distance of it, and asked if they would admit a boy from North High. They assured us they had the class and would enroll him providing North agreed to recognize the credit, which they agreed to accept, so the boy was enrolled.

On the third day of Summer school he was sent home because he was not in that district. We have called and

called on everyone in both educational systems, but the final decree was:

"It is unfortunate the boy cannot attend Gardena High Summer school and will have to do the whole year over again, but there is no one who will take the authority to grant him permission to go to that school, nor is there anyone who can help him."

It seems to us when a boy wants to do something constructive a way should be made to do so, or an exception granted; not force a boy to go to high school an extra year in order to get the college entrance credits he needs.

An added insult to injury came when the principal said:

"If he lived out of state or out of the United States, we could take him, but we cannot take a student from a bordering district."

We pay taxes in both school districts but are denied the advantages given to people who live and pay taxes elsewhere.

JACK H. CRANE

Cartoon titled 'The Old Timer' showing a man saying 'It isn't your position but your disposition that makes you happy or unhappy.'

STAR GAZER horoscope section by Clay R. Pollan, including zodiac signs and their characteristics.

## LAW IN ACTION

# Clouded Property

A quiet title action in court may remove a "cloud" from your property or determine what interest, if any, anyone may have in it.

The quiet title action which decides conflicting claims comes to us from the English law and is like the old "bill of peace" which ended rows over a land owner's right to possess.

We direct our quiet title action against some lien, claim, or document which threatens our interest. After a hearing, a court decides whether to remove the cloud and quiet title.

But such actions get complicated, too. A quiet title action judgment can find that a person now owns some land by "adverse possession" as against the "true owner."

To get such a judgment one

must occupy the property adverse to the "true owner" for twenty years and pay the taxes on it (for five years), or be on the land for ten years and pay the taxes during that time. Sometimes even before the "adverse possessor" brings a quiet title action his rights to the land might be fixed in five years.

In settling conflicting claims, the claimants try to prove their interest as heirs, lease holders, holders of rights of way, creditors with liens (like mortgages) and the like.

One can use the quiet title action also to get at other problems: One land owner tested a zoning restriction by quiet title, claiming that an illegal zone "clouded" his title by limiting his use.

NOTE: California lawyers offer this column so you may know about our law.

## IN HOMETOWN AMERICA

Cartoon titled 'THE LEMONADE STAND' showing a man asking 'WOT'LL WE DO WITH ALL TH' MONEY?' and another saying 'YOU MEAN TH' WHOLE THIRTY-FIVE CENTS?'