

Your Right to Know
Is the Key to All Your Liberties

EDITORIALS

Sixteen TORRANCE HERALD DECEMBER 20, 1959

THOUGHT FOR TODAY—In our free society, the right to succeed carries with it the right to fail. If, through legislative action of one kind or another, we remove the right to fail, we ultimately will also remove the right to succeed beyond mediocrity. Men of vision and ambition do not want that. They know their future is most secure in an environment which guarantees freedom to choose, freedom to experiment, freedom to become more efficient, freedom to seek and develop new markets, freedom to dream, and freedom to enjoy economic rewards if their dream is successful.—Dr. Earl L. Butz, Dean of Agriculture, Purdue University.

Adult Education Study

Testimony before the Assembly Interim Committee on Education last week brought out several facts about California's adult education program which should be given more than passing thought by the state's taxpayers.

E. Maxwell Benton, schools consultant for the California Taxpayers' Assn., pointed out to the Assemblymen at the Los Angeles hearing that \$11 million dollars had been apportioned for adult education by the state for the 1959-60 fiscal year, and that according to a report by the State Department of Education, only about 30 per cent of the enrollment in adult education classes during the preceding year was in academic subjects and citizenship and English for foreigners.

Benton did not ask for elimination of adult education, but suggested to the committee members that school districts be encouraged to charge tuition fees in the areas of "self-improvement" and hobby courses.

"Taxpayers should not have to foot the bill for adults who want to pursue hobbies via the classrooms," Benton testified.

Torrance is not a leader in the drive for an all-inclusive adult education program.

Enrollment in the city's adult education program has risen about 215 per cent in the past 10 years—growing from 1252 in the 1948-49 school year to 3950 during the 1957-58 school year, but increased interest in academic classes is found in the fact that during the same period, the number of graduates has increased 454 per cent.

While all of this is a credit to the Torrance system, the city's adult education program still carries many classes of the type referred to by Mr. Benton in his testimony.

Included among these might be such classes as cake decorating, ceramics, dressmaking, gardening, knitting, lampshade making, woodshop, and others.

The HERALD subscribes to Mr. Benton's premise that these classes should pay their own way and not be subsidized by the state's taxpayers.

Opinions of Others

"The state of Michigan, sixth wealthiest in the nation, is still—despite a strange news blackout—in real financial trouble.

"States as well as businesses are liable to failure and bankruptcy; free spending and unbalanced budgets can hardly lead elsewhere.

"This fact cannot be impressed too much on the mind of the average voter who indirectly controls the affairs and paths of state."—Pittsfield (Me.) Advertiser.

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"Even though Uncle Sam and his associates, the congress of the United States, impose severe barriers, the American people are saving money and are practicing the virtues of thrift.

"Thrift is a worthy practice. It should be more widely practiced."—Altoona (Pa.) Mirror.

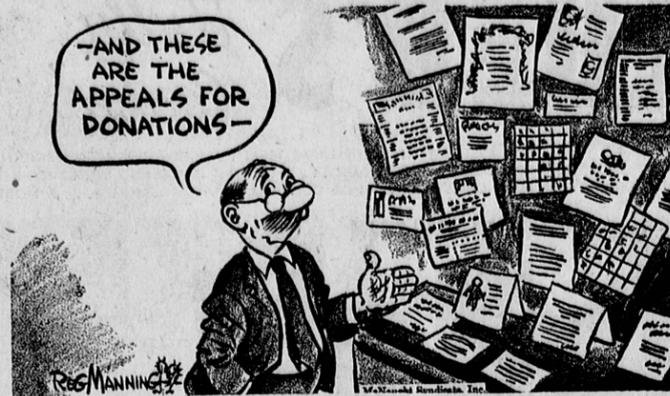


Church Photo Contest

Sing! And the ear
With joy surround,
Let the heart hear.
Resound! Resound!

—Jean Marie LaGuardia

Christmas Displays



Used Car 'Warranties' Under Probe of Assembly Committee

By VINCENT THOMAS
Assemblyman, 46th District

Protecting the consumer so far as it can be done by suitable law has always been one of the prime responsibilities of your Legislature.

In recent years the complexity of the job has been multiplied many times over because of the flood of new and revolutionary products marketed by American manufacturers. Another basic phase of the problem has been created by the enormous trade in used articles of all kinds.

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A subcommittee of the Assembly interim committee on finance and insurance has just started an intensive investigation of one aspect of the matter, that having to do with so-called "warranties" on used cars.

A warranty is a contract under which an outside firm assumes the liability of a dealer for the replacement or repair of any defective parts within a specified period of time. In effect, the warranty

firm, for a fee, agrees to give the same parts guarantee that a manufacturer usually gives on a new article.

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Though this investigation starts with used car warranties, it may not be limited to them. In our last session a bill was introduced which would have required anyone engaging in the business of issuing warranty contracts on all kinds of mechanical or electrical household appliances, as well as on motor vehicles, new and used, to obtain a permit for such business from the state insurance commissioner. This bill is the basis of the present study.

At its first hearing, the subcommittee was informed by a spokesman for the insurance commissioner that the problem of used car warranties is a very serious one. More than 180 complaints of failure to carry out the contract have been filed with the commissioner's office. It is believed that thousands of other car owners with justified complaints have failed to file them.

Law in Action

Jury Challenges

The law takes care to see that people get a fair trial.

For an impartial verdict, each side can question "ve—for any sign of prejudice should they become jurors.

Besides such challenges for "cause," each side may make a number of "peremptory" challenges to dismiss a prospective juror without having to give a reason.

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In the past either side in a civil lawsuit or a criminal case could ask for a new judge, but only if it could show that the judge was in fact prejudiced—sometimes a hard thing to do, and always an embarrassing one.

But California lawmakers recently went one step further: In civil as well as criminal cases, a lawyer on either side can ask for another judge without having to prove the first judge's bias. The lawyer has only one such challenge in any one case. In it he swears that the judge is prejudiced against a party, a lawyer, or against an interest at stake. He says that he doubts that his side will get a fair hearing.

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The lawyer need not go into details; but since each side has only one such "challenge" he should use his with care.

No lawyer may use his challenge to put off a trial,

nor can he use it after the trial gets under way—after the choosing of jurors begins, or the lawyer's opening statements, or the swearing in of the first witness, or the hearing of any evidence.

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The immense power of judges in our courts comes from the high regard the people have for their work. The new law ought to enhance their position, for a party's right to ask for a new judge should remove any trace of a claim of bias against a judge.



"The trouble with the average budget is that it is hard to fill up one hole without digging another."—Dan Bennett.

"It's getting harder and harder to support the government in the style to which it is accustomed."—Australian Manufacturer.

"One of our present troubles seems to be that too many adults, and not enough children, believe in Santa Claus."—New Orleans Blue Book.

Chapel to Urge Revision Of State's Constitution

By CHARLES E. CHAPEL
46th Assembly District

A constitution is the fundamental, organic law or principles of government of a nation, state, society, or other organized body of people, embodied in written documents, or implied in the institutions and customs of the country or society. The British constitution, for example, is of the type called "customary" or "unwritten," and can be modified by an ordinary act of the British Parliament. The Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California are of the type called "rigid constitutions," and cannot be modified in their express terms, except through processes set forth in these constitutions.

Experts on political science agree that a good constitution is a body of fundamental, organic law which sets forth the basic principles of government, protects the rights of the citizens, defines the powers of government, and establishes a framework of government organization.

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A good constitution is supplemented with a body of statutory law, enacted by the lawmakers to deal with policies and problems as they arise. Thus, the Congress of the United States enacts federal statutes and the Legislature of the State of California passes laws, all of which are subject to change as conditions change. These are in sharp contrast to a constitution which should be comparatively permanent and not be changed except for reasons of extreme urgency and lasting benefit to the people.

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The California State Con-

stitution needs major revision because it is not merely a body of fundamental, organic law, but instead is a hodgepodge, bulky, complex set of detailed provisions, many of which are obsolete, repetitious, trivial, and inconsistent. Instead of being a constitution in the sense defined above, it is a collection of laws which should be subject to modification by the Members of the California State Legislature as times and conditions dictate.

The California State Constitution is not good because it does not provide the Legislature or State officials with enough authority to carry out our responsibilities to set policy and enact laws in the interest of the public to meet current needs.

California is a dynamic, growing state, trying to exist under a constitution whose length, rigidity and petty details hamstring the Legislature. Most of the provisions of our Constitution are about eighty years old. In a misguided effort to overcome the handicaps of the California Constitution, the voters have amended it hundreds of times at the polls, but these patchwork changes have only added to the confusion.

At the March, 1960 Budget Session of the California State Legislature I shall introduce and support a budget item providing funds for a Constitutional Convention. This commission should be composed of about sixty people, one-half of whom are Republicans and one-half Democrats. Furthermore, it should consist of one-half women and one-half men, all of whom are willing to work without salary to prepare for a Constitutional Convention.

A Constitutional Convention in California is made up of persons elected by the people for the sole purpose of revising the California State Constitution. It conducts public hearings, examines proposed changes, considers the effect of changes on the State Government, and finally submits a recommended draft of a new California State Constitution to the people at the polls for acceptance or rejection.

The facts stated above are based upon the recommendations of the League of Women Voters of California and my own research. Although the League of Women Voters of California is a volunteer organization of about 10,000 women, it cannot single-handedly do all the work, hence, I am appealing to the readers of this column to do three things:

First, write to me at Post Office Box 777, Inglewood 5, and tell me if you agree that we should provide funds in the March, 1960 State Budget for the creation of a commission to do the preliminary work. Tell me if you think it should be bi-partisan and half men and half women.

Second, write a letter addressed to Edmund G. Brown, Governor of California, State Capitol, Sacramento 14, Calif., telling him that you favor the revision of the State Constitution by means of a Constitutional Convention preceded by a commission which will do the preliminary work.

Third, bring this subject before your own organization, and try to get support for this worthy project, so that the whole burden will not fall on the League of Women Voters of California.

Supervisors Accept New Flood Control Section

Official approval and acceptance by the Board of Supervisors of the second unit in a series of major, permanent improvements to Dominguez channel, designed to provide increased flood protection for Gardena, Torrance, Lawndale, Hawthorne and adjacent communities, was announced this week by Supervisor Kenneth Hahn.

This project included "daylighting" or lowering the bed of the channel and the construction of concrete sides and bottom, reinforced with steel, from Denker Ave. to Gramercy Place.

New bridges were built, to master plan standards, across the channel at Western Ave., Artesia Blvd., and Gramercy.

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SUPERVISOR Hahn pointed out that the improvements increase the channel's capacity to carry off storm waters and the new bridges will eliminate one of the area's most serious problems in the past.

He explained that narrow culverts under Western, Artesia, and Gramercy, formerly caught debris and trash carried by storm waters, damaging the water and causing it to back up and overflow the banks of the channel.

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THE GARDENA-Torrance area was hard-hit three years ago because the channel was

unable to handle the storm waters.

At that time, Supervisor Hahn inspected the channel in the company of H. E. Hedger, then chief engineer of the County Flood Control District.

Supervisor Hahn urged him to expedite the preparation of plans so that the people of the area could be spared the imminent threat of being flooded out with every major rain.

Hedger agreed, and the following year contract was awarded for the first unit of the long-range project, which re-aligned and improved the channel between Vermont Ave. and Denker.

Work on the second unit, now completed, was started in August, 1958 and contract for the third unit, which extends the improvements upstream to Redondo Beach Blvd., was awarded last July.

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AS CONSTRUCTION on this latter project continues, with work now being concentrated on completing the

bridges across the channel at Arlington and Cherry Aves., and Crenshaw and Redondo Beach Blvds., plans are being prepared for the fourth unit, which will complete the improvement of the channel from Redondo Beach Blvd. to Compton Blvd.

Supervisor Hahn pointed out that the channel improvement is also imperative because Dominguez serves as the outlet for many of the 1952 and 1958 bond issue storm drains.

My Neighbors



"Now think, Hartwig, is this the time to ask for a raise?"

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS
1-Weaken
4-Liquid
9-Policeman
(abbr.)
13-Paddle
18-Old-
womanish
14-Tierra del
Fuegan
15-In favor of
16-Process in a
shop
17-Openwork
fabric
18-Temporary
bed
20-Correct
21-Trumpet
24-Prefix: three
25-Slippery
28-Period of
time
29-Pronoun
30-Place in
position
31-All-colored
merrily
34-Place for
worship
35-Man's
nickname
36-Abstract
being
38-Inheritor
39-Out
40-Handle
41-As no time
42-Music: as
written
46-Defensive
pronoun
51-Chapeau
52-Wearies
53-Born
54-Female
sheep
55-Kings
58-Obtain

DOWN
1-Soak up
2-Swiss river
3-Delay
4-Linger
5-Girl's name
6-Masonic
doorkeepers
7-Fragrant
odorless
8-Nerve
network
9-Stopping
10-Number
11-Man's
nickname
15-Preposition
21-Gaseous
element
22-Pronoun
23-Pope's veil
24-Metal
26-Hold on
property
(pl.)
27-Symbol for
yttrium
28-Fronton
29-Shallow
vessel
32-Habitat
33-Condensed
moisture
34-Exclamation
35-Shipworms
37-A continent
(abbr.)
38-Means
40-Cooled lava
42-Reject
43-Free ticket
44-Fronton
45-Game at
marbles
47-Encountered
48-Golf mound
50-Place



STAR GAZER
By CLAY R. POLLAN

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

ARIES MAR. 21 APR. 20 15-27-37-46 52-70-81-84	TAURUS APR. 21 MAY 21 2-4-22-40 43-53-57	GEMINI MAY 22 JUNE 21 8-11-30-38 49-65-79-82	CANCER JUNE 23 AUG. 23 23-32-36-47 50-66-83-88	LEO AUG. 24 AUG. 23 14-24-51-57 72-76-78	VIRGO AUG. 24 SEPT. 23 12-23-33-35 62-67-69	LIBRA SEPT. 24 OCT. 23 5-7-13-26 29-45-80-87	SCORPIO OCT. 24 NOV. 21 16-21-31-34 54-58-86-90	SAGITTARIUS NOV. 23 DEC. 22 19-25-39-42 73-74-75	CAPRICORN DEC. 23 JAN. 20 61-64-68-61 81-88-85-89	AQUARIUS JAN. 21 FEB. 19 1-3-6-17 18-20-55	PISCES FEB. 20 MAY 21 9-10-56-59 60-64-71
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1 Let
2 Congenial
3 Folks
4 Contacts
5 Choose
6 Know
7 Wistly
8 If
9 There's
10 Need
11 Justice
12 Go
13 Sororities
14 Things
15 Seek
16 Perfect
17 Wives
18 You
19 A
20 Definitely
21 Day
22 Of
23 Along
24 May
25 New
26 Three
27 Rest
28 Forter
29 Can
30 Seems

31 For
32 Or
33 With
34 Social
35 The
36 You
37 And
38 Temporarily
39 Voluble
40 The
41 Stick
42 Social
43 Right
44 To
45 Be
46 How
47 Friend
48 Schedule
49 And
50 Gives
51 Go
52 In
53 Kind
54 Coverings
55 Sturd
56 For
57 Contrary
58 And
59 Extra
60 Rest

61 And
62 Changes
63 Yes
64 And
65 Refuse
66 You
67 Tide
68 Wind
69 How
70 The
71 Seclusion
72 Cuts
73 Contact
74 To
75 Likely
76 Year
77 Probable
78 Impulses
79 To
80 A
81 Proper
82 Government
83 A
84 Place
85 Moral
86 Moral
87 Crowd
88 Boost
89 Ahead
90 Matters

Good Adversc Neutral