

Your Right to Know
Is the Key to All Your Liberties
EDITORIALS

6 THE TORRANCE HERALD February 14, 1960

Another Sump Victim

Those ubiquitous drainage sumps, constructed to catch runoff storm water from many of the city's newer housing tracts, claimed another life here Friday when a 10-year old elementary school student was drowned while two 10-year-old playmates stood by helplessly.

Whatever their value to developers as a substitute for an adequate, areawide drainage system, it cannot compare to the value of a child's life. Friday's victim was the second in recent years.

Repeated demands by the city that the County Flood Control district speed up drainage system projects within the city have met with little success.

"We have paid millions into the county fund through flood control taxes in recent years," Councilman Willys G. Blount declared at a recent meeting of the city council.

"It is about time we started getting some of it back," the councilman added.

Elimination of the drainage death traps has long been advocated by community leaders. It is a campaign which the HERALD has and continues to endorse with vigor. We can do without sumps of any kind.

A Short, Short Story

More than 750 million dollars has been earmarked by the Department of Commerce to remove land from production.

Nearly two and one-half billion dollars has been budgeted by the Commodity Credit Corporation to remove surplus production from the market.

A request for 216 million dollars has been made by the Department of the Interior for dam building and irrigation programs to add more land to the productive capacity of the country.

Opinions of Others

WEST POINT, MISS., LEADER: "The vast majority of advertisers — large and small — continue to rely on the power of the printed word to move merchandise. It's there when you want it — to read, then to re-read, or put aside for future reading. The newspaper you hold in hand is truly an 'invited guest' into thousands of local and area homes. We don't claim a 'captive audience', but an appreciative and responsive audience."

BEVERLY, MASS., EVENING TIMES: "The mania for munching tranquilizing pills caught the American public at about the time of the outbreak of the Korean War. It has been estimated that more than 40 million persons buy those makes for which a prescription is not required."

"Without anxiety in reasonable proportion man would be indifferent to everything and the world would be chaos. Who wants to live in a world of tranquility achieved via a pill box?"

EATON, OHIO, REGISTER-HERALD: "The National Safety Council has asked for church leadership . . . to point out that accident prevention is practical religion, and that goodwill toward men can find no finer expression than behind the wheel of a car."

DOVER, (DEL.) STATE NEWS: "One of the greatest methods of obtaining information is by reading a good newspaper. And the place to learn how to do this is in school. So I read with much interest of the following experiment . . ."

"After using newspapers for two years as a classroom textbook in contemporary living and as a supplement to books, junior high school teachers in Austin, Texas, find them invaluable in making subject matter more meaningful and in stimulating interest in reading."

REEDLEY, (CALIF.) EXPONENT: "It could be that in years to come we'll all be working for the Government. In California there are no less than 382,000 people on the public payrolls. The Federal Government has a quarter of a million and the State of California 112,000. Even though the State is playing second fiddle in numbers it's catching up."

DULUTH, (MINN.) PUBLICITY: "Big budgets mean big tax demands, and yet, everyone knows that taxes already are too high. So, in Washington, they're talking about closing the 'loopholes.' But, it turns out that the biggest beneficiaries of the loopholes are the small taxpayers and that the middle bracket folks have fewest loopholes. There aren't enough big taxpayers around to matter much. So it looks like the only hope the citizens have is to tell their Congressmen that they want cheaper government."

Why's He Reading By Firelight?



More About Fallout

By CHARLES E. CHAPPEL
46th Assembly District

In the last Sunday's issue of The HERALD, I discussed "fallout" and the attendant hazards. These are both State and federal problems. As your Member of the California State Legislature, it is my duty to report to you about current issues.

Dr. Edward Teller, who worked out the mathematical equations for the hydrogen bomb and is one of the world's greatest nuclear scientists, is authority for the statement that if a person is exposed to 1000 roentgens over his whole body, it is almost certain that he will die in less than a month. If he is exposed to from 400 to 500 roentgens at one time, he has an even chance of living or dying. Even if a human being is exposed to only 100 roentgens at one time, his life may be shortened, but there is little probability that he will die soon, although he may contract leukemia or cancer sometime later.

These statements are terrifying if they stand by themselves, but it should be realized that long before there were any atomic explosions, for centuries and centuries, men and women have been exposed to radioactivity which comes from the rocks and rivers of the earth.

Dr. Edward Teller and other nuclear scientists agree that the average man or woman living at sea level in the United States absorbs in his bones from ordinary, natural sources about 0.15 roentgen

of nuclear radiation each year. About 25 per cent, or roughly 0.035 roentgen is caused by cosmic rays at sea level. If a person lives at an altitude of 5000 feet, he absorbs approximately 0.05 roentgen per year from cosmic rays.

Therefore, when this unavoidable and ancient exposure to nuclear radiation is compared to the 0.002 roentgen per year from Strontium-90 radiation caused by world fallout, it is apparent that we have nothing to fear from "world fallout", that is, the fallout carried by winds from the place of an atomic explosion.

Fallout should be distinguished from what he call "atomic dust" for the purpose of discussion. Previously, we have outlined the hazards of the fall out of fissioned nuclear materials, but also it is important to consider atomic dust that results from the crashes of aircraft, trains, trucks, or other vehicles transporting nuclear weapons.

Since some of these nuclear weapons contain comparatively small amounts of chemical explosives, somewhat resembling TNT, when an accident occurs to the transporting vehicle, the explosives may detonate, that is, they may "fire" or "go off" because of the impact of a collision or from flames, causing the atomic dust to scatter locally, both by reason of the force of the explosion and winds. Such atomic dust is dangerous only if taken internally, as by

breathing or swallowing.

Citizens not directly responsible for law enforcement should avoid all scenes of disaster, especially one where atomic dust is present. The armed forces of the United States and the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission have people especially trained to proceed to the scene of the accident and decontaminate the area very efficiently.

During the 1959 general session of the California State Legislature, the late Assemblyman Seth Johnson was the ostensible author of a bill which I introduced during the 1957 general session, and Johnson's bill became a law. This established the office for the co-ordination of information about atomic energy for the State of California.

My own bill regulating the transportation of atomic energy materials also became a law during the 1959 general session. Both of these laws which originated with my constituents in Hollywood Riviera, Palos Verdes Estates, and adjacent areas, protect people against some of the hazards of the atomic age.

If you have any questions or suggestions, write to me at Post Office Box 777, Inglewood 5, Calif. During March, 1960, my address is Assembly Chambers, State Capitol, Sacramento 14, Calif., but the postal employees are very efficient about forwarding mail from Inglewood to Sacramento.

Income Tax Tips

Benefits for Widowed Taxpayers Outlined

(This is the eighth of a series of articles on Federal and California income tax filing. This information has been provided by the Committee on Taxation of the California Society of Certified Public Accountants — now observing its 50th Anniversary — in cooperation with the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.)

In the last article we discussed the general subject of deductions for illness and medical-dental expenses. This article will deal with several provisions of special interest to widows and widowers:

1. Even if your husband or wife died during the tax year, you may file a joint return if no separate return is filed.
2. If you have not remarried and have in your household a dependent child or stepchild, you are entitled — for the next two years — to use the same tax computation (with income-splitting) as you would have been entitled to on a joint return.
3. When life insurance proceeds are taken as an annuity or in installments, widows and widowers are allowed to exclude up to \$1,000 per year of interest received in addition to the principal.
4. You may be entitled to retirement income credit if your deceased husband or

wife would have qualified. 5. You may be entitled to a deduction for child care expenses.

The treatment on the California return in the case of widows and widowers is as follows:

1. If your husband or wife died during the taxable year, the California law is similar to the federal law in that you may file a joint return with a deceased husband or wife who died during the tax year if no separate return is filed.
2. After the year of your deceased spouse's death you are not permitted the tax rates of a joint return nor the advantage of income splitting under the California law.
3. Life insurance proceeds as an annuity or in installments: The same allowance, namely \$1000 per year, of tax-free interest payments in ad-

dition to the principal are allowed to widows and widowers on their California return as well as their federal return.

4. Retirement income: The California law has no provisions for a retirement income credit.

5. Child care expenses: There is no provision for the deduction of child care expenses under the California law.

You may obtain further information from the instructions which you will receive with your tax forms. Help is also available from the Internal Revenue Service and at the California Franchise Tax Board. If you consult a properly qualified outside advisor in connection with your federal return he can also assist you in connection with your California return.

Economists Show Smiles

By REYNOLDS KNIGHT

Economists who watch carefully the trends in the U. S. exports and imports, are currently showing a cheerful countenance. The factory worker may be too busy to wonder whether there's a ready overseas market for the product he helps make, but to economists our foreign trade balance is an important barometer of economic health.

The current cheer comes initially from December figures which showed U.S. exports at \$1.67 billion, highest for any month since late 1957. Among individual businesses sharing in the uptrend is machine tool manufacturing; orders from abroad continued an advance sustained all through 1959 and in December hit a three-year peak.

The export uptrend is important because imports in recent years have steadily pared the gap, and as recently as last week one Congressional Committee said action to promote exports was becoming "imperative." However, action may not be needed; some economists are confident exports will continue upward in the months ahead. One source predicts exports this year will considerably widen the gap over imports, which in 1959 totaled about \$15 billion — a record — versus exports of about \$17.5 billion. The source anticipates a \$1.4 billion net improvement in our foreign trade position.

Conversion — A big switch to gas for househeating, making it the nation's Number One comfort heating fuel, has resulted in the installation of 1,046,700 furnaces, 136,200 boilers, and 156,300 gas conversion burners in the past year alone. A furnace, of course, produces warm air heating; a boiler involves either steam or hot water heat. Both systems are readily understood by most householders. But the conversion burner, installed in more than 3,000,000 homes since the end of the

war, perhaps needs more identification.

The gas conversion burner, explains the Gas Appliance Manufacturers Assn. is no bigger than an ordinary breadbox. As its name implies, it is used to convert an oil or coal furnace or boiler from liquid or solid fuel to gas.

It takes less than a day to install, takes up only a square foot of basement floor space, and eliminates such things as fuel tanks, coal bins and janitoring equipment because gas is delivered by feed-line from the street main and isn't stored in the house. All that's required is that the old furnace or boiler be in sound condition.

Incidentally, GAMA's conversion burner division expects 164,000 more homes to "convert to the converter" this year.

Things to Come — The word in life-like dolls is a model that can acquire a sun-burn, thanks to an impregnated chemical in its "skin," dolly's tan subsequently goes away if she's left in the shade. . . . Light pleasure aircraft may soon be powered by a pint-sized turbo-jet engine which weighs only 23 pounds. . . . Safety note for multi-story homes and commercial buildings; now being introduced is an aluminum window unit designed for quick emergency exit; it mounting lets you open it door-fashion, although it resembles a conventional window.

Trend to Quality Homes — Concerned over current high interest rates for home mortgages, the nation's home builders are continuing to seek added inducements for increasingly cautious buyers. This trend was noticeable in the remarks and activities of many of the thousands of builders who attended the recent National Association of Home Builders convention in Chicago. Generally, builders

indicated they're determined to make their product more attractive through greater use of building materials of recognized quality and appeal.

For example, domestic ceramic tile manufacturers who exhibited their product at the convention reported unprecedented interest from builders and architects in the expanded use of real tile. To keep pace with and help stimulate demand, ceramic tile makers in this country are currently producing more than 200 different colors and shades of tile, as well as a wide variety of shapes, textures and patterns.

'Life' Salesmen Happy — Americans in 1959 bought six per cent more ordinary life insurance than the year before, insuring themselves for a record of \$50.5 billion. And December was an especially happy month for insurance salesmen, who chalked up a 9 per cent gain over the comparable 1958 figure.

In other major categories, industrial life insurance dipped two per cent below the 1958 total, as did new group life insurance. But the gain in ordinary life policies written gave the industry an overall rosy hue. The 1959 total for all types of life insurance was \$69.2 billion, up four per cent over the previous year.

Bits o' Business — Auto output spurted during January, with 690,729 cars produced; this topped the all-time January record set in 1955 by 30,000 cars. . . . Investment clubs 'currently are putting about one million dollars monthly into buying securities, up one-third over a year ago; it's estimated there are now 5,000 such clubs in existence. . . . A study by a large food company shows the food industry employs directly or indirectly one-fourth of the total U.S. labor force and pays out \$45 billion in wages and salaries.

Law in Action

A Guilty Mind

Like Roman law California law says "in every crime . . . there must exist a union, or joint operation of act and intent. . . ."

This is the Roman doctrine of "mens rea": For a crime to take place one needs (1) an outward deed and (2) an inward "guilty mind." (Actus non facit reum nisi mens sit rea) — the deed does not make guilt unless the mind is guilty.)

Hence the law in accusing a person of a crime often has to use such words as "knowing," "willful," and "with malice aforethought." The district attorney not only has to prove that the accused did something, but that he meant to do it. A California "mens rea" case came before the U.S. Supreme Court the other day.

Police stopped a woman on a Los Angeles street corner, searched her then and there looking for drugs, but found none, even after they handcuffed and hauled her off to the police station.

Meantime the police found out that a court had once convicted her of forgery. A city ordinance called upon her as an ex-felon to register with the chief of police. Though this law did not

provide for notice to ex-convicts, the woman was found guilty of failure to register, even though both sides agreed that she could not reasonably know about the law.

In the U.S. Supreme Court her lawyers claimed under the "due process" clause of the Constitution, that she could not be held guilty of a crime she had no reasonable way of knowing about.

The Court agreed. It let her off, specially since she "passively failed" to act (instead of actively doing something) in a situation which did not warn her somehow that she might be disobeying a law. In such a situation she could not have a guilty mind.

Note: California lawyers offer this column so you may know about our laws.



"Some of today's movies should be pitied rather than censored."—Anna Herbert.

"Experience is what permits you to make the same mistake again without getting caught."—Franklin P. Jones.

"Life today is like a round of golf; as soon as we get out of one hole, we head for another."—Maurice Seitter.

"Russia's ability to send a man to Mars could be a big step toward world peace—if she sent the right man."—D. O. Flynn.

"Sleep is something that always assumes much more importance the morning after than it did the night before."—Lester D. Klimek.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- ACROSS
- 1—Secure
 - 2—Nod
 - 3—Coarse
 - 12—Silkworm
 - 13—Native metal
 - 14—Pool
 - 15—Bage
 - 16—Indonesian tribesman
 - 17—Spanish pot
 - 18—Church officials
 - 20—Flower
 - 22—Wheel track
 - 23—Cloth
 - 24—Measure
 - 25—Themes
 - 27—Relinuish
 - 31—Ventilate
 - 32—Beam
 - 33—Cared for
 - 37—Landed property
 - 40—Hall
 - 41—Charge
 - 42—Kind of coal
 - 43—Tiller of the soil
 - 49—Covered up with interest
 - 50—Employ
 - 52—Be borne
 - 53—Frustrated
 - 54—Obtained
 - 55—Genus of olives
 - 56—Search
 - 57—Female sheep
 - 58—Tear
 - 59—Ocean
 - 39—Fright
 - 44—Headgear (pl.)
 - 45—Chills and fever
 - 44—Girl's name
 - 46—Distance
 - 47—Paradise
 - 46—Peruse
 - 51—Seed



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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.

1—Aid	31—Moke	61—A
2—Candid	32—The	62—Express
3—Pronote	33—Name	63—See
4—Aspect	34—For	64—Private
5—Good	35—Restless	65—Ideas
6—You	36—Advice	66—Matter
7—Make	37—And	67—Matter
8—Liking	38—Granted	68—You've
9—Conclude	39—Course	69—Toward
10—You	40—To	70—Received
11—Talk	41—Maybe	71—As
12—Talk	42—Particularly	72—A
13—A	43—Extra	73—Day
14—Nothing	44—Coll	74—Humored
15—You	45—Road	75—Demand
16—Some	46—Music	76—Consider
17—Same	47—If	77—Much
18—For	48—Year	78—A
19—Interesting	49—Best	79—A
20—Know	50—Concerning	80—Possible
21—Where	51—Friendship	81—Friendship
22—Excite	52—Meet	82—Circle
23—To	53—Smooth	83—Certain
24—Head-headed	54—Minute	84—Demand
25—Time	55—Money	85—The
26—Need	56—With	86—Source
27—To	57—Weight	87—A
28—Help	58—Concerning	88—P. vasy
29—To	59—Carefully	89—P.
30—Attitude	60—Opposite	90—Att.

Good Adverse Neutral