

Torrance Herald

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, 1961

The Superior Court

A second look at the boundaries which have been established for the county's nine Superior Court Districts was urged here this week on the heels of a recommendation that the court facilities to serve this area be located in Inglewood.

Recommendations of top-level county officials that the permanent, multi-judge court facilities be constructed in Inglewood set off a round of protests in Torrance—protests in which the HERALD can add its voice without equivocation.

Formation of a court district for the Torrance-South Bay-Inglewood region which includes areas as far away as Slauson and Alameda in Huntington Park and yet does not include Lomita or Palos Verdes Estates can rightly be questioned by local citizens, in our opinion.

As presently formed, the district extends from Washington Blvd. near Venice to the northwest; Slauson Ave. and Alameda Blvd. on the northeast; to a point south of Artesia on Alameda Blvd. (with the city of Compton Gerry-mandered out to the west), west on Victoria and down to Western Ave., around the southern boundary line of Torrance, and ending at the ocean.

Torrance is in this district only because it protested long and loudly when the original order put it in the South District served by the Long Beach courts.

The Palos Verdes Peninsula, Lomita, Shoestring Strip area, the Carson area, and the Wilmington-San Pedro area are all assigned to Long Beach.

The Regional Planning Commission studies indicate that the center of population in the Southwest District is now near 120th and Crenshaw and by 1980 will shift slightly west to 120th and Yukon.

We won't dispute their estimates, but we do believe that the tremendous population coming to the Torrance-Peninsula area in the next decade cannot be served adequately by courts in either Inglewood or Long Beach.

The most logical location for such a court complex is much nearer Torrance. By the findings of the county on which the Inglewood recommendation is based, site problems, parking problems, and the need to acquire public and private property are involved in placing the court in the northern part of the district.

On the other hand, level, free, and ample land on which to construct such facilities is available on the Torrance civic center.

Inasmuch as the county is recommending that an eight-court facility be constructed in such a way that it can be expanded at least to 10 court suites with attendant quarters for marshals, district attorney, judges chambers, jury rooms, library, conference rooms, county offices, communications, and detention facilities, the location chosen will be permanent.

Torrance and the area's hopes for adequate Superior Court facilities now ride on overturning the recommendation made this week by the county administrative officer and bringing about a realistic alignment of district boundaries.

To this end, the HERALD urges an all-out effort on the part of area city and civic leaders to urge appropriate authorities to take a second look at Torrance. The stakes are high.

Chipping the Block

What many might consider a tempest in a teapot has stirred Californians since the revelation recently that the University of California board of regents has discussed seriously the suggestion that compulsory military training be abolished at the university.

Whether to continue the Reserve Officer Training Program except on a voluntary basis occupied a generous share of the agenda for the board's December meeting.

Their discussion and the implications of their suggestion have occupied the minds of many, including leading veterans, since.

While the need for adequately trained military leaders in the nation's defense program is unquestioned, the HERALD believes other and equally important factors are involved in the suggestion that ROTC be reduced to an elective course in the university.

The move to do away with compulsory ROTC in the state university is another chipping of the block of tradition which has brought this nation from the wilderness of our founding fathers to a position of world leadership in the relatively short period of 200 years.

The young men of California — and the nation — who are going from our high schools into college have many things to learn from the ROTC programs in addition to the purely military aspects of the training.

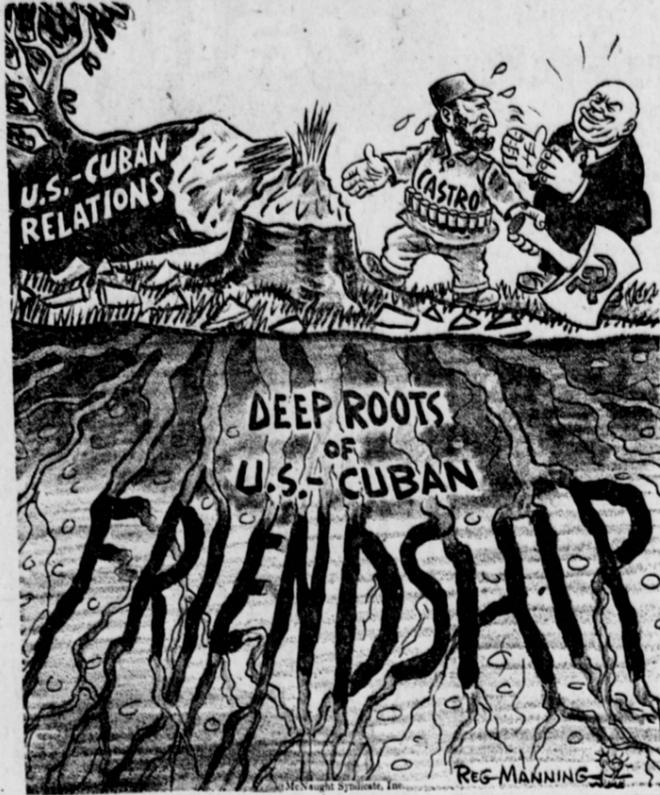
Such a program is an ideal training ground in the science of leadership, and — equally important — in the science of following a leader. In very few other campus activities is leadership training offered to such a broad spectrum of the student body.

In a message sent to University President Clark Kerr, William R. Burke, a resident of Palos Verdes Estates and a national commander of the American Legion, said in part:

"We do not believe the sole objective of this program is to fill the officer requirements of the armed forces. Patriotic motivation and inculcation of a sense of civic responsibility to the community, state, and nation are benefits derived from this training."

To this the HERALD can subscribe wholeheartedly.

But It Will Grow Again!



State's Paternal Watch Over Us Bothers Writer

By JAMES DORAIS
One of the marvels of Big Government is its solicitude for the "consumer."

Everyone, of course, is a consumer, just as everyone is a taxpayer. And the more government takes in taxes from consumers, the more convinced it seems to become that it has a benevolent duty to advise them how to spend what is left.

California, aping New York, has a "Consumers Council" to protect the gullible (all consumers) from rapacious exploiters (all businessmen). Nationally, a group of 24 Senators, headed by Tennessee's Estes Kefauver, is campaigning for establishment of a Department of Consumers, with Cabinet status, to do the same thing.

As all of us are consumers, it is evident that this elaborate concern for our daily welfare at the supermarket stems from a conviction that the general public is composed mostly of cretins, with perhaps a sprinkling of morons or just plain damn fools.

This view of the consumer's intelligence is shared by authors such as Vance Parkard, whose widely read books,

"The Hidden Persuaders" and "The Waste Makers," picture the consumer as a helpless dupe of the advertising villains of Madison Avenue who force him to buy an endless array of junk against his will and better judgment, if any. Building on the same concept, Professor J. Kenneth Galbraith, a chief braintrustee for the incoming Administration, portrays the consumer, in "The Affluent Society" and other books, as not just a poor sucker but a very affluent one—so much so that his own best interest, government should take still more of his money away from him.

A somewhat different, and vastly more recognizable view of the consumer is taken by another Professor, Steuart Henderson Britt, in a new book, "The Spenders."

This author, who teaches marketing at Northwestern University, agrees that the number of middle-income people in the U.S.—people who have "discretionary" dollars to spend above basic needs for food, shelter and clothing—has enormously increased.

But not to the point of affluence, or anything very much like it. Most consumers

just don't have a fraction of the discretionary dollars they would like to have to buy all the available goods and services they would like to own and use.

Because that is so, they are canny shoppers for the most part, who force advertisers to come to them, instead of the other way around.

Only 20 per cent of the new products introduced each year reach the market. Only 8 per cent are really successful. Out of 100 leading brands, 30 lose their leadership within 5 or 6 years.

In short, the consumer—and that means the American public—is nobody's fool. But don't expect Senator Kefauver or Professor Galbraith to agree. They know better.

SHORT TAKES

Columnist Clara Neal, Hobart, Okla., Kiowa County Star-Review — If we didn't have federal withholding tax, people would be much more concerned about how their tax money is spent. They would have trouble digging up that much at the end of the year and they would know exactly whence comes that money they ask for in federal "aid" from Washington. The way it is, they are relieved of it more or less painlessly and they look at their shrinking check and think only that they are underpaid.

Editor Kenneth A. Horner, The Wilmington, Del., Suburban News—While one must bow to the superior wisdom of our educators, it was interesting to read that the "experts" meeting at Santa Fe, N.M., took a dim view of what has been accomplished and asked for a "drastic overhaul" in the school system. They want to raise the quality and eliminate the frills.

Editor Carl W. Reinig, The Columbus, O., State Labor News — Organized labor certainly can't be proud of the record it made last year when a strike occurred on an average of one every four days at Air Force missile bases. . . . Most of the walkouts were jurisdictional disputes. The nation's defense effort and missile development suffered while labor unions argued over what union would do what work.

Editor Roy Gardner, The Hickman, Ky., Courier—There are many areas where Congress might take a long look at itself and the money it spends — and perhaps come up with new evaluation of the taxpayers' dollar. There are too many legislators with the idea that money is something that you get off trees loaded with taxpayers.

Sacramento Report

Solon Says It's Time For New Constitution

By CHARLES E. CHAPEL
46th Assembly District

An ideal state constitution should accomplish three purposes: (1) Establish the machinery for running the government; (2) Clearly define the powers and limitations on governmental bodies; and (3) Establish the rights and duties of citizens. In other words, it should be the skeleton in the body of government but not the organs, skin, flesh, and other parts.

An ideal constitution needs few revisions through the years. The United States Constitution has been amended 13 times in almost two hundred years. During eighty years, the California State Constitution has been amended about 460 times.

At each general election, the voters complain bitterly about the long ballot and are especially confused when there are many proposed amendments to the State Constitution. In 1960, there were eighteen propositions, seventeen of which were put there by the Legislature under pressure from voters and one was put there by the initiative process, that is, by the people themselves.

In 1958, there were 18 proposed amendments, the same number as in 1960. Five years ago, there were 19 propositions. Seven years ago, there were 20. In 1952, there were 24 propositions on the ballot. It is interesting to observe that in 1960, the voters of the State of New York had to face only two proposed amendments to their New York State Constitution.

It may be argued that California is a much younger state, with a faster growing population and more new problems than New York, but the voters become confused when there are many proposed amendments, some of which are of vital importance and others merely technical amendments or items of minor value.

When voters become confused, they tend to either disregard all proposed amendments by not marking them one way or the other, or vot-

ing "NO" on all of them.

One reason why the California State Constitution has been amended so many times is that our existing constitution was adopted in 1879 after a long period of graft, corruption, and loose government.

In order to correct the evils existing at that time, the California State Constitution of 1879 was written so tightly and so strictly that almost any major change in our form of state government cannot be accomplished by enacting new laws but requires an amendment to the State Constitution.

For example, the California Constitution is loaded with petty details, many of which are obsolete, such as a list of cities that had to be connected by highways constructed with money from bonds authorized in 1919, the length of time that can be devoted to boxing and a wrestling matches, etc. Some details are repetitions and others are contradictions.

Louisiana has the longest constitution of any State in the Union, California's constitution of about 75,000 words is the second longest. New York's constitution has only about 20,000 words; the Illinois constitution has approximately 17,000; and New Jersey gets along very well with only about 12,000 words.

Length is not the only fault. The California Constitution, like most state constitutions, is divided into articles and then sub-divided into sections. This is acceptable but articles numbered from 29 to 33 were never adopted, hence the California Constitution jumps from Article 28 to Article 34, and both Article 28 and Article 34 consist of a single sentence each, having a length of something more than 500 words for each sentence.

Some subsections of the California Constitution are numbered by decimals, some are lettered and others are designated by common fractions. There are many other defects, but the ones listed above will give a good idea of the need for a new constitution for California.

The Legislature is working on the problem and we believe that when we adjourn, sometime between June 12 and June 15, 1961, we will have provided a sensible groundwork for writing a new constitution, a task that should be completed within the next few years after public hearings and studies by experts.

In later issues of this family journal, I shall tell you about the various steps we are taking and the progress we are making.

Little Chats

On Public Notice

(Copyright 1960)

By JAMES E. POLLARD

"JOHN DOE ANNOUNCES" (No. 8 in a Series)

As a social item a Down East weekly newspaper some time ago reported that "Robert G. N. . . announces the marriage of his mother, Mrs. Florence S. N. . . to Mr. Harold H. H. . . etc. In itself, this was not unusual except that the announcement was made by the son. Ordinarily such announcements are made by parents, if living, or by a brother or sister, if any.

Long established custom has decreed other kinds of personal and social announcements. One of the most common of these is the birth announcement. Another is when an engagement occurs or, in business and professional life, when a partnership is formed or there is a move to a new location.

These personal announcements are somewhat on the same order as public notices, which are provided by law. Only there are many more kinds of the latter and they often concern or affect more people, particularly where their rights or interests are involved, as is usually the case.

Long experience has shown that the newspaper of paid general circulation is the best general medium for public

notices. The bona fide newspaper gives wide coverage and at a minimum cost. This is why the laws of all 50 states provide for many kinds of public notices to be given in this manner. The public notice is part of due process and helps to contribute to the democratic process.



Great importance is given today to skills . . . but anyone who is imbued with normal intelligence plus a capacity and willingness for hard work can succeed. — O. R. Doerr, president of San Francisco Chamber of Commerce.

Our youngsters should have the right to fail. And parents should not be too sensitive over what others will think — if they do. — Rev. Michael F. Vance, Los Angeles minister and youth leader.

So many economists have predicted so many things I don't know who to agree with. — Frederic G. Donner, General Motors board chairman.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS	1-Oriental	2-Negation	3-Part of stove	4-Anguish	5-Condiment	6-Preposition	7-Part of a ship	8-Part of a ship	9-Part of a ship	10-Harvested	11-Smelled	12-Part of a ship	13-Part of a ship	14-Part of a ship	15-Part of a ship	16-Part of a ship	17-Land	18-Part of a ship	19-Having	20-Undeared	21-Nimble	22-Prepares for	23-Tweak letter	24-Mixture	25-Cleaning rod	26-Sweethearts	27-Vigor	28-Swordman's	29-Except that	30-Calm	31-Want	32-Man's	33-Former	34-Russian	35-Father	36-Parent	37-Parent	38-Parent	39-Parent	40-Parent	41-Parent	42-Parent	43-Parent	44-Parent	45-Parent	46-Parent	47-Parent	48-Parent	49-Parent	50-Parent	51-Parent	52-Parent	53-Parent	54-Parent	55-Parent	56-Parent	57-Parent	58-Parent	59-Parent	60-Parent	61-Parent	62-Parent	63-Parent	64-Parent	65-Parent	66-Parent	67-Parent	68-Parent	69-Parent	70-Parent	71-Parent	72-Parent	73-Parent	74-Parent	75-Parent	76-Parent	77-Parent	78-Parent	79-Parent	80-Parent	81-Parent	82-Parent	83-Parent	84-Parent	85-Parent	86-Parent	87-Parent	88-Parent	89-Parent	90-Parent
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STAR GAZER

By CLAY R. POLLARD

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

ARIES	1-1	2-2	3-3	4-4	5-5	6-6	7-7	8-8	9-9	10-10	11-11	12-12
Taurus	13-13	14-14	15-15	16-16	17-17	18-18	19-19	20-20	21-21	22-22	23-23	24-24
May 21	25-25	26-26	27-27	28-28	29-29	30-30	31-31	32-32	33-33	34-34	35-35	36-36
June 21	37-37	38-38	39-39	40-40	41-41	42-42	43-43	44-44	45-45	46-46	47-47	48-48
July 21	49-49	50-50	51-51	52-52	53-53	54-54	55-55	56-56	57-57	58-58	59-59	60-60
Aug 21	61-61	62-62	63-63	64-64	65-65	66-66	67-67	68-68	69-69	70-70	71-71	72-72
Sept 21	73-73	74-74	75-75	76-76	77-77	78-78	79-79	80-80	81-81	82-82	83-83	84-84
Oct 21	85-85	86-86	87-87	88-88	89-89	90-90	91-91	92-92	93-93	94-94	95-95	96-96
Nov 21	97-97	98-98	99-99	100-100	101-101	102-102	103-103	104-104	105-105	106-106	107-107	108-108
Dec 21	109-109	110-110	111-111	112-112	113-113	114-114	115-115	116-116	117-117	118-118	119-119	120-120

1-Fleet of

2-Parent

3-High

4-Success

5-Closed

6-Securely

7-Part of stove

8-Condiment

9-Preposition

10-Harvested

11-Smelled

12-Part of a ship

13-Part of a ship

14-Part of a ship

15-Part of a ship

16-Part of a ship

17-Land

18-Part of a ship

19-Having

20-Undeared

21-Nimble

22-Prepares for

23-Tweak letter

24-Mixture

25-Cleaning rod

26-Sweethearts

27-Vigor

28-Swordman's

29-Except that

30-Calm

31-Want

32-Man's

33-Former

34-Russian

35-Father

36-Parent

37-Parent

38-Parent

39-Parent

40-Parent

41-Parent

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