

Your Right to Know
Is the Key to All Your Liberties

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1961

The Smog Battle

Fortunately for Torrance, smog is something we more often read about, and see in the distance, than feel. Yet every individual in the Los Angeles area, who moves about at all, can get all the first hand experience he wants in a trip across town on too many days throughout the year.

The Western Oil and Gas Assn. this week will appeal to the Board of Supervisors for an amendment to Rule 62 which now bans altogether the use of fuel oil in the six summer months of the year. They will present expert witnesses, in the scientific aspects of the smog problem, in an effort to have the rule apply only when sulfur dioxide portions in the atmosphere attain what APCD experts consider dangerous.

The supervisors also will hear opponents of the proposed change in Rule 62; some of them organizations with militant attitudes on the phenomenon notably a group of women organized as SOS—"Stamp Out Smog!"

The smog problem has more than one side and the community must accept economic aspects as well as the sensory with which all too many Los Angeles area residents are familiar.

The petroleum industry certainly is an important part of Los Angeles county economy and as such is entitled to a hearing and should not be dismissed as selfish interests concerned only with dollar profits. If they can prove that fuel oil burning is not the culprit most laymen believe it to be, they are entitled to the consideration they will deserve.

On the other hand, the smog problem is so evident and so irritating over Los Angeles, that most otherwise calm and reasonable citizens find it somewhat more than difficult to restrain their opinions.

Despite widespread publicity on Los Angeles smog it does not seem to be discouraging the 1500 people a day who continue to pour through the agricultural inspection stations intent upon becoming residents. We still haven't found many Californians who tell us they are planning upon retiring in Illinois or Iowa.

At the risk of complete absorption by the newcomers we still suggest that the area will not reach its full potential as the ideal place in which to live, work and play until the smog problem has been licked. We have had more than a sample of what life could be like in the Los Angeles area if the rest of the county could enjoy the clear skies and fresh air we usually have here in Torrance.

Defense vs. Welfare

A new and compelling objection to proposed federal "depressed area" legislation has been in voice by California's U.S. Senator Thomas H. Kuchel.

Taking issue with a suggestion by President Kennedy that defense contracts be channeled to economically distressed areas of the nation, Kuchel said that contracts should be awarded only on the basis of the best defense for the dollar spent.

California's development of business skills, trained workers, and modern facilities comprise the acumen which has enabled it to win a leading role in the nation's defense production. Whatever the sociological implications of federal "depressed area" legislation—and there are many which may be questioned—the Department of Defense is not a welfare agency and in the interest of our national security it should not be permitted to become one.

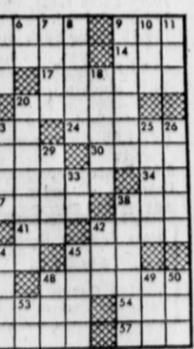
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1-Label
4-Killed
5-Weaken
12-Condition of healing
13-Spanish for "father"
14-Baker's product
21-Very minute
21-Possessing
22-Name
29-Move about
31-Kind of cloth
31-Kind of person
46-Unit of measurement
51-Unit of time
51-Unit of weight
51-Intended to
51-Unit of energy

DOWN

- 1-Afternoon
2-Island
3-Base
4-Triple
5-Vanish
6-Paid notice
7-Preach
8-Postage
9-Heavy nails
10-Scout's for "own"
11-Wooden pin
12-Title of a novel
13-Owner
14-Force exerted upon a solid
21-Entrances
22-Fairy
23-Remainder
23-River in Africa
26-Dinner course
28-Green letter
29-Hardy cabbage
30-Earn
31-Note of scale
32-Haw
33-Beat on horseback
40-Man's name
41-Shallow
42-Prone vessel
43-Urges on
44-Great Lake
45-Postboard
46-Posed for portrait
47-The self
48-Prone
49-Malay gibbon
50-Urges on
51-District



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Your Income Tax

Many Taxes You Pay Can Be Deducted on Returns

(This is the fourth 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.)

Just like contributions and interest paid out (discussed in the previous article), certain taxes you have paid during 1960 can look very good to you when it comes time to make your federal and state income tax returns!

There are some taxes which only businessmen can deduct by calling them "business expenses." But the taxes we shall discuss here are those which everybody can claim.

The federal and California laws have many differences, so while preparing your return you should check the lists appearing in the instruction sheets of both, to make sure you don't overlook any items.

Items such as gasoline taxes may be estimated on the basis of your total auto mileage during the year. State and local taxes may be estimated on the basis of how much you spend for clothing, meals eaten out, household furnishings and supplies other than food.

Or, it may be easier to add up your total income, subtract the non-taxable items such as rent and/or house payments, utility bills, doctor bills, food, charitable donations, insurance, federal and state income taxes, etc.; and then deduct 4 per cent of the balance.

Some monthly home mortgage payments, such as GI insured loans, include a certain amount for payment of the annual property taxes. However, these monthly payments are actually just accumulated in an account by the lender until he receives the tax bill in the latter part of the year. The lender pays the tax bill out of this special account. Therefore, you should check with the lender to find out the actual amount of taxes which were paid during the year.

If you bought or sold any property during the year, there will usually be an adjustment for property taxes on the escrow statement. For federal purposes, whether you receive a refund of property taxes or an additional charge depends on whether the taxes have been paid yet and whether you are the buyer or the seller.

However, for California purposes, the one who gets the deduction for property taxes is the person who owns the property on the lien date which is the first Monday in March.

The following items can generally be deducted on both the federal and California returns:

Out of the Past
From the Files of the HERALD

"Weeping skies have given California such a continuous drenching for weeks and months past that ducks have started quacking hoarsely in protest; Methodist publicly immersed, have rushed blindly into Baptist churches, and suspicious businessmen have wired their congressmen to stop the New Deal from tinkering with the weather."

So wrote the editor in the HERALD on Feb. 27, 1941 in complaining of the record rainfall Torrance was experiencing that year. Total for the season was set at 20.64 inches and most of today's residents would like to have some of it right now.

More than 300 residents of Japanese origin held a banquet back in 1941 in which young men about to enter the military service as volunteers were exhorted to "do their duties well and thus reflect favorably upon their parents."

James Yoshunobu, president of the group and a Rotarian, presided at the banquet and interpreted the remarks of speakers many of whom used only their Japanese tongue.

New type signals for control of traffic at the intersection of Hawthorne Blvd. and Highway 101, to cost \$3819, were considered too expensive by the city fathers but they agreed conditions at the intersection warranted the expenditure. The new signals allowed a continuous flow of traffic on the high-

way and would be actuated for Hawthorne only at times when cars approached the intersection from that thoroughfare. Today the intersection is one of the busiest in the area.

Selective service authorities were being given some unique pleas for deferment by selectees. One man said he had just invested a lot of money for young turkeys and he couldn't possibly leave them. Another claimed his housekeeper is a dependent.

"I have to give her board, lodging, and her salary, so why can't she be my dependent?" he asked.

When asked what public utilities provided service in his home, one lad promptly replied, "My mother."

The city's per capita fire loss was \$2.36 in 1940 caused principally by a tragic blaze at General Petroleum. There were 71 fires during the year, causing a total loss of \$23,531.

Everything comes to him who hustles while he waits.—Thomas A. Edison.

Income tax collectors, in checking over returns, often make one deduction: "This guy is lying."—Will Conway.

The population of Inglewood township, in which were located Inglewood, the beach cities, Gardena, Torrance and Palos Verdes was 125,000, according to the 1940 census. It is several times that today.

Mailbox

School Threat

Editor, Torrance Herald
The National Council of Teachers of English has just published a 140-page report painting a terrible picture of English teachers in American schools as not qualified and doing a very poor job.

There are some poor teachers, and there is some just criticism of some systems, but this wholesale indictment is most unjust and unfair. Actually, teachers are better qualified today than they ever have been, even though Johnny can't always read as well as he might.

What is the Council's solution to this "chaotic condition of the English curriculum?"

Well, they recommend "a massive national program." Now you have the picture: Magnify the many problems way out of proportion (in this case the English teachers are scape-goats), and call for massive federal spending. Educational problems may be nationwide, but they are not national.

If we lose control of our schools the problems will get worse, not better.

TOM COFFEE



Law in Action

Summons and Complaint

Courts talk much about it, but what does "due process of law" mean to you? In a lawsuit it means all the procedural safeguards we have to assure a fair trial on both sides before the judge or jury comes to a decision. Afterwards, "due process" may mean your right to appeal your case to a higher court.

Suppose someone sues you—to make you pay for damages in an accident, to make you do or quit doing something, or to collect a debt. Then he must serve a summons and complaint to you. The summons warns you to appear within a certain time—say 30 days—or get a "default" judgment against you. No court can issue a lawful summons outside the scope of its power. For some courts this power may be state-wide, or for others limited to the county where its sits. You may have a Californian served outside the state if you

can show that he left to avoid the process server.

A California court may lack jurisdiction over a non-resident, but it may have power over his property in California. But if such a non-resident comes freely into the state—then a California court may get authority over him by serving a summons on him or his agent.

As a rule, the summons must be served in person. But not always. Sometimes you can get service by publishing a notice in an authorized newspaper, for example, against a resident who skipped the state to escape service.

You may use publication also on a non-resident who owns California property.

Publication is thus one of several ways to have due process—or fair notice—in a lawsuit.

And by the way, never ignore a summons even when you believe the complaint is groundless. For if you do, you are almost sure to lose your case. And don't wait until the last minute. Your lawyer made need all the time he can get to investigate the facts and look into the law of your case.

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

Little Chats

On Public Notice

(Copyright 1960)
By JAMES E. POLLARD

RATES OF TAXATION (No. 13 in a Series)

A fairly common requirement in the various states is that the local tax commissioner, or whatever authority is responsible, shall publish a breakdown of the local tax structure by taxing units. This usually appears not long before the semi-annual or other periodical tax collection. It usually takes the form of a paid public notice, or legal advertising, in a bona fide local newspaper of general circulation.

Sometimes this tax structure is quite complex. In one state, for example, it is for the entire county. But it includes the local subdivisions such as townships and municipalities, which may be

cities or villages according to population.

The rates among subdivisions may vary considerably. One school district, for example, may have a much higher rate than another because of a large bond issue incident to a new building or buildings. Or one municipality may have a lower rate than its neighbor because its bonded indebtedness is down.

In any case, the tax picture is there for the taxpayer or voter to see and understand. He is, in effect, being put on notice as to this aspect of the public business. It is important to note that his chief source of this information is the bona fide local newspaper which publishes it in a manner prescribed by law.

Oil Industry Maps Fight To Modify Fuel Oil Rule

You will be hearing much this week about Smog Rule 62 as representatives of the petroleum industry meet Tuesday with the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors seeking modification of the ruling which now prohibits the use of fuel oil for the six summer months and at all times during the year when sulphur dioxide levels approach maximums set by the State Department of Health.

Smog to the average Torrance area resident is a once-in-awhile annoyance, something to be endured like a toothache shortly to be ended with a visit to the dentist. Yet smog is a very real factor in Los Angeles county living, and its suppression and control lead to other problems that vitally affect the economic life of the community.

Officials of the Western Oil and Gas Assn. held a seminar for newsmen recently at which technical and health experts emphatically stated that there has been no positive evidence that the petroleum industry plays a major role in contributing to the phenomenon and no evidence that sulphur dioxide in any way seriously affects the health of a normal individual.

These are only a few of the well prepared statements the association will make in its appeal to the Board of Supervisors. Ready to testify that Rule 62 should be amended will be experts of unquestioned integrity and ability in their separate fields. They will face opposition

STAR GAZER
Your Daily Activity Guide
According to the Stars, read words corresponding to numbers of your Zodiac birth sign.