

Torrance Herald

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On Memorial Day

Wednesday is Memorial Day, a national holiday in most states of the Union, a day set aside to pay tribute to and decorate the graves of fallen soldiers.

In the rush of families to celebrate the first major holiday of the summer season, we fear that too often the meaning behind the holiday is lost.

Memorial Day—also known as Decoration Day in many places—was first set aside to honor the dead of the Civil War. Many Southern states observe the same day as Confederate Memorial Day, decorating the graves of those who fell for the Confederate cause.

Since its beginnings, the tolls of other wars have extended the impact of Memorial Day to include nearly every family in the nation.

The soldiers of America, who have fought on battle fields in nearly every corner of the world in the past 100 years to preserve the freedoms for which this nation was founded, deserve the considerations of today's generations who are still enjoying the most personal freedom to be found on earth.

Sometime during the day when the family is rushing headlong into a one-day celebration, we respectfully suggest that you pause for a moment, at least, and consider the reason for the day—a memorial to the dead.

While in its origin, Memorial Day was designed as a tribute to the dead of wars, it might be well Wednesday to consider also those who have given themselves to the building and preservation of our free society in other capacities.

And to show that you are proud of the heritage they have left, fly the American Flag on Wednesday. It's the least we can do.

One-Armed Highwayman



Out of the Past

From the Pages of the HERALD

40 Years Ago

Harry Kettler and Worth Hanselman went fishing early last Sunday morning and the first thing they caught was a huge safe that had been carted to a spot near Chandler's on Redondo Boulevard and there broken open.

A passerby notified the authorities and later the burglars were captured by Torrance officers. The safe had been stolen from a downtown Los Angeles firm.

Everything is ship shape for the Big 3 Laundry, and work started off with a rush Monday morning. Plenty of work was on hand and workers were out soliciting more. Mr. and Mrs. Stone state that in all their experience in operating laundries throughout the northwest, this location promises to be the best. They predict a big growth in Torrance, perhaps a city of 100,000 some day.

30 Years Ago

Plans and specifications for the new county health center building, to be erected on a triangular piece of ground on Carson Street west of the Legion clubhouse, will come before the Board of Supervisors on Monday. It will cost in the area of \$50,000.

Torrance movie goers of 30 years ago were being entertained by Slim Summerville and Louise Fazenda in "Racing Youth." Ken Maynard in "The Pocahontas Kid," and Elissa Landi in "Devil's Lottery." Premium butter was at 21 cents a pound and the Southern Pacific advertised a fare of \$10.25 to San Francisco as a "Dollar Days" special.

20 Years Ago

It was wartime in 1942 and the people of the Torrance community were concerned with the number of automobile tires and new cars allotted to the community by the rationing boards, and possible air raids. The HERALD carried a long list of instructions on procedures to be followed in the event of an attack from above as well as instructions on what to do to stay alive in case the enemy used poison gas.

"Preserve your license plates as it may be a long time before you get new ones," advised James C. Carter, director of the Department of Motor Vehicles. He urges an application of two or three coats of varnish.

LIFE'S LIKE THAT

By FRED NEHER



"Claims he's been made TV editor of his school paper."

Can I Quote You On THIS, Chairman?



ROYCE BRIER

The Difference Lies in Who Is Testing the Bomb

The American Embassy is in a fashionable district in Tokyo, a handsome building surrounded by a high stone wall.

The appointment of Ambassador E. O. Reischauer last year was popular with the Japanese masses. He is a Far East expert, speaks perfect Japanese, has long been married to a Japanese woman of a distinguished family.

But as a Hollywood actor is only as good as his last picture, so an Ambassador is only as good as the last pronouncement of his head of state, and Reischauer has been under siege recently since our resumption of nuclear testing.

Daily some thousands of young Japanese have sat down and locked arms outside the Embassy wall, and it takes police several hours to disperse them.

This commotion is somewhat different from the demonstrations which took place in London, and in some of our American campuses and public squares.

These folk are mainly pacifists, a human attitude which must be respected, even by one who may doubt if militant pacifism is a solution to the historical problem. Nuclear testing has little to do with it; they would still protest if the world were reduced to stone catapult experiments.

The Japanese are members or agents of a leftist outfit called Zengakuren. There is no doubt at all that communist influence is dominant in the organization and in the demonstrations. It is equally certain that the Socialist Party not communist-dominated but with Red and anti-American leanings, is supporting the sit-downs.

It is reasonably certain then that this hubbub is not so much antipathy for the

warfare implied in the existence and testing of nuclear weapons, as it is opposition to any American security measures designed to strengthen the free world to resist communist ambition.

The Japanese government formally protested Soviet nuclear tests last year, but there was no organized rush on the Soviet Embassy by street crowds, who have a high potential in sheer numbers in the world's biggest city.

The concept is simple: they don't care if the Russians test, and they'll take pride in the first Red China bomb, but American testing is hostile. This is a universal Red trait in all human endeavor, and the Japanese should not surprise us, but it is just as well to understand what is biting them.

London Is Talking About . . .

'The American Invasion' And its Mark on England

LONDON — Let us, as Americans, imagine for a moment that:

1—The investment of British big business in American industry is now more than ten times what it was in pre-war and is increasing at an average rate of more than 13.5 per cent annually.

2—One twentieth of all goods produced by American workers comes from British-owned plants; one out of every 20 American workers in the manufacturing industries now has a British employer, and the number is 3—A British parent company prevented its American subsidiary from participating in a profitable, U. S. government-approved deal with a third country because that country and Britain were bitter enemies.

The American way of life is becoming increasingly "Anglicized" to serve the economic interest of British firms doing business in the States and, instead of resisting the trend, many Americans are eating it up, posing a threat to the basic values of American life.

If these four points were true, would they put Americans in the mood for a second Boston Tea Party? Of course, they're not true. Actually, each point is a direct reversal of what British author Francis Williams claims is happening to his country under the impact of "The American Invasion," also the title of a controversial book he has written and just had published here.

If you reread the four points above and substitute British for American and vice versa in each instance, you have the assertions Wil-

liams makes in "The American Invasion."

Williams gives the impression of being very angry about what he views as the inroads being made here by the "commercialized, conformist" American way of life—perhaps angry enough to entertain "tea party" sentiments. But, if the reviews of his 168-page book are any indication, it's going to be a rather ill-attended affair.

An inspection of 17 reviews in British publications of all types produced this box score: favorable to the book, four; unfavorable, 10; neutral, three. In general, critics frowning on the book indicated they felt there were American or American-style influences here but they were not worried about them.

Californians may recall that Williams, a veteran journalist, was in Berkeley last year as a regents' professor at the University of California. The 59-year-old writer, a right-wing socialist, recently was named a Laborite life peer—Baron Francis Williams, of Abinger, Surrey.

His book, published by the London firm of Anthony Blond, got the kind of eye-of-needle publicity writers dream about: "The American Invasion" was the keystone of a 16-page spread which the conservative London Sunday Times ran on the topic of "How American Are We?"

In the Sunday Times spread Williams contended that the "U. S. pattern" of buying on credit "leaves your room for maneuver almost infinitesimal, and the pressures to

A Bookman's Notebook

Today's Censorship Woes Harken to Mencken's Day

William Hogan

"Tropic of Cancer" is in the news again. Tired of "Tropic's" legal difficulties? Don't be. The venerable Henry Miller work continues to be a test case in various parts of the country. If it gets smacked down there no telling what the next book will be.

Grove Press sends a statement signed by 200 leading American writers, critics and members of the publishing industry. It strongly condemns police censorship of books in many communities around the United States. It supports a recent decision by a Chicago judge, Samuel B. Epstein, who held that "Tropic" was not obscene and that interference by the police in its free distribution and sales should not be enjoined. His decision, however, was appealed by the city of Chicago and an injunction has been granted taking the book off sale pending the appeal.

In recent months, the statement at hand notes, police, with the encouragement of "certain minority groups" have succeeded in forcing their own narrow-minded taste upon many communities.

"We believe with Judge Epstein," the signers of the statement said—as it has been said time and time again by opponents of censorship and comstockery—"that neither the police nor the courts should be allowed to dictate the reading matter of a free people . . ."

Things may be bad in Chicago. But back in 1921, they were even worse in Knoxville, Tenn. William Manchester, in his literate and irreverent biography, "H. L. Mencken, Disturber of the Peace," noted that a Miss Mary Joyce Temple, whom Joseph Wood Krutch nominated as "the perfect censor," advocated the suppression of Somerset Maugham's "Rain."

She had, she admitted, never seen it, never read it. But, Manchester quotes the lady, "We of the D.A.R. and the United Daughters of the Confederacy have had the advantage of education and travel and have been prepared for such things. Such a play would not injure us;

it would only disgust us. But there are women who have not had these advantages . . . It is our duty to protect those who have not had our advantages . . ."

Manchester's biography appeared in 1951, five years before the Sage of Baltimore died. It appears now as a 95-cent Collier Books paperback, and if you have ever enjoyed Mencken and his marvelous gaucheries, I recommend this highly.

Mencken was forever in the vanguard of anticensorship counter-attacks. He defended Theodore Dreiser's "The Genius" against militant and insane pressures back in 1916; he led the fight against the "wowsers" who were after James Branch Cabell's "Jurgen"; he went to jail in

Boston after running afoul of the Watch & Ward Society when his American Mercury was accused of attacking the more hypocritical reverend clergy.

I am sure Mencken's name would have led the list on this current protest by writers and publishers condemning police censorship of books. Years ago, according to Manchester's biography, Mencken was on record as considering Henry Miller some kind of nut. Yet in his heyday he would have been in the thick of any fight against phony piety, stupidity, tin-pot morality, cheap chauvinism and these Honorary Pallbearers of culture, as Mencken called them. Manchester's book makes that abundantly plain.

Around the World With



DELAPLANE

"Is it all right to have a smiling passport picture? The ones I had taken look so terrible . . ."

The U. S. Passport Agency accepts "pleasantly" smiling pictures. Color, too, if you like. Get a good photographer. You have to look at this picture for four years. Copies for police cards, etc., are pretty cheap overseas—about \$1 a dozen in Japan for instance.

" . . . anything about schools in England?"

Americans in London think highly of The American School, 14 Gloucester Gate. Your children will probably have to step down a year. English schools are much tougher than ours.

"On a 30-day Intourist bus tour in the Soviet Union can we get cleaning and laundry done easily?"

I got my laundry in about four days in the Ukraine Hotel in Moscow. Suit cleaning is \$1.25. But the local correspondents say they take the buttons off. And, if they lose them, you can't buy more for all the love of GUM department store. They suggest taking the buttons off before you send it out and sew them on yourself.

"We'd like to give the children an interesting time in Paris. What do you do? Zoos? Museums?"

Pan American Airways seems to know about a special tour for kids from 6 to 12. Bus, motor launch on the Seine, camel ride at the zoo. \$5 for a half day and \$10 for the full thing. Children ride the airline for half economy fare so you can afford champagne for yourself while they do the tour.

"Is it possible to take a dog to Europe with us?"

The British entrance is the most difficult. They're trying to change the six months quarantine law now. An outfit called Bed Rock Dogs International, Westerly, Rhode Island runs a travel agency for dogs. Board while you get settled. They forward him with appropriate papers, Shots, etc.

"Can you suggest a hotel in Guatemala City for us, please? What about 'revolutions'?"

There's the Maya Excelsior, which is the newest downtown hotel. A pocket-size Hilton type. There's the Guatemala-Biltmore near the airport. Looks pretty much like a concrete box but has a swimming pool. Not very accessible to Sixth avenue though.

I stick with the old-style, comfortable Palace and the international spy types. Everybody in the Palace has a banana intrigue going for them. The Pan American is much the same.

Guatemala "revolutions" and demonstrations against the British over Honduras are pretty mild. I wouldn't put my head out the window if you hear shooting. But I was there for the big one. Pretty peaceful.

The Mayas don't seem to be interested in the mean shoot-'em-up style brawls. Nice town. You'll like it. Try a dinner at Don Pepe's. He's a Spaniard and serves a great bean dish.

Stan Delaplaine finds it impossible to answer all of his travel mail.

For his intimate tips on Japan, Italy, England, France, Russia, Hawaii, Mexico, Ireland, and Spain (10 cents each), send coins and stamped, self-addressed, large envelope to the Torrance HERALD, Box RR, Torrance, Calif.

Morning Report:

It seems to me it's high time we start teaching the people on our side the rough art of subversion. The enemy has used it quite well. Laos being the current example.

Once upon a time we were quite good at it ourselves. Just remember the Boston Tea Party, Marion, the Swamp Fox, the Committees of Correspondence, and even the Declaration of Independence.

For years now, we've been busy talking down Communist subversion. That's fine as far as it goes. But in the process we've forgotten that subversion can be mighty useful. It should be required study at all service schools and for diplomats especially.

Abe Mellinkoff

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