

Torrance Herald

Co-Publishers
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SUNDAY, JUNE 10, 1962

War on Violence

Significant steps were taken this week on several fronts in an effort to curb hoodlum outbreaks throughout the Southwest in recent weeks.

Community leaders, called together by Supervisor Kenneth Hahn Monday, mapped out a five-point program of action to meet the delinquency flareup which has shocked residents of the area recently.

At the same time, the Torrance City Council, heeding complaints of residents, asked for the preparation of an ordinance outlawing the use and possession of intoxicating liquors on the city's nearly one mile of beach in an effort to end the reign of beach rowdies who have been the target of citizen protests.

Stiff enforcement of the city's curfew laws was ordered by the Council two weeks ago; and introduction of the new anti-liquor ordinance was approved by the Council Wednesday.

The actions, which have been brought about because of the growing violence among teenage groups in recent weeks, should go a long way toward putting the damper on unbridled vandalism and rowdiness throughout the area. One other weapon—which has been skipped over lightly in much of the talk—should be brought to bear.

That consists of discipline exercised by the parents of those young people who are roaming the streets, beaches, and public areas.

The strong hand of a parent could do as much as all the laws and police enforcement, and we suggest that all parents join the crusade against hoodlumism by making certain their own young folks are not involved.

There can be no toleration of such outbreaks which have rocked the area recently.

Calling the Tune

It is the classic cliché of the proponents of federal aid to education that such aid won't mean federal control. Wonder how they would explain this situation:

During the State Board of Education's recent meeting it was decided that the State Department of Education should be restaffed to put more emphasis on academic work. The necessity for this was made clear to the board when it was revealed that the size of various curriculum-bureaus depends upon how much federal support each department receives. There are, for instance, 27 consultants in industrial education and only six in junior and senior high school academic subjects, because, it was reported, the federal government provides matching funds in the nonacademic fields, and the Legislature has frequently refused to finance additional academic personnel.

As Board member Nathaniel Colley asked, "Is our curriculum then, based on what we feel is a good program or on what the Federal Government will help pay for?" The answer seems to be pretty obviously the latter. And it's also the answer to the cliché we mentioned above.

On Life Adjustment

That time of year approaches when Shakespeare's "whining schoolboy . . . with his shining face" instead of "creeping like a snail, unwillingly to school" reverses direction, and in Thomas Hood's words, comes "bouncing out of school" and heads for vacation.

In our halcyon youth, vacation was indeed a joy to anticipate. It is quite possible, of course, than in this era of life adjustment education the young scholars feel less release when classes close down. Of one thing we're certain, however. Mother's life adjustment is just about to begin.

Catch Bars vs. Police

They Can Spot a Cop A Mile Away in Tokyo

TOKYO — Things are getting so tough these days in Shinjuku — Tokyo's rough 'n' ready entertainment district — that the barmaids are ganging up on unsuspecting passersby and literally dragging them inside their bars. Commonly known as "catch bars," these clip joints prey on country hicks who come to the big city "to see the bright lights" and maybe even have an exciting adventure with a Tokyo girl.

Although most "catch bars" are found along dimly lit sidestreets and back alleys, they look much like any other bar. The whiskey's not watered and the beer's the best. The prices, however, are slightly fantastic — several thousand yen (1000 yen equals \$2.80) for a bottle of beer.

Actually, more than 60 of these "catch bars" are flourishing in Shinjuku despite police efforts to crack down on them. Investigators complain that the girls are so clever "they can spot us a couple of blocks away."

As one detective put it, "A goggle-eyed farmer rounding a corner suddenly finds himself hustled into one of these bars by a small army of pretty barmaids and before he knows what's going on, he

has a glass of beer in one hand and a big fat bar bill in the other."

In the meantime, about all police can do is to drag out and dust off the old maxim: "Let the customer beware!"

A Tokyo traffic cop with a magnificent Kaiser Wilhelm beard has become the center of controversy as well as a brand new tourist attraction in the capital city.

Although most people have come out in favor of Toshihiro Suematsu's famous whiskers, one Tokyoite complained that the beard reminded him of an army officer that bullied him during the last war. Others charged that it intimidated motorists.

On the other hand, the bushy beard has made a big hit with children and the fair sex. One young woman even hinted at marriage. Many people noted that it lent a touch of humor to Suematsu as he directed traffic at one of Tokyo's busiest intersections.

Tourist bus firms in Tokyo have even included the Kaiser Wilhelm beard on the list of "musts" on their guided tours. The Kaiser-style whiskers (with both tips of the moustache waxed and curled

upward) went out of fashion in Japan with the defeat of Germany in World War I. Suematsu's beard, however, is pointed out with pride as "world famous!"

One of Japan's most popular kabuki actors, Ebizo, has been saddled with a bill for almost half a million dollars to pay for the cost of assuming the name of a former great kabuki star — a typical practice here.

It's not that name — Ichikawa Danjuro 11th — is so expensive; it's all the trappings that go along with it that run into the money. For instance, the inauguration show alone costs 75 million yen (\$209,000).

The former Ebizo also had to shell out some 70 million yen (\$195,000) just for inauguration show tickets and another 30 million yen (\$83,600) to be spent on gifts for his fans and backers.

Since most kabuki actors such as Ebizo can't possibly handle such huge expenditures, they usually borrow most of the money from the Shochiku Film Co. and repay it in installments. In such a way, Shochiku has kept several famous kabuki stars under thumb for decades.

Sand Castle



James Dorais

Days of Certain Profit In Home Trading Ending

The stock market's recent performance has reminded people of an economic lesson that many had forgotten in these long years of gradual inflation: to wit, what goes up can also go down.

Not as dramatically, the same lesson was learned a little earlier by people who had been accustomed to frequently buying and selling homes and making a tidy profit with each transfer.

After the war, many of the country's large corporations instituted the practice of transferring employees, particularly middle-level executives, from one plant location to another at regular intervals. The practice was stepped up with the increase of decentralization and establishment of new plants.

One of the peripheral advantages of being an Organization Man was the fact that for many years you could always expect to resell a house for more than you had paid for it. But by 1957, the long pent-up demand for housing began to subside, and while the cost of housing continued to advance, the rate of increase slackened off considerably.

As a result, a house put on

the market today can't be expected to sell as quickly as it used to. Houses sometimes sell for less than they cost a few years before, and when they sell for more, the profit may be more than offset by the real estate commission.

The plush days of a certain profit on every move are over for the Organization Man. Companies are still engaged in the transfer game, but more and more they are finding that moving can be a hardship for their employees.

Consequently, many large concerns have adopted policies to underwrite employees' moving losses.

Usually the transferred employee is given two or three months to try to sell his house at a satisfactory price. If he can't, the company takes over, calls in two appraisers and offers the employee the average of the appraisal price. Sometimes, the company buys the house outright; in other cases, the company gives the employee an interest-free loan, equal to his equity, to enable him to make a down payment on a new house.

When the house is sold, the employee gets any profit above the appraisal; if there

is a loss, the company stands its.

According to the Wall Street Journal, most companies following this policy are losing money on most of the transactions. One large firm currently has a backlog of 300 unsold homes.

The Organization Man may be moving more now, but he's enjoying it less. And one of these days, if his bosses' losses continue, he may become an old stay-at-home like the rest of us.

ROYCE BRIER

Atlantic Treaty Facing Some Drastic Challenges

The North Atlantic Alliance is a coalition. In history, coalitions are seldom aggregations of peoples of like culture, or in the main, of peoples with the same interests.

There are aggregations to protect one common interest among peoples, among many diversified interests, often conflicting.

The common interest is almost always a threat from the outside. The Germans get too strong, and the British and French coalesce (1914), or the Americans, British and Russians (1941). Or for that matter, the Corinthians and the Spartans.

When the threat dissolves, the coalition falls, and when it relaxes the coalition is shaken, and parties to it oppose the interests of other parties.

This is why the "sanctity" of treaties is often violated. A defense treaty is only as good as an outside threat is strong, and there are many ways of failing to perform it without actually abrogating it.

This shaken state is incipient in the North Atlantic Al-

liance after two decades. Two of the principals, France and West Germany, are seeking other ways of establishing their security. Neither is in accord with many North Atlantic Alliance aims as the United States views them.

The two nations are symbolized in two strong leaders who are old men, President de Gaulle and Chancellor Adenauer. They have shown a recent tendency to modify or reject many fundamental American and some fundamental British views, and build their own security in Franco-German co-operation.

It is so far tentative, and Adenauer is not wholly committed, but the signs are there.

The cause of this potential defection from the Alliance is that the Continental leaders and their advisers see a decline of the Soviet threat. They could be mistaken, and the factors are complex and subtle but the defection will continue unless the factors reverse their course, or new factors appear.

It won't happen tomorrow — it might require five years — but the Americans

A Bookman's Notebook

'Professor' Brosnan in Fine Form at Typewriter

William Hogan

Jim Brosnan, who is almost as good a writer as he is a relief pitcher for the Cincinnati Reds (ten wins against four losses during 80 innings in 1961), has a new book out this week. Officially it was available only in Cincinnati until June 6. But "Pennant Race," a wry and revealing account of how the underdog Reds won a pennant last year, has been discussed at length by sporting columnists around the National League circuit, and I am sure that the Ohio River Valley pre-release date is a merchandising come-on in the first place.

As the Samuel Peeps of the league champions, Brosnan obviously knows his baseball, writes about it wittily, informally and with irony. He is a cynical, tough professional athlete and his book makes wonderful reading for anyone who knows the difference between Chris Peleoudas and Sandy Koufax.

Instead of suggesting what Brosnan thinks of the parks, the hotels, the teams and the miserable National League cities he must visit, I submit that The Professor, as he is called by his colleagues, is indeed a man of learning.

On San Francisco: "A Night Town a la Joyce."

Los Angeles, May 29: "The Roman philosopher Seneca once said, 'You can tell the character of a man by the way in which he receives a compliment.'"

Cincinnati, June 20: "I swallowed the drink (Scotch), sat down again, picked up my book, 'Advise and Consent' . . ."

Los Angeles, July 7: "By the time the game ended I was half way through the third chapter of Durrell's 'Balthazar.' And if the truth were known, I'd have just as soon continued reading while Purkey pitched the second game."

Cincinnati, July 13: "Turning to the theater section of the paper I noted that Chekhov's 'Seal Gull' was playing at a local summer theater. That's where I'll go tonight, I decided . . ."

Milwaukee, July 24: "I stayed in the air-conditioned room reading Henry Miller's 'Tropic of Cancer' . . ."

Philadelphia, August 9: Sitting in the bullpen, The Professor read The Realist, an offbeat Greenwich Village magazine. "Among other insights into his personal philosophy, the editor offered a most reasonable suggestion. Let everyone pledge allegiance to the democratic organization, Union of Non-Joiners for the Use of Creative Kinetic Energy to Resist the System — a capitalized Utopia."

Cincinnati, September 8: "I went into the gym room, lay down on the slant board and read 'The Devil's Advocate.'"

Better than the pool halls of the old days, I suppose. Especially when you can re-

port, on the day you win the pennant: "Three of the last four Cub batters struck out and little goose bumps broke out on the back of my neck, ran down my spine, and popped out on my right arm."

Around the World With

DELAPLANE

"Can you tell us the name of the Japanese hotel where you stayed in Tokyo and the approximate price?"

This first-class ryokan is the Fukuda-ya. 6 Kioicho, Chiyoda-ku. Phone 331-8577. About \$15 for two in an air-conditioned, sleep-on-the-floor room, opening on a private garden.

I don't think you just get this by phoning or writing. You'd better see the Japanese Travel Association—in San Francisco or Tokyo. See if they can offer a sort of introduction.

If you don't make this, try the Akasaka Prince, which is geared more to Americans.

" . . . a hotel in Singapore?"

I stayed at the world famous Raffles. Great rooms, excellent food and a breezy lounge to sit in cane chairs and hit the evening Pimm's Cup.

But if I were going again, I'd stay at the hilltop Cockpit Hotel. An old, grand mansion sort of place with lots of atmosphere.

Cathay House is popular for a very Western, modern rooftop hotel. But it left me cold.

" . . . an inexpensive hotel in Spain?"

Try the Velasquez. I would guess their prices at \$4 to \$5 double. Very good looking hotel—downstairs, anyway. I didn't see the rooms.

" . . . suggest a place to stay in Trinidad?"

The Queen's Park overlooking the Savannah is THE hotel in Port of Spain. Breezy, tropical, good food. But any taxi driver will take you around to a number of cheerful, comfortable little guest houses where you get room and morning coffee at a lot less cost.

" . . . hotel with the most to do for two girls vacationing two weeks in Honolulu?"

The liveliest hotel used to be the Moana. Seems to have shifted these days to the Hilton Hawaiian Village. Doesn't matter where you stay so much anyway.

The action is all along Waikiki beach. That's where Boy meets Girl—not in the hotels.

Try—the round bar by the beach at the Hawaiian Village at 11:30 in the morning; the hula dance cocktail hour at about 5 at the Halekulani; the Surf Room at the Royal Hawaiian about 6.

Follow up with the lanai at the Moana and the pool-side cafe at the Princess Kaiulani.

"We have reservations at a small hotel in Normandy. The booklet says it is 'with meals.' Do we have to do it this way? We'd like to eat out."

You get a better all-round price if you do it with two meals. And you still can eat out occasionally with little loss. However, they will make a deal with you if you insist—they just hate to see that restaurant money going across the street.

" . . . the hotel you wrote about in New York? And the cost?"

The Staphope, a small-size Pierre in the Elegant Eighties—across from the Metropolitan Museum on Fifth Avenue at 81st. Small enough to give you a lot of attention and very well furnished rooms. At \$16 single.

"We could not get rooms at the De Cortes you mentioned in Mexico City. Could you suggest another?"

Call Jose Brockman, the owner—his offices are in the new Hotel Alameda—and ask him to get you into his Majestic. On the Zocalo, the main square in the old part of town. Faces the Presidential Palace. Lunch on the roof garden is worth all of it. About \$5.60 single.

Stan Delaplane 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.

Established Jan. 1, 1914

Torrance Herald

Member of National Editorial Association, California Newspaper Publishers Assn., L.A. Suburban Newspapers, Inc.

Published semi-weekly, Thursday and Sunday by King Williams Press, Inc. Entered as second class matter January 30, 1914, at Post Office, Torrance, California, under act of March 3, 1879.

King Williams Glenn W. Pfeil Co-Publishers

Reid L. Bundy—Managing Editor Doug Anderson—Display Adv. Mgr. Darrell Westcott—Circulation Mgr. Chas. R. Thomas—Mechanical Supt.

Adjudicated a legal Newspaper by Superior Court, Los Angeles County, Adjudicated Decree No. 218470, March 30, 1927.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: By Carrier, 50¢ a month. Mail subscriptions \$9.60 a year. Circulation of, file FA 8-4000.

When a war is over, those of us still alive look to the bright side of things. Well, after all, we did make some progress during the fighting that will hang over during peacetime. Medical advances and that sort of thing.

But probably the biggest and most persistent hang-over from the fighting is taxes. We are still paying extra on movie tickets because somebody thought up the idea during World War I.

And now Congress, in the nick of time, is about to extend taxes on cigarettes and auto parts that were voted during the Korean war. It was a small war. But we will be fighting it with taxes forever.

Abe Mellinkoff