Route of Bills Through State Legislature Told

By CHARLES E. CHAPEL
Assemblyman, 46th District

A legislative bill is nothing more than a proposed law. A bill may be introduced by a member of the Assembly or the Senate, assigned to a committee, and be printed, but unless the committee to which it is assigned passes the bill to the floor of the Assembly or the Senate, it is dead for all practical purposes.

A committee may not pass a bill but recommend that it be studied by an interim committee. This means that the bill is not going anywhere during that session but after adjournment the appropriate committee can hold public hearings on the bill and make recommendations regarding its passage or defeat at the next session of the legislature. Under these conditions, the bill is not dead but it is at least in a state of limbo.

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A NEW BILL, or an old bill which failed to become a law at a previous session, cannot be introduced between sessions. It can be introduced only while the legislature is in session in Sacramento.

It must pass through at least one committee in the house where it is introduced (Assembly or Senate), be passed on the floor of that house, go to the other house, be passed by at least one committee, go to the floor of that house, be passed, and then be signed by the governor in order to become a law.

If a bill carries an appropriation it must be heard first in the appropriate committee as to its subject matter and then be heard by the Ways and Means committee of the Assembly if the bill originates in the Assembly.

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ASSUMING THAT THE bill passes both committees and is passed by the Assembly, then it mut be heard by the appropriate committee of the Senate as to its subject matter, hen passed by he Senate Finance Committee (which corresponds to the Assembly Ways and Means Committee), after which it must be passed by the Senate and go to the governor.

In the Assembly, the speaker of the Assembly decides which committee shall hear a bill. In the Senate, the rules committee assigns the bills originating in the Senate to the appropriate committees.

Assume that an Assembly bill pertains to trucks but does not carry an appropriation. Unless the Public Utilities Commission regulates the activities provided for in the bill, it is assigned to the Assembly Committee on Transportation and Commerce, but if the Public Utilities Commission is involved, the bill is assigned to the Assembly Committee on Public Utilities and Corporations. The same principle applies in the Senate.

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UNLIKE THE Congress of the United States, revenue bills can originate in either house of the California State Legislature. In the Congress of the United States, revenue bills can originate only in the House of Representatives.

In some sessions of the California State Legislature there may be as many as 6,000 bills introduced, but fortunately less than a third of these become laws. I say "fortunately" because many bills are introduced because an assemblyman of a senator wants to please a friend or some pressure group and introduces a bill to satisfy their demands, well knowing that the bill cannot be enacted into law.

Some bills are introduced for publicity reasons. An assemblyman or a senator may want to attract attention to an idea he has which is novel and startling enough to produce headlines, at least headlines in his home newspapers. Such bills usually are killed in the first committee where they are heard or assigned to an interim committee "for sudy."

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I EXPLAIN all these things because many teachers of political science, government, or history, either do not understand how the California State Legislature operates or are too busy expounding theories of government to teach the mechanics of our own legislature.

If you want two free copies of any Assembly or Senate bill, please write to the Legislative Bill Room, State Capitol, Sacramento 14, Calif., and specify exactly what bill you want. You should state whether it is an Assembly or a Senate bill, the bill number, the author, the subject matter, and the year it was introduced. If you do not know all these details, give as many as you know and the Legislative Bill Room will try to find the bill you want and mail it to you. If you want more than two copies, there is a small charge.

Robinson to Coordinate Chest Speaker's Program

An energetic San Pedro citizen, who has been active in community work for years, has accepted the post of chairman for the Community Chest's speakers bureau in the Harbor Area.

Jay Albert Robinson, a certified public accountant, will head an organization that plays an important part in the annual Chest campaign.

The speakers bureau is staffed with up to 20 volunteer speakers who are available to the various service clubs, organizations, business firms, and PTA groups.

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ROBINSON, a partner in a firm of certified public accountants, is a past president of the San Pedro Kiwanis Club.

He has been a director of the San Pedro Chamber of Commerce and is past master of Los Cerritos Masonic Lodge.

Robinson has served on the Harbor Chest board and worked on the budget committees of the Los Angeles Community Chest. In addition to this he has held leadership posts in San Pedro for several campaigns.

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HE HAS a wife, two daughters, and four granddaughters. The family home is at 1914 Summerland, San Pedro.

Persons or organizations interested in obtaining a speaker may call Robinson at TE 2-0381 for information.

JAY A. ROBINSON

"As skirts get shorter and shorter, it's no wonder our leaders have difficulty focusing national attention on arms." — Louis Nelson Bowman, King City (Mo.) Tri-County News.

Some desire is necessary to keep life in motion.
—Samuel Johnson

Dominguez Seeks New Rate Hike

A rate increase which would return an additional $58,000 a year has been requested by the Dominguez Water Corp. in a petition filed with the California Public Utilities Commission.

The proposed rates, if authorized, would add about 10 cents to the monthly bill of a householder using 1,500 cubic feet of water and irrigation rates would be increased a fraction of a cent per 100 cubic feet, according to the application.

Need for the increased revenue is to offset higher operating expenses, Dominghez officials reported. Among higher costs cited are increases in price of West Basin Municipal Water District water, and the increase in assessments for the West and Central Basin Water Replenishment Districts.

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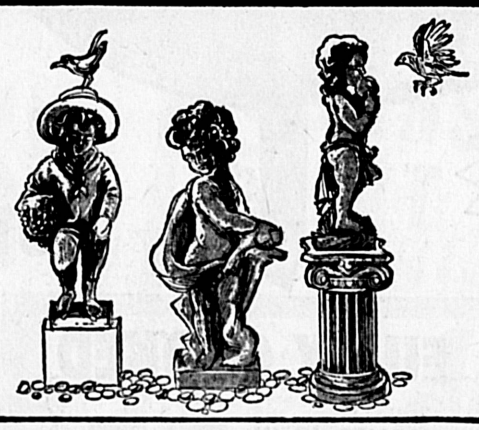

Sale of Sculptured Stone Statuary
• enthralling art . . . classic, lifelike, legendary!
• cherub-like children and child-like cherubs . . . 2 feet tall, hand-carved in weathered grey stone
• friendly companions at home . . . cheery visitors amid garden plants . . . traditional elegance added to any scene
• you'll want to adopt one yourself . . . you've met them here at $29.99!
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• 20" pedestal column 13.99
• set: statue and pedestal 23.99
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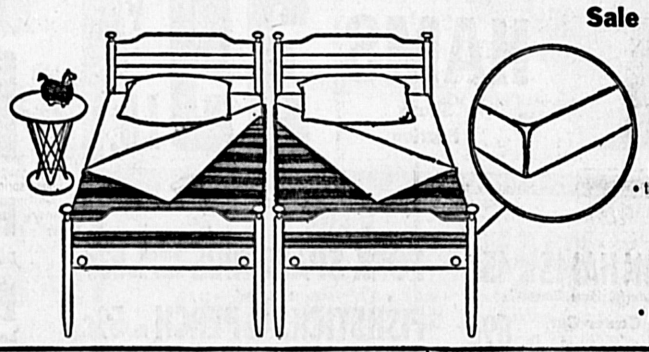

Sale of Fitted White Percale Sheets
• soft, smooth, white as snow (to coin a phrase) . . . 180 threads per square inch!
• fitted sheets of long-wearing percale cotton . . . closely-woven, luxuriously washable, non-shrinking!
• the convenience of fitted sheets . . . for either twin or double beds . . . with our exclusive low tags:
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• pillow cases, 42"x36" 59c, 2 for $1
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Dancing Dolls from Spain
• flamenco dancers basque beauties, gypsy belles . . . a gallery of flashing senoritas!
• mantillas flying . . . castanets thrown high . . . flounces whirling . . . they'll spin into your heart!
• gay and colorbright . . . about 12 inches tall . . . each is authentically costumed . . . made by hand in spain!
• gather your own troupe . . . delights for the doll-collector of any age . . . thrilling to give or get!
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Danish Luncheon Meat
• from the famed farms of denmark . . . have a treat!
• you'll slice this meat dish for high protein sandwhiches, for salad garnishing, even for a main dish!
• in a convenient 7-oz. tin . . . keep some always handy for unexpected dining delight!
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Dietonic Low-Calorie Drink
• calories do count . . . but here are fewer than 4 calories per drink!
• a tall can of thirst-quenching pleasure . . . 29 delicious ounces!
• choose grape or orange . . . there's no sugar added . . . It's ready to serve . . . so good cold!
• see! you're just as svelte as ever!
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• hand-carved totems . . . fashioned of ancient hawaiian tree fern trunks . . . 3 ft., 4 ft. or 5 ft. tall
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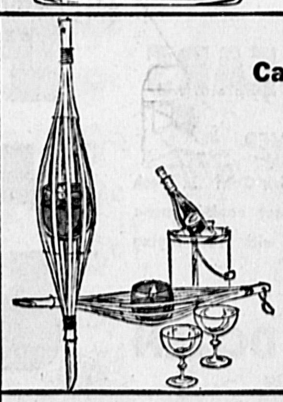

Bamboo Cage Candles
• suspended illumination!
• a tinted candle in a cage of golden bamboo
• for the patio party, to glow softly in the den, to light your secluded rendezvous
• 30 inches long . . . holding a long-burning candle in blue, amethyst, green, sepia
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Yucca Gigantea
• it becomes tree-like . . . soaring tall as 15 feet
• giant leaves . . . 4 feet long . . . rich dark green
• spikes of white bell like flowers in springtime
• a superb tub plant in patio, terrace or garden . . . in a gallon can
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Florentino Gold Baskets
• tradition born of the italian renaissance . . . basket beauty in gold from florence, italy!
• a romantic filigree is etched by hand . . . the basket is then adorned with gold leaf
• meticulously hand-painted for color-emphasis
• result: a decorator basket to hold papers, magazines, a potted plant . . . 11 inches tall . . . delight for your eyes!
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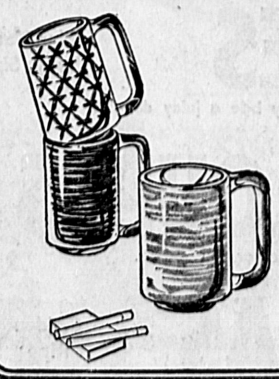

Drinking Mugs
• high-fired earthenware in an old tradition . . . drink and be merry!
• to hold a hearty cupful of coffee, beer, ale pablum, etc.
• random streaked or squared designs . . . in warm earth colors, handle and all!
39c
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Australian Tree Fern
• an exotic landscape plant . . . from down under to up over!
• it soars to 5 feet with green and graceful arching fronds
• let one grow solo against a patio wall, or in a tub or planter . . . mix them with other plants!
• up to 18" high in gallon container
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Cannon Floral Towels
• summerize your home with fresh towel bouquets!
• cannon's flower-splashed terry cotton . . . for unfettered splashing . . . for summer's heavy duty . . . for a colorful change!
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4 for $2
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