

# Torrance Herald

Co-Publishers  
KING WILLIAMS - GLENN W. PFEIL  
REID L. BUNDY - Managing Editor

SUNDAY, JANUARY 13, 1963

## The Transit Bomb

The Metropolitan Transit Authority's proposal to levy a countywide tax on property to finance the construction of a 58-mile rapid transit network to serve the Los Angeles area has touched off a series of political bombs since it was first disclosed Monday.

Torrance's Mayor Albert Isen blasted the proposal to levy a tax at a rate up to 15 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation as a "taxation without representation," pointing out that the MTA was not an accountable agency to the voters and taxpayers.

The County Board of Supervisors, led in a large measure by Kenneth Hahn, has registered strong disapproval of the suggestion, which has received the blessing of Governor Brown.

Like Mayor Isen, we find it hard to foresee any specific benefit to Torrance area taxpayers. City officials have estimated that taxpayers of this city would be called on to contribute up to \$375,000 if the suggestion is approved by the California Legislature. The network of rapid transit lines would provide links between Los Angeles and Westwood, the San Fernando Valley, San Gabriel Valley, and Long Beach.

We think Mayor Isen and the supervisors are right in questioning this precedent setting proposal. Taxpayers now share enough of the load.

## No Penalty for This?

The vicious murder of a mother in Arcadia will make it difficult for Governor Brown to convince many Californians that a four-year moratorium on the death penalty is now in order. The husband and the children of mothers who are brutally slashed and degraded in their last moments on earth by monsters who are explained away as "sick" can, in our opinion, look forward to a lot more company in their sorrows if the moratorium is adopted.

Who can tell? Perhaps the perpetrator of this latest of many such slayings in the Los Angeles area (and of course not forgetting the two kidnap victims in Torrance) in his own "sick" mind looked forward in security to the passage of the proposed legislation as he slashed that pretty young mother to death in Arcadia.

## Pay Check Blues

The new year has advanced far enough so that most employed persons have had occasion to face up to one feature of 1963 that isn't going to be as happy as those New Year's toasts hopefully intimated.

We refer, of course, to the new tax bite on the pay check for social security. For those subject to maximum deductions it will total \$174 instead of \$150. But, that is just a start. Under present laws the maximum total will rise to \$222 by 1968.

Notice should be taken by employers and employees alike of those words "under present laws." Should President Kennedy's medicare program be adopted, the present and future increases would start from there.

There can be little question that the need for an expanded program of medical help for the aged is recognized and wanted by the majority of prosperous Americans. Their opposition to the medicare program stems from a logical belief that such assistance be set up outside the structure of the already much abused Social Security system.

## Save Time Now

If you have a minute to spare, you might spend it wisely by purchasing the new yellow on black '63 license plates for your vehicle before the Feb. 4th deadline when it may take hours. That's all the time it will take you now, according to Motor Vehicle Department field offices, one of which is located in Torrance at 1907 Border Ave.

In addition to the 142 DMV offices throughout the state, more than 60 part time stations, 140 banks and 150 auto club offices will issue the new plates.

And while you are getting those shiny new plates, that will stay on your car for perhaps the next eight years, consider the tragic fact that California led all the states again in killing themselves or others on streets and highways over the recent holiday season. The automobile is a deadly weapon in incompetent and irresponsible hands. The permits to drive them are permits to use them legally, not lethally.

## Wonderful Wizards Of Washington



ROYCE BRIER

## Brief Notion of Mona Lisa is Presented

There is little doubt the Mona Lisa, which is now visiting America, is the most famous painting in the world, though there is plenty of doubt it is the greatest.

For fame is a matter of determinable factors, even statistics and material worth, while greatness is a matter of opinion. Michelangelo, Raphael and two or three others have adherents.

President de Gaulle sent the Mona Lisa to President Kennedy as a personal gesture, and apparently it will only be exhibited in Washington and New York. Many Frenchmen violently protested the picture leaving the Louvre, lest it be damaged in shipment or lost at sea, but M. de Gaulle is hardly noted for paying attention to angry remonstrance.

The painting is probably as safe in transit as it was at home, and you observe Mr. Kennedy issued some rigid orders touching its security.

Art critics for centuries have noted the glowing quality of the picture, and have written millions of words interpreting the smile.

The smile, always called "enigmatic," probably accounts for much of the fame, for many of the old masters painted portraits as glowing. Leonardo, however, contrived to interrelate the subject's hands in repose with the character in the face, and these hands have also been endlessly discussed. The gray-green background of mountainous landscape is striking when you view the picture close at hand, but such backgrounds were a tradition with Renaissance painters, to give a portrait of depth.

Quite in contrast, the great Flemish portrait painters, notably Rembrandt, employed dark brown as a background, and aesthetes find in this a sort of sober reach for infinity, as perhaps were the ramparted Renaissance mountains.

It is not certain how the Mona Lisa got in the French royal collection, though Leonardo about 1506 visited Paris on the invitation of Louis XII.

But most of his great work was done in Milan and Florence. He did numerous madonnas, and of course, at Milan his celebrated The Last Supper. Leonardo's oil paintings are comparatively scarce, and the authenticity of some is in dispute.

Actually, Leonardo was a man of the world mostly in the service of princes. He spent much time at architecture and in engineering speculation. The breadth of his genius—a superlative artist who also dealt in machines—was hardly understood in his lifetime, and doubtless had

Louis, the Sforzas and the Borgias known what was a swishing around in his head they would have had him executed as a witch. But he made it, and perhaps he would wear a Mona Lisa smile today could he behold the pomp surrounding his picture.

## Around the World With



## DELAPLANE

"Could you give us approximate costs on going to Hawaii? Any ways to keep expenses within reason?"

The round-trip jet from the West Coast is \$250. But if you're willing to do nine hours by piston plane (instead of four-and-a-half by jet), you can get it down to \$200.

"For a family, I'd get a price on the Matson Navigation Co. (San Francisco) cruise ships. More than air fares, of course, since you eat and sleep four days, five nights. But it's a more pleasant, relaxing run to the islands.

There's a combination fare so you can fly home.

Highest hotel prices are those right on the beach. Stay a couple of blocks away and you'll cut it in half. The outer islands are cheaper than Waikiki. Air fares won't bother you much. The longest run is one hour.

The small costs that mount up: Room service has an extra charge most places and a 75-cent minimum. (The children order a coke. Bingo, 75 cents. Send them across the street.) Exotic tropical cocktails are full of pineapple sticks and have romantic names. However, they come at \$1.50 a smash.

Leis from the lei seller stands OFF the main Kala-kaua boulevard are half or a third what they are in the hotel flower shops.

There are a number of small restaurants a block off the boulevard. Same price differences as on the leis.

"... what place you like best in the islands outside Honolulu?"

My personal preference is Kauai, a half hour flying time from Honolulu. I've been going out to Hanalei Bay, almost to the end of the island. The new Hanalei Plantation House is on a hill overlooking the white sand beach and bay where they made the picture "South Pacific."

People living in the islands, think the island of Maui is the coming country. Sheraton should have their new big hotel open there this year.

"... can you get to the South Pacific islands easily from Hawaii?"

Easily, but until air fares are lower (by increased traffic), expensively. The 2500 miles from the mainland to Hawaii is \$250 round-trip. But the same distance to Tahiti is \$500 round-trip.

Well worthwhile if you can afford it. Or if you can stay long enough to pro-rate the travel cost over a number of days. The route is flown by South Pacific Air Lines of San Francisco and the French line TAI.

"Where do we go to learn the hula when we go to Hawaii...?"

Free lessons in the hotels. Mornings for guests at Hilton Hawaiian Village. Afternoons for guests of all Sheraton hotels in the banyan court at the Moana.

"... what the good buys are?"

The Waikiki beach area is full of all sorts of things from all over the Pacific. Not all inexpensive. But the best overall shopping selections.

Some of them are: Woven planters' hats with sea-shell bands from Tahiti. Kimonos, dolls and zori sandals from Japan. Life-size toy koala bears from Australia. Cream grassy hula skirts from Bora Bora. Carved ivory from Hong Kong.

The BEST buys are probably island-designed and island-made casual clothing — sport shirts, slacks, bathing suits, muu-muus, sport dresses. Great selection and very reasonable prices.

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:

The latest Gallup Poll, two years before the next Presidential election, is already bad news for the Republicans. Jack Kennedy is No. 1 on the most-admired list, and not one GOP candidate made the first ten.

Not unless you count former President Hoover, who came from nowhere in 1961 to cop the No. 5 slot. And although Jack is aging fast in the White House, Hoover, at 87, is probably aging faster in the Waldorf Towers.

At the same time Jackie headed both the lists of the best-dressed and best-coiffured. It sort of makes you understand why Barry Goldwater says he'll stick to the Senator race in '64.

Abe Mellinkoff

James Dorais

## New Job Training Program Reveals Some Weakness

One of President Kennedy's more ambitious proposals which won Congressional approval last year was the \$435 million vocational training program which became effective July 1, 1962 as the Manpower Development and Training Act.

Purpose of the Act was to solve the paradox of unemployment existing side by side with unfilled job openings, by training workers who are unskilled or whose jobs have become obsolete. Until the Act's enactment, industrial training has been accomplished by means of apprenticeship and other on-the-job training programs, and by vocational courses in private and public schools. MDTA proposes to supplement these training programs by providing allowances for individuals being trained or retrained and to reimburse schools for the cost of equipment, supplies and personnel necessary to carry out a training program.

On the basis of the limited experience to date, the program in California has not been an unqualified success. As reported by Ray Christensen, labor editor of the San Francisco Examiner, several of the MDTA training programs approved by the State Department of Employment appear to have been somewhat boondoggling in nature.

According to Christensen, Robert Ash, secretary of the Alameda County Central Labor Council, has charged that 100 persons were trained in Lodi as sewing machine operators—and 200 more are scheduled for training—"in the uncertain hope of persuading a plant to move there from Los Angeles."

A Fresno project for training welders was undertaken. Ash also charged, in the face of the fact that there were already more than 100 unemployed welders in the area. And in Monterey, where several hundred people were trained as sales people under an MDTA training program, only a handful were able to

secure employment in that field.

Other MDTA courses adopted throughout the state since the Act's enactment, which presumably have been more successful, provide training for jobs as Clerk-Typists, Electronic Assemblers, Vocational Nurses, Mechanical

Draftsmen, Coin Machine Servicemen, Nurses Aides, Stenographers and Medical Service Orderlies.

A major flaw in the program appears to be that thousands of dollars may be spent training a person for employment with no guarantee whatsoever that he can or will get a job.

## TALK OF THE WORLD

Brazil's seething inflation, with prices now soaring 10 per cent or more every month, got additional pep at the end of the year by an ingenious combination of labor politics with a kind of calendar reform. A law was established that, for payroll purposes, the year has 13 months. All workers were entitled to receive the so-called 13th salary—a full month's wages—as a year-end bonus.

Many employers, of course, just did not have the money to sustain a double payroll in the month of December, but the Government's bank simply granted them a loan to cover the amount, and everyone was happy.

If the year can be obliged by law to have 13 months, so far as payrolls are concerned, there is no reason whatsoever why it should not have 14 or more months.

The problem became acute

almost immediately. Some groups of workers, bank clerks for instance, used to get traditionally a full month's pay on the occasion of the annual balance. They did not call it a 13th salary. They consequently understood that interpreting the spirit of the law, rather than its words, they were entitled to get a 14th salary.

This in turn aroused other groups, especially water-front workers who in Brazil already are earning more than cabinet ministers. If the law meant that some workers earned 14 monthly salaries, they argued, it would be unfair not to extend this concept to all workers, all being equal before the law.

The reasoning was enforced in private conversations with the hint that 13 is an unlucky number which should become 14 as quickly as possible.

## A Bookman's Notebook

### 'Seven Days in May' Praised by Critic

Quite apart from trying to keep abreast of important and interesting books during the season, I occasionally read a book for the sheer excitement and/or relaxation of it. In recent weeks these have included the current and popular "Seven Days in May," by the Washington reporters Fletcher Knebel and Charles W. Bailey II, and "The Zebra Striped Hearse," by one of the best suspense writers in the business, Ross Macdonald.

"Seven Days in May" (Harper; \$4.95) is all the reviewers said of it—crisp, informed, topical, brilliantly brought-off entertainment by Washington observers who pose a disturbing question: Is it possible for an American military coup to bypass the Constitution and take over the government in time of emergency? This is a convincing job all around. Popular fiction, sure—and unput-downable. Macdonald is a serious and skillful novelist who specializes in the suspense genre. "The Zebra-Striped Hearse"

(Knopf; \$3.50) is a chilling and sophisticated romp which, again I found unput-downable. Of it, our crime novel reviewer writes:

"This is an especially good one. The scene shifts from Southern to Northern California, Tahoe, then Mexico as deaths gather about a tyrannical but loving father and daughter who chose her own husband, Lew Archer, with his usual melancholy clear sight, patiently hunts out the answers to all questions. The story is suspenseful, sympathetic and—as always—carries the sense of human tragedy."

Paul M. McCarthy of the Thomas Dooley Foundation reminds us of a new documentary account of the late young humanitarian, writer and founder of MEDICO who is remembered as the "Splendid American." Titled "Promises to Keep," it is by Agnes W. Dooley, the doctor's mother (Farrar, Straus; \$4.95). Paul McCarthy writes: "This is a warm story of a

William Hogan

closely knit family told with pride and admiration. The reader follows Dr. Tom through his youth in St. Louis; as an undergraduate at Notre Dame and into the Navy as a newly graduated medical officer Tom was a talented, outgoing youngster with a strong sense of 'ham' in his makeup. It was this cocksure ability that so often got him in trouble—even in his later days, while accomplishing so much with so little.

"Above all, Tom Dooley was an idealist with a sense of mission: to help his fellow human beings in the unswept corners of the world." The Thomas Dooley Foundation seeks to carry on the young doctor's work with "people-to-people" hospitals and clinics in Laos, Viet Nam and India. Plans are afoot, McCarthy tells us, to increase the program to include Nepal, Cambodia and Burma, when funds and medical teams or volunteers are available.



It's my purse... doesn't everyone take inventory January first?