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Foreign Trade Important

Nothing takes the place of personal contact. This is as true in this area of TV satellites as it was in the pioneer days of the Indian council fires. In business, industry, in government the practice of face to face meetings to solve mutual problems and develop understanding is being relied upon to an ever greater extent.

A case in point is the current program of the steamship lines of the United States. Through a unique program their officials have visited cities in the heartland of the country, far removed from shipping points, to cite statistics of how much their own states are dependent upon foreign trade.

We who are so close at hand to major shipping centers, have developed an appreciation for the importance of foreign trade to our economy here in Torrance and throughout the harbor area generally. We have witnessed the loading and unloading of exotic cargoes bound for or arriving from romantic places and we see foreign trade in action.

Leaders in every community visited by steamship lines in the current campaign are being urged to back President Kennedy's trade expansion program. A measure of the significance of trade to typical American communities may be found in figures chosen at random that show one third of all Kansas and Missouri workers rely on foreign trade for their jobs. One out of every five dollars earned in Arizona, Colorado, Montana, Wyoming and New Mexico results from export-import trade. In Ohio one out of every nine persons earns his living from foreign trade.

The steamship lines have spent millions in promoting foreign trade. Many Americans do not realize how much their own jobs depend on how successful this program proves to be in the future.

California Growth

Where are they going to live? Where are they going to work? Where are they going to school?

These are some of the problems vexing California leaders in 1963 as they begin to take account of what it means to be the first state in the Union, populationally speaking at least.

With characteristic enthusiasm, Governor Brown jumped the gun a bit, if census statisticians are correct, and declared a holiday for state employes on Jan. 31, 1962. This was in contrast to the faint praise accorded the event by school officials and other civic leaders who long ago learned that all aspects of great growth are not without some unredeeming features.

Growth does create problems. But fortunately, very substantial segments of the state's business community are doing something more than growl about it. Noteworthy are the privately owned, tax-producing public utilities such as the telephone companies, the gas and electric companies and many privately owned water companies.

Many of the new residents bring something with them to California, such as skills and capital. They have the potential of being wonderful additions to community life. Far too many, however, are looking to California as a promised land of plenty where the living is easy. Only the bureaucrats can rejoice at the expansion of their business through anticipated increases in the case load.

Admittedly, growth is not always a blessing as many old residents here in Torrance can tell you. It takes a lot of planning and a lot of doing to make it pay off. Fortunately, we think, California has done it before and will do it again. The economy of the state seems to have pretty well kept pace with the population growth in the past and it is not too far fetched to expect it to do as well in the future.

Opinions of Others

TERRE HAUTE, IND., TRIBUNE: "An English doctor says more girls are born to families that live better. But he's not talking about virtue, ladies, he's talking about the nutritional level."

VALE, ORE., ENTERPRISE: "There really isn't much doubt left in anyone's mind that we are becoming one of the laziest nations on earth. . . . We have better cars and use them for any trip of over a hundred yards. Golfers don't walk any more, they ride around the course in a golf cart. . . . But now we have stumbled across a new and even grislier gadget. Browsing through our favorite out-of-town paper the other day (the Wall Street Journal) we came across a little paragraph that says a Denver firm has now come up with a battery powered push button spinning reel."



"My bridge club meets in twenty minutes . . . they're helping me finish my game in a hurry!"

Headaches



ROYCE BRIER

The New Twilight Zone In Outer Space Quests

Ten years ago you hardly heard of smog, and now California is in an uproar about it, and the word moved east to great industrial aggregations like New York and London.

That's what 10 years does, and here is another decade coming up, and we need a new word, maybe SMION — all these rockets we are firing are going to foul the ionosphere and give us a bad time.

This is the theory of the Geophysics Corporation of America, a Massachusetts research outfit which has prepared a survey for the government space boys.

The danger is not so much from the present generation of rocket boosters, which are comparatively modest in fuel exhaust output, but from the next generation like Saturn

and Nova, which are whop-hundred tons of foreign matter.

A few hundred shots of these super-boosters, and all the night sky may have a perpetual glow, like a faint aurora. Geophysics doesn't say what this will do to lovers, who have been used to the moon these many milleniums.

Anyway, you see we are making headway in global auto-toxication, and we can put this alongside our space-germs worry. You recall we are fixing to sterilize our planetary probes, lest we inadvertently give the Martians, for instance, the common cold.

But here is Professor S. W. Golomb of Caltech, who has a reverse worry. He wonders what happens if we pick up low-life viruses on Mars and bring them to earth in returning vehicles. They might rub us out, is what.

So, with an eerie glow in the night, and unimaginable viruses chewing on us, we march bravely to our fate.

Strength for These Days

(From The Bible)

Guide me in thy truth, and teach me. —(Psalms 25:5).

God is with us in every decision we make; His wisdom is there to guide and direct us if we but seek it through prayer.

Let patience have its perfect work. —(Jas. 1:4).

We should exercise patience in everything we do, particularly in our relations with others. Patience should be the constant benchmark of our attitude toward those with whom we work or associate with.

Quote

JAMES E. POWERS, American Legion national commander while in San Mateo—

"The American Legion is an organization that thrives on troubled times. But we would like to go out of business and we hope to God we do."



James Dorais

Threat to Extended Power Of PUC is Considered

By JAMES DORAIS. (Second in a series on California's natural gas industry)

Governor Brown's Natural Gas Task Force, in its recent report to the Governor, has recommended consideration of state legislation, to broaden the regulatory powers of the State Public Utilities Commission with respect to California's burgeoning gas industry.

No specific legislative measures are outlined. However, the voluminous report refers to two possible avenues of increase in the Commission's powers:

(1) Legislation to establish regulation that would prevent a nonpublic utility gas corporation from invading a certified public utility service area and disrupting gas sales. Senate Bill 1268, which provided for such regulation, was introduced in the 1961 Legislature and assigned to an interim committee for study.

Result of Controversy This legislative proposal stemmed from controversy over a contract, opposed by the PUC but upheld by the State Supreme Court, between Southern California Gas Co. and a gas producer for the purchase of gas for use as boiler fuel in a plant generating electricity. The report comments:

"The direct sale of natural gas by a producer of

a gas utility to an existing customer of a gas utility results in a loss of sales volume to the utility. . . . Such a direct sale, which bypasses the locally certificated utility, also deprives the domestic, commercial and industrial utility customers of a firm gas supply and otherwise would aid in meeting the peak heating loads in the wintertime when Edison would otherwise normally burn fuel oil under its boilers."

(2) Legislation to empower the Public Utilities Commission to regulate the price at the wellhead of gas produced in California. Presently, the PUC regulates only the utilities that sell natural gas to consumers.

Production Competitive

In hearings a year ago, the PUC staff favored this extension of the Commission's powers, but all elements of the gas industry, the presently regulated distribution companies as well as producers, opposed wellhead price regulation on the grounds that gas production is competitive rather than monopolistic (there are 1,200 oil and gas producers in California), that it would tend to reduce available gas supplies, and that the experience of the Federal Power Commission, which regulates the price of gas sold in interstate commerce, has been far from satisfactory.

In the latter connection, industry spokesmen pointed to

A Bookman's Notebook

Lumumba Book Very Tolerant of Belgians

William Hogan

News reports described him as semiliterate. All the same, four or five years before his violent death at 36 in early 1961, Patrice Lumumba had managed to write a book. Here, belatedly, it is, translated from its original French as "Congo, My Country."

More than anything else, it is an "if only" book. If only the Belgian publishers had brought it out when they first received the manuscript in January, 1957; if only Belgium's Congo administration had heeded its contents; if only, for that matter, Lumumba had been a less unstable young man, and had been committed, in print, to what he had written — would the new Congo nation have had such a violent birth?

What makes speculation so tempting is Lumumba's tone, unexpectedly temperate for a man whose exasperating arrogance later became a trademark. "My intention," he said, "it not to teach our rulers, or show them the way to go — that would be presumptuous — but to enlighten them on the mysteries of the African soul."

Sometimes he bends over backwards to convince the Belgians that he could see their side. "To whom do we owe (our) fortunate situation? To the Belgians. Any genuinely humane and reasonable man must show gratitude and respect for the immense work achieved in (the Congo) at a cost of incalculable material and human sacrifice."

But the publishers in Brussels were unimpressed (understandably, since Lumumba was hardly a famous figure at the time), and possibly a trifle uneasy besides. The Publisher's Note, reprinted from the French-language edition, states that Lumumba "had the intention, which we encouraged in order to ensure that the book would not be banned, of persuading some leading personality to write a preface." Apparently he never followed through.

Now, posthumously, he has acquired such a "personality." Commonwealth Correspondent for the London Observer Colin Legum, who knew Lumumba himself, has contributed a sympathetic but unenthusiastic foreword. Legum, disdaining the "if only" approach, reports what actually did happen afterward in the Congo's bloody clashes

of two years ago, when Lumumba was murdered. In Legum's epitaph, "He saw enemies everywhere. In the end they destroyed him." It was a long way by then

from the days when Lumumba had written: "I wish to see a better and more prosperous Congo in a union of hearts and minds with Belgium." Congo, My Country, by Patrice Lumumba. Preager, 195 pp. \$3.95.

Around the World With



DELAPLANE

"Can you tell us if it's possible to drive the Pan American Highway through to Panama yet?"

When I was in Panama a few months ago, cars from the U. S. were coming through. Said the road was good—the Costa Rica-Panama section was just completed. Food and places to stay considered adequate enroute. I would still ask the AAA for the late reports during the summer rainy season though. OK in the dry winter.

"Recently I read of a 'must' to see in Frankfurt, Germany. A restaurant in a cave or something but have forgotten the name . . ."

That would be the famous Bruckeneller (with a couple of dots over the "u" which we don't have on this machine.) Good food. Good music. In a deep cellar with carved wine barrels for the decoration. Order the venison with cranberries. And let the waiter pick you a white Moselle wine.

"We are planning a month's vacation in Europe this summer. What, in your opinion are some basic, practical rules?"

Have a firm reservation in all major cities. You don't have to be so sure out in the country but get the hotel you are in to help you make a reservation in the next before you give up the room.

Move around as little as you can. These planned "3 days in Paris followed by 2 days in Rome" tours are exhausting. And you spend all your time in airports, Customs, immigration or on the way back and forth.

Take half the clothes you think you need now. (And, as someone suggested, twice the money.)

"Any suggestions on reading that will help us enjoy our trip to Mexico . . ."

There's a very good all-Mexico shopping guide called "In Mexico, Where to Look, How to Buy Mexican Popular Arts and Crafts." By James Norman, published by Morrow. In Mexico City, buy the paperback John Wilhelm's "Guide to Mexico City." It's excellent.

In 1840, the wife of the Spanish ambassador wrote a lively account that reads well today. In the paperback edition in Mexico City bookstores. "Life in Mexico" by Mme. Calderon de la Barca.

Anybody who likes Mexico (or just great war reporting) should read the eye-witness account of the Conquest—"The True History of the Conquest of Mexico" by Bernal Diaz del Castillo. It's like seeing it happen.

And if you want to know about this Spanish soldier-writer, there's the book just published: "Bernal Diaz, Historian of the Conquest" by Herbert Cerwin. This is the way it was in the golden days.

"What to buy for friends we are visiting in Auckland, New Zealand, this spring?"

You could buy them a drink—they close the bars at 6 p.m. Seriously, I guess an LP record of a late Broadway show is the thing. Under some licensing system, these countries don't seem to get recordings until the show plays there. Which is usually a year or so after the Broadway opening.

"You mentioned the set of Irish coins in mint condition at very little cost. Where do you get them?"

Write Shannon Free Airport, Ireland. They did have them—couple of dollars or so as I remember. They might have them and not list them in the folder.

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.

Morning Report:

The President must be mightily discouraged these days the way everybody is picking on his plan to cut income taxes. Listening to the screams, you'd think he was trying to raise taxes instead of lowering them.

I think the trouble is that the whole proposal is too complicated. Nobody but a certified public accountant can be sure where the new stab will come.

Maybe he'd be better off if he started with a plan to cut down the length of the income tax form. It might not save us money, but it surely would cut down on wear and tear on the taxpayer.

Abe Mellinkoff

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