

Torrance Herald

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There's No Other Way

In addition to selecting two members to the Board of Education, Tuesday, Torrance voters will be asked to approve a proposed bond issue of \$8 million to finance construction of school facilities for the city's growing student population.

The same proposal was defeated by about two dozen votes last fall, clearly winning a majority of the votes but not the needed two-thirds of all those voting.

The HERALD believes the bonds proposal should be approved Tuesday. It sees no way to provide the facilities needed for new students without the bond authorization.

Approval of the bond issue will not raise the school tax rate—it will merely extend the time over which repayments must be made.

The \$8 million requested will not provide funds for the projected building program over the coming four or five years. But with these, coupled with funds made available by increased assessed valuation and cash available through budget surpluses, the district will be able to meet a minimum building requirement to house additional students.

There has been a sprinkling of opposition voiced to the bond issue, and one of the candidates for election to the board on Tuesday's ballot has said the bond money is not needed.

While he claims the district could solve the problem by making better use of present classroom facilities, he hasn't outlined a system compatible with the present school calendar in which classrooms that now average more than 34 students per teacher could be used to accommodate more students.

The only plausible answer appears to be in the bond proposal put on the ballot with the recommendation of the schools' administrators and approval of the Board of Education.

The people whose daily job is to find classroom space for the city's school children say there is no other way.

Believing this, THE HERALD recommends that all voters Tuesday vote "YES" on the proposal to authorize issuance of the bonds.

It is just as important as the selection of the proper member for each of the seats on the Board of Education at stake Tuesday.

Repeal War Taxes

A primary goal of retailing is to obtain repeal of the wartime excise taxes on a wide variety of goods sold at retail—leather wares, cosmetics, and so on. These were imposed as World War II emergency measures. But they still are on the books, all these years later.

The biggest winner of all, if the effort is successful, will be the consumer. Practically everyone in the country periodically and frequently buys products carrying these excise taxes. But the job ahead is not an easy one, due to several factors. One is the muddled tax situation in general. Another is the difficulty, because of the rules, in getting a measure such as this included in a tax bill. Another is the apparent indifference in some influential circles to the problem.

The Secretary of the Treasury, commenting on the matter, has said that once the major tax bill is out of the way "... I certainly think there should be a general look at excises to see if there is not a better way to rearrange them or if some of them should be modified, changed, eliminated, or have something done to them." This, as a spokesman for the American Retail Federation observes, is "hardly a comfort!" It is vague, and it shoves the problem into an indefinite future.

Expressions of consumer feelings, which certainly must be on the side of repeal of the war time excise taxes, would be extremely helpful—there are a lot more consumers than there are makers and sellers of the goods involved. And a strong case can be made that repeal of emergency taxes, now that the particular emergency has long passed, should be part and parcel of any tax reform program.

Can't Have Both

The lead editorial in a recent issue of the New York Times Western Edition deals with the tax and fiscal problems currently in the limelight in New York State. And it has a national significance—for the situation there also exists, in varying degree, throughout the country.

The editorial's point is that groups of taxpayers, with special interests at heart, want more and more benefits, which means more and more spending—but don't want to pony up the taxes which are needed to meet the bills. So we have what the Times calls "... the 'pocketbook vote,' which calls constantly for better schools, a bigger state university, better highways, and then runs the other way when money is to be found..."

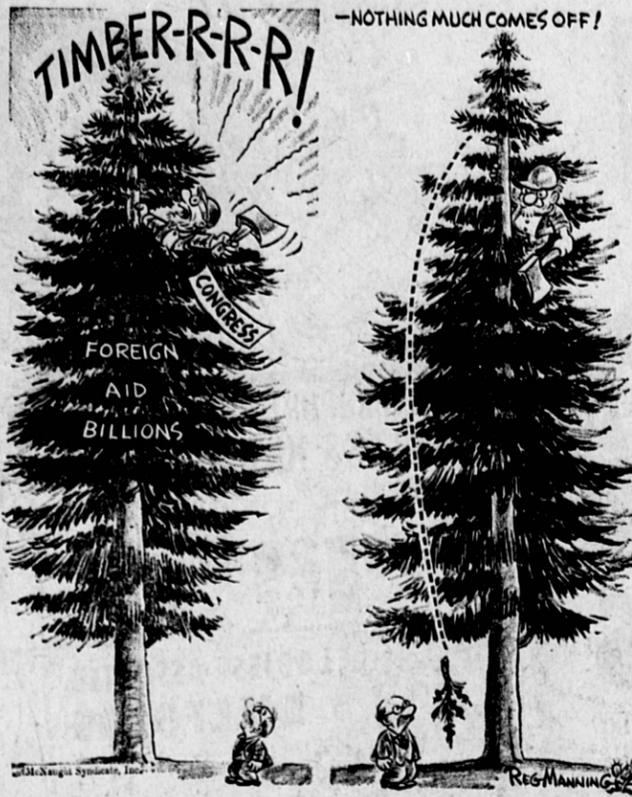
If the public wants all of these things, and the many more that could be listed, and is willing to pay for them, that is its right. But the widespread public desire to have its cake and eat it too—that is, to get something for nothing points up a disgraceful electoral responsibility. It is time that the voters, in far greater numbers than is presently the case, face up to that plain and inescapable and eternal fiscal fact of life.

Opinions of Others

LAMBERTVILLE, N. J., BEACON: "We observe here quite frequently, our views of growing government spending at all levels. Our motivation is not hard to determine; we pay taxes and so do the readers of this newspaper. . . . It seems to us that somewhere, somehow, this trend must stop. We realize that politicians, in order to perpetuate themselves, need to put people on the government payrolls, but there must be a limit somewhere. We think we passed it several years ago."

Everytime They Try To Top It-

-NOTHING MUCH COMES OFF!



ROYCE BRIER

Science Must Learn To Communicate With Layman

A baffling problem confronting advanced nations today is failure of communication between scientists and laymen. Nowhere is the problem more critical than in the United States.

A few newspapers have met it by assigning qualified reporters exclusively to scientific news, and in the main these reporters have done excellent jobs in an exacting field.

The scientists themselves are increasingly aware of lack of communication, and are doing something about it. They are forming a Scientists' Institute of Public Information to function nation-wide, and provide independent, accurate and understandable information on a wide variety of technical subjects arising from the nuclear age.

The key word in this prospectus is "understandable"—it is the difficulty of forming technical thought into common words which is the hitch.

The difficulty arises in several main fields—nuclear physics, electronics, molecular chemistry and its latter-day ally, research medicine.

In the Civil War any intelligent man could understand gunpowder, the telegraph and amputation when gangrene sets in. But today all the comparable procedures, and the immensely wider ones of peace, while not all unintelligible, are highly perplexing to nonspecialists.

The reality is top scientists with some exceptions don't "write well," because a lifetime of application to their science has excluded the art of language beyond their fields. More than that, many of the higher reaches of science are so complex that prior understanding is necessary to present understanding. Hence simplicity in explaining a scientific process or state is extremely hard to achieve, when it is not virtually impossible.

Thus Scientific American

carries articles on the nucleic acids which determine our cellular being which are over the head of the most diligent lay reader (many specialists who appear in the magazine, of course, write largely for other specialists).

But it may be possible by organized attack such as the Institute proposes, greatly to widen the scientific areas which may be understood by the alert layman who has the will to understand. Reducing the intricate to the comparatively simple by language is a gift, but it is a gift which is much aided by laborious effort. This task dismays many scientists.

Yet unless the chasm between scientific and lay thinking is bridged, the chasm becomes increasingly dangerous to modern man. For science is impinging more and more on areas of political decision. And political decision lies finally with the common man, who in the free world must choose those who make decisions in government.

From the Mailbox

By Our Readers

FOR SCHOOL BONDS

Quite often during the historical development of mankind, in general, and of the U. S. A., in particular, there have arisen moments of supreme importance to the future of our country, which have also been moments of great emergency. These moments have required all of us to reevaluate our thinking, our behavior and our attitude toward many very important problems. And, of course, the most important problem of our modern age is the problem which concerns the education of our children. In other words, it is the problem of our future.

The time in which we live is a time of great decisions. Never before in world history have we faced such great danger, along with the threat of the destruction of our free world civilization. The most sinister and the most dangerous fanatics have combined their brutal forces with the achievements of the latest engineering and technological developments. They also have clearly and subtly forced science to serve their means and needs. This scientific and brutal combination, which is under totalitarian direction, gradually threatens to submerge and destroy our culture, our precious freedom, and our respect for the dignity of man.

The one and only way to challenge those sinister forces, is, in my opinion, to increase our academic achievements, those strictly scientific, those technological, and those humanitarian. We must strive to surpass the

achievements of regimented science, by "stepping up" free science.

There are many ways to achieve this purpose. But the first and most fundamental way lies in the provision by the community of substantial financial support toward their own education funds. Most of us don't want any interference on the part of the Federal Government. In our education, we do not want unlimited financial handouts from the Federal Government. Most of us are proud to be supporting our own schools and colleges. Most of us are proud of our spacious, clean, bright classrooms for children, our well stocked school libraries, our adequate, fully paid teachers, administrators and other school personnel. Most of us are proud that our children are directed according to their abilities and inclinations, from among diversified subjects. These subjects include important critical languages, such as Russian, German, etc. Most of us are proud that our children are privileged to attend our schools, bright, sunny classrooms of these schools create cheerful atmosphere which is conducive to comprehensive learning, achieved under the guidance of able teachers. Let us make our first day of school (after summer vacation) a holiday for all our children, let us make it our national holiday and let our children march right to the school with unruffled national flags and banners, singing our beautiful American songs. Let our children feel, that it is the greatest

holiday of our lives to be privileged to attend free schools.

Soon, several of our Southland communities will be voting on different problems connected with our free school system. You will have the opportunity to express your firm determination to protect our free school system by voting "yes" on school bond issues and other financial requirements which involve your support. Everyone should consider this seriously and not let petty grievances against the Board of Education or any other civic department enter into his decision. He should be concerned about the future of our country and about the future of his children and be generous. May God guide your decision.

Respectfully submitted,
Alexis N. Pestoff,
Torrance

Quote

VICTOR AGOSTINI, former S.F. juvenile guidance center worker—"Far from trying to find out what was responsible, too many authorities bemoan the rise in delinquency, mumble a few sociological platitudes, and then pass the kids on to reform schools until the boys end up in San Quentin."

GEORGE B. CARTER, Atascadero—"Despite anti-litter laws, people still are cluttering up our highway and byways, our atmosphere and waterways, with trash."

AFTER HOURS By John Morley

What You May Not Know About the Taxes You Pay

PORTLAND—Every time you take out your billfold it's a reminder that the tax man considers it a luxury and you have paid a luxury tax.

But even if you kept your money loose in your pocket, you pay a tax every time you pull it out... every time.

Taxes are the cost of government... all government. You pay for everything they do and spend... everything.

Much of what government does, is, of course, for public service and security. No one has any valid argument against that.

The argument is not with the per cent taxes... but the scent... as the final date for the 1962 income taxes falls due.

It all started on July 1, 1862, when Congress passed the personal income tax law, levying three per cent on all incomes above \$600. At the end of that year the government collected about \$100 million in income taxes from everybody.

Today in 1963 the government expects to collect in income taxes alone close to \$100 billion or a thousand times more than in 1862.

By 1914 Congress introduced the graduated income tax. This called for the "stupendous" rate of seven per cent on incomes of over \$500,000. Today it is 91 per cent on incomes of \$400,000.

supervised by existing agencies of the U. S. government abroad. The power to tax involves the power to destroy. With

taxes approaching one-third of income, we are nearing the point beyond which no nation in history ever survived total economic collapse.

Around the World With



DELAPLANE

"You mentioned a Swiss pocket knife with a multitude of blades that you find handy while traveling. But where do you buy it?"

Anywhere in Switzerland. I've seen them in all free ports such as Shannon and Amsterdam. I've also seen them in cutlery stores in the U. S. And I know they are sold by Abercrombie and Fitch, New York and San Francisco. It's red-handled with a white cross—a real pocket tool kit.

"Do you have shopping guides for Tokyo and Hong Kong?"

I don't. But you will be smothered with free ones at every hotel desk in Hong Kong. In Tokyo, you buy one off the newsstands—"Tokyo This Week" and some others.

These are not rating guides—they are advertising mediums. But they do tell you who sells what and where they are located.

"Appreciate any ideas for a leisurely couple of weeks with some places that are fun in Mexico..."

You might like a combined sea-air trip. Four days from Los Angeles to Acapulco on the cruise ship Acapulco—I haven't been on this ship but I hear it's lively.

Then a day in Acapulco and up to Mexico City with some interesting stops. Home by jet in a few hours. Information from Peter Berry, SS Acapulco, 215 Market St., San Francisco.

"We love to travel, have very little money, what's the absolutely cheapest way to go to Europe?"

The group fare and the charter ways are the cheapest. But they take a little doing. For example: Economy fare round-trip (from the West Coast, farthest U. S. point) to Spain is \$840. Group fare, \$640. Get a hundred people and charter off-season, I think you could get that down to \$320.

The group fare is interesting. You have 25 people at least. They have been organized for at least six months. They must be members of a club or group NOT formed primarily for travel.

I can send you some detailed information on this. But send me a self-addressed stamped envelope please. The new mail rates are killing me on big mailings.

"Since we look forward to tropical climate in Hawaii, how much warm clothing is needed if we go by ship?"

From Los Angeles, probably none. From San Francisco, figure the first two day out are cool enough for sweaters. After that, you're in aloha shirts and bathing suits.

"We would like to have some swimming while visiting Israel and would like suggestions."

A short distance north of Tel Aviv is the old Roman headquarters, Saesarea. There are a lot of excavated temples and theaters and a wonderful old deserted Arab town built on Roman foundations. There's a new hotel there—I haven't seen it. But the beaches looked great. White sand and blue water.

"We are hampered by the 44-pounds luggage allowance on airlines and wonder if we could have trouble if we shipped some things ahead and picked them up?"

I found a great deal of red tape getting things out of Customs in Portugal. No trouble at all in England. I should think American Express could help you on this. They ship things from Europe to the U. S. and probably have a similar service the other way.

"Will spend a week in Panama City. What to wear? Shorts or dresses? Any special native food to try? And good buys?"

Wear a dress—this is Latin America. Sea food is good. This is a free port town. All kinds of imported goods—watches, cameras, transistor radios, perfumes at duty-free prices.

"Does the room price given at English hotels include breakfast?"

It does at all the hotels I've been in. Usually listed on the brochure at "B-and-B." I wouldn't know about the American hotels in London such as the new Hilton. They may not.

Morning Report:

The population explosion has now spread to cats. And, as with humans, government seems helpless to solve the problem. Even though people on the public payroll are trying their best.

In New York they arrested a kindly lady who was keeping house for 17 cats. And in California, a law has been proposed to make it a crime to abandon cats along the highways. If a householder can't keep 'em and can't toss 'em out, there seems nothing left but capital punishment. And that's too cruel for many of us.

I'm also not in favor of the solution that has been worked out in my neighborhood. Turn them loose in my patio.

Abe Mellinkoff