

Re-elect Mr. Vico

Re-election of George Vico to serve a second term as a member of the Torrance City Council can be recommended to the voters who will cast ballots in the April 14 municipal election.

Several valid reasons can be cited on behalf of Mr. Vico's return to the post he has held since 1960.

Chief among the qualifications he holds for the office, in our opinion, is the frank approach to all city business he has displayed.

Mr. Vico is often the first to question an issue on its logic, its merits, and on its final effect on the citizens of Torrance. He asks the city's experts to explain the technical matters, and he doesn't vote until he's convinced.

For this reason alone, voters of Torrance could well return Mr. Vico to the Council.

Beyond that, Mr. Vico has demonstrated during the past four years that he is no "rubber-stamp" councilman. On matters of controversy which have divided the members of the City Council, Mr. Vico's vote was never "in the bag." He has demonstrated many times that he must be convinced on the matter in his own mind before casting the vote. Until he votes, it is quite probable that no one on the City Council—nor in the audience—can predict which way he will go. A review of his voting, however, will show that he is on the side of the citizens of Torrance.

Mr. Vico is seeking re-election as an independent candidate. He's on nobody's ticket—he's in nobody's pocket.

Re-election of Mr. Vico at the April 14 city election is recommended.

A Built-in Force

One of the characteristics of a bureaucracy is resistance to change—except to increase its own size and its powers. A list of rules are established and stubbornly followed whether or not they efficiently deal with some given situation. Change and progress, if they come at all, come slowly and reluctantly.

This comes home to everyone when a bureaucracy bosses the economy. The Soviet people, to say the obvious, have found that out.

A competitive free enterprise system, on the other hand, is elastic. It is always receptive to change when change seems to be the order of the day. It has to be—the built-in competitive forces, which reward only those who best meet public demands and needs, see to that, and they are as inexorable as the tides.

An industry which most of us patronize every day is an excellent example—the meat industry. It performs the colossal job of supplying meats in all their variety to every farflung corner of this vast nation. The consumer gets what he wants when he wants it.

And it is an ever-changing industry. Frozen and packaged meats, which have met with high consumer favor, have brought on new technologies and techniques. And what amounts to a revolution in meat processing and distribution is only in the beginning stages, according to industry experts.

Every element within the industry—producers, packers, retailers—are making their contribution to these and other progressive developments. The good results are felt by consumers everywhere in the country.

We Quote...

I have no prescription for longevity. I just want to live a good, sober, quiet life and be a good neighbor to everyone. — Mrs. Margaret Mountjoy of San Francisco on 100th birthday.

Those who work and will pay for this handout will probably find that by not working, and becoming poor, they will fare better than when they worked. — W. R. Clarkson on "poverty war."

NEWS SPARKS by James Dorais

Snoopers 'Bugging' Away Final Traces of Privacy

Thirty-odd years ago, the great Swedish film star, Greta Garbo, coined an immortal phrase: "I want to be alone."

She did a pretty good job of getting her wish. But today Greta and people who share her desire for privacy, haven't got much of a chance.

According to two new books—"The Naked Society" by Vance Packard and "The Privacy Invaders" by Myron Brenton—as well as a forthcoming study by New York City's Assn. of the Bar, just about everybody in the USA today is being bugged.

Wiretapping and other varieties of "bugging" are becoming so common that one investigating firm even advertises: "Be a Spy; Special to our customers—the world's only correspondence course in wiretapping and bugging—\$22.50."

On the big business level, bugging has itself become big business. Newsweek quotes the president of Police Sys-

tems, Inc., in Costa Mesa: "When a man asks how he could lose the million-dollar bid by \$21.38, there is usually just one answer—he was bugged."

Electronic eye spies are used in stores, banks, plants and offices in an effort to combat pilfering, which is estimated to go on at the rate of about \$4 million a day.

Closed circuit TV monitors are used in the elevators of many large apartment houses to protect unescorted women, in supermarkets to study women's buying patterns, and in schools to analyze children's study habits.

The biggest snoop in the country is the federal government. The U. S. Census Bureau has a dossier on everybody. The Civil Service Commission has really detailed dossiers on seven and a half million people, of which, again according to Newsweek, nearly 250,000 contain adverse information.

Favorite Pastime 'Round The World



Embassy Burning Growing Sport in Many Countries

By FRANK J. BECKER
Member of Congress

Have you noticed the pattern lately in the attacks on United States Embassies all over the world?

They are following in rapid succession, and we are hardly protesting. Our voice is so weak, our influence so negligible, that the pattern continues unabated.

GHANA. A country which we have supported through our foreign aid program and where we had a whole host of Peace Corps members working for some time. Our Embassy attacked, and our people run out of the country. Hundreds of millions of dollars of American taxpayers' money helped form the country when it was given its independence by Great Britain. Ghana is now tied in with the Communist bloc.

ZANZIBAR. Our Embassy attacked and ransacked and our diplomats ordered out of the country. What did we do? Why we had a U. S. Destroyer in the "vicinity" and evacuated our citizens, diplomats and all. We hardly protested.

Thousands of people were murdered by the new government, without doubt, communist controlled. How much of a protest did we make? Why, we have now recognized the new government and reestablished diplomatic relations. What a policy!

CYPRUS. Our Embassy attacked and ransacked. What did we do here? Again, we evacuated our citizens and diplomatic corps. This is hard to believe when the United States fought and lost thousands of young Americans to liberate Greece from both Hitler and Stalin and gave hundreds of millions of dollars—and still is giving support to Greece.

CAMBODIA. Our Embassy attacked, our flag burned. Again, a weak protest. Here again we have spent tens of millions of dollars in foreign aid to help this country.

PANAMA. Why, we set up the country of Panama and have supported it for years. The question of renegotiating the treaty should have no bearing on the control of the Panama Canal. Close the Panama Canal or turn over

its control to the Government of Panama—and we will be out in a year.

Some years ago, if any one attacked an American Embassy anywhere, we would send in a couple of battalions of Marines to defend it against all comers, and we were successful. It was the strength, the courage, the will of America that were respected, not the number of Marines we sent in (and in numbers they were few, but great). Our strength, our courage and our will would be respected today, if we had any kind of foreign policy, which we do not have.

Unfortunately, our foreign policy is one of vacillation, procrastination, and selective retreat—causing more and more attacks on the integrity of our country. A great many members of the Congress feel as I do: that we must firm up our position, that we must—by all means available—stop these attacks. We must stop supporting countries who do not support us, or who at least attempt to degrade us by these constant attacks on United States Embassies.

HERE AND THERE by Royce Brier

Congress Floundering in Remedies on Successions

The United States is in peril, but getting anything done about it is such a clumsy, controversial process it probably will dissipate in 10 months.

The allusion is to the lack of a Vice-President. Should the President die in office, he would be succeeded by Speaker John W. McCormack, an estimable but elderly man with no large administrative experience, no training in the foreign and domestic problems facing the government, and no national political following.

Should President Johnson be incapacitated during his current term, the Congress could choose an Acting President who would not, however, be Vice President. Twice in 40 years we have had an incapacitated President. In President Eisenhower's case we had no undue difficulty, and the President recovered.

But in the last year of President Wilson, incapacitated by a stroke, we were in reality without a President. "When the Cheering Stopped," a book on this strange and dangerous lapse was published recently.

We have no full solution for Presidential incapacity, with or without a Vice President. The Constitution fails to say how incapacity shall be determined.

The old system designated the Secretary of State to succeed in case of vacation of both the Presidential and Vice Presidential offices. By 1947 law, the Speaker was designated, followed by the

president pro tem of the Senate. Ex-President Truman, who was without a Vice-President for almost four years (as was Coolidge for almost two) still thinks the 1947 law adequate, but many disagree with him.

Several remedies are floundering around the Congress, but they will hardly be resolved before November.

Senator Bayh of Indiana asked for an opinion from General Eisenhower on the subject. The General believes that when a Vice President succeeds "he should immediately nominate another individual as Vice President" to be confirmed by the full Congress. The Congress should be called into special session if necessary and Eisenhower thinks we should return to the pre-1937 system. Secretary of State third in line.

This proposal has the advantage of simplicity, and it agrees essentially with a Constitutional amendment proposed by Senator Bayh, and endorsed by the American Bar Assn. Former Vice President Nixon believes the Electoral College should be re-assembled to choose a Vice President, but some consider this a difficult procedure.

The Founding Fathers thought they put common sense into the succession, but fate is more capricious than they knew. It would appear to be common sense to acknowledge that after 176 years,

AFTER HOURS by John Morley

Hong Kong: A City With Ties to Strange Worlds

HONG KONG—This is the most remarkable city of contrasts in the world.

This is a haven for refugees from Red China... an artist's dream of sea and shore... an escape from anything that disturbs one's peace of mind.

Hong Kong is both fact and fantasy. It is a pleasant contradiction. It is both cosmopolitan and naive. It has a few thousand sophisticates and a few million who never know what time it is.

Language, culture, standard of living and the entire human plasma of existence are separated not by suburbs and clubs... but by the global poles themselves.

Hong Kong is a place where every language is taken for granted. It is an English Crown colony where 95 per cent of its inhabitants don't speak English.

It is an oasis of freedom right next to a continent of brutality and enslavement, the like of which the world has never seen.

eyes. Faces and features are as unlike as any in the occidental world.

The floodtide of tourism has enhanced, not spoiled, Hong Kong. The Chinese have not been affected. No matter where they live... on the junks, farms, huts, or palatial residences... they have retained their family ties, customs and culture. The Chinese are individualists. No matter where they have gone abroad... Singapore, San Francisco, Bombay... they remain distinctly and unalterably Chinese.

When I speak to the Rotary clubs in Hong Kong and Kowloon, I face a membership of 18 nationalities... Europeans, Americans, Indians, Parsees, Sindhis, Sikhs, Japanese, Koreans, Malaysians, Egyptians, etc.

Some 16,000 British run Hong Kong, and another 15,000 foreigners just work and live there, mostly in the luxurious mansions and apart-

ments on the famous peak, overlook Victoria bay.

Hong Kong, up to Boundary road in Kowloon, was ceded to Britain by old China, and Red China has no legal claim today. But the new territory from Boundary road to the Red Chinese border is under lease which expires in 1997. Red China will have the option then to renew or take over.

The Red Chinese undoubtedly approve the present status of Hong Kong, for it provides them with a base for trade, profit and a source of dollars and other hard currencies.

In the midst of this unique colony is the greatest contrast of them all... the princely luxury of the wealthy Chinese, British, Indians, Americans, and others... and the appalling poverty of 98 per cent of its Chinese inhabitants.

No place on earth displays such a civilization of contrasts... nor such rewarding respites for a weary reporter.

OUR MAN by Arthur Hoppe

Hoo Dat Dar's 'Our General'

Good news. Washington officials say we are going to win the war in South Vietnam. Any year now. And they all suddenly agree it's because we have this fine, new democracy-loving dictator in charge out there, whom everybody loves: good, old General Nguyen Whatshisname.

You know, he's the one who deposed those four democracy-loving President Ngo Somethingorother, who supplanted democracy-loving Emperor Bao Whatwasit.

So while I'm sure all we Americans stand ready to root for whichever democracy-loving ally is in charge of South Vietnam at the moment, I do feel the public may be having trouble keeping them straight. And I can't think of any greater help than to recall how we faced a similar situation once in nearby West Vhtnng.

It was in the 24th year of our lightning campaign to wipe out the dread Viet-Narian gorillas. The famous General Hoo Dat Dar had just taken over on the retirement to the French Riviera of his uncle, General Hoo Givs Dam. Whose name had become the battlecry of the Loyal Royal Army.

General Hoo Dat Dar proved immediately popular. Indeed, he couldn't visit a native village without all the peasants hailing his coming. "General Hoo?" they would cry with that rising inflection peculiar to the Vhtnngian tongue.

Naturally, our officials in Washington were immensely pleased and doubled the flow of guns and dollars. But, as luck would have it, General Hoo Dat Dar's cousin took over as head of the dread Viet-Narians up in their mountain hideout. And his name, as is often the case in Vhtnng, was also General Hoo Dat Dar.

Well, you can imagine the confusion. No one could tell the fine democracy-loving peasants from the dread Marxist-Leninist peasants because all were still crying "General Hoo?"

Worse, there was a grave danger the mail would get mixed up and our American dollars would go to the wrong General Hoo. This possibility caused consternation in Washington as we would then be backing the winning side and, as one official put it worriedly: "This is no time for radical experiments in foreign policy!"

But just when all looked blackest, a rare copy of the authoritative "Who's Whose Hoo" was discovered. In which it was explained that "Directional Designations" should be added to all Vhtnngian names. With a sigh of relief, Washington immediately designated our ally in the lowlands as General Hoo Dat Don Dar. And the General in the mountains, of course, became General Hoo Dat Opp Dar.

It solved the crises. The war went on, the money flowed smoothly and the peasants everywhere loyally hailed "General Hoo?"

But the one thing our officials did then which helps us now in Vietnam was to announce that henceforth, in order to prevent such confusion from ever reoccurring, the democracy-loving general in any nation could be identified by the fact that he's the one we send our money to. And that's been the cornerstone of our foreign policy ever since.

Morning Report:

The packing business is getting tougher and tougher—especially in the political field. President Johnson has to find something to call his Administration.

Previous Presidents have already run through the Square Deal, New Freedom, New Deal, Fair Deal, Great Crusade, and New Frontier. So all those labels are out. In his last appearance on TV, Mr. Johnson suggested he might go for "Better Deal," which is not bad but does sound a little critical of earlier Democratic Presidents. And "New Crusade" might smack too much of the last Republican Administration.

There's a postmaster's job for the fellow who can do better than "Better Deal."

Abe Mellinkoff

Mailbox

Editor, Torrance Herald

The Unruh Bill, AB 46, is an extremist approach. It is incomplete, very skeleton-like, doesn't cover half the problems in school finance, and creates new problems. It is a very poor bill.

The thing people need to decide about it is: Do we want to risk losing local control? Do we want to become part of a huge county operation that makes decisions about local schools from an impersonal office far removed from the local community? Bigness in schools ends up costing more, not less. It leads to larger schools, less personal attention for children, and to unhappy parents who can't find anybody with authority to do anything about their problems.

If this is what we want, we should sit on our hands and let it happen.

If this is not what we want, if we think we have something in what little local control we have left, we should write our assemblymen, our state senators, and the education committee of both the Assembly and the Senate, as well as the State Board of Education, and tell them we oppose AB 46.

J. H. HULL,
Superintendent and
Secretary to the
Board of Education