

DEAR EDITOR....

He's for Consolidation, Drale, Jahn, and White

Torrance citizens who are interested in the welfare and growth of their community should speak out on civic mat-

VOTE FOR Benstead, Jahn & King

ters with more frequency for the benefit of the vast majority in our area who have little opportunity of learning at first hand about our local problems.

It is estimated that the majority of our population is employed outside the city. Com-

ing election issues are of utmost importance to all of us.

We have before us the selection of three councilmen which will also decide the issue as to the calibre of man we will have as mayor.

The school program is another item of unusual interest. Drale, Jahn and White are my nominations for City Council.

Drale has years of city government experience behind him and will not always see "eye to eye" with Jahn as they repre-

sent separate local political factions.

Jahn has impressed me in our dealings on the Airport Commission as a man who can make decisions regardless of political pressures... what is "right is right" seems to be his motto.

White, an independent candidate, has shown himself to be a diligent worker in the interest of his community and, at all times, with the interest of the public uppermost in mind. These men will give us a good check and balance system of government.

I am going on record of favoring combining the election of our School Board members with our Councilmanic elections. Keeping them separate is contrary to our national effort to educate the people to get "out the vote." People are busy. They don't want to go twice to vote when once will do the job. More local interest can be generated through more publicity and then our election results will truly represent the vote of the community, not the majority of a few.

The American public is going to have to place a higher value on politics if we are to get high calibre men in office... I can't see how combining the Board of Education with the

City Council will contaminate the Board as has been suggested.

(S) **JOHN CRAIN**
Airport Commissioner

Public Hearing Under Criticism

What is the responsibility of a chairman, president, or mayor of the various city commissions and City Council in respect to the conduct of public hearings?

I believe him to be in full charge and to be held accountable to the voters for the manner in which all public hearings coming before the group are announced prior to such hearings and for the release of in-

formation to the public following the hearings.

This is important to you and me, the Torrance voters, if it is true that our local political factions name our mayors and our commission chairmen.

A case in point is Beverly Smith, formerly president of the Planning Commission and now seeking election to the City Council with the endorsement of many prominent business men who have won our respect.

I charge that Smith has not at all times conducted the affairs of the City Planning Commission in the interest of the public at large.

Case 299, a petition for a variance in our zoning, came

before the Commission in 1954. He assigned a Committee to investigate the request including on the committee a commissioner whose relatives would benefit directly by the approval of the variance being sought.

About 50 homeowners opposing the measure appeared at the Planning Commission's quarters only to have it announced that the matter had already been decided, referred to City Council, and would not be again re-considered by the Planning Commission. After the delegation had departed, the subject was brought up for re-consideration, again without the benefit of the interested parties opposing the measure to present their facts.

I think all will agree with me that it would be most unfair to openly criticize a man for the way he voted on a controversial issue. However, I hope you will support my view that our elected and appointed city officials should at all times enter into public hearings with an unbiased viewpoint or refrain from voting on the measures at issue. In this respect, high praise for Bob Jahn who has

vacated his seat on the Airport Commission at one time to appear before the rest of the Commission on a matter wherein he would directly benefit. He returned to his commission seat only after the issue had been decided.

Your views, Please, Mr. a Mrs. Torrance.
(S) **JOHN CRAIN**
Airport Commissioner

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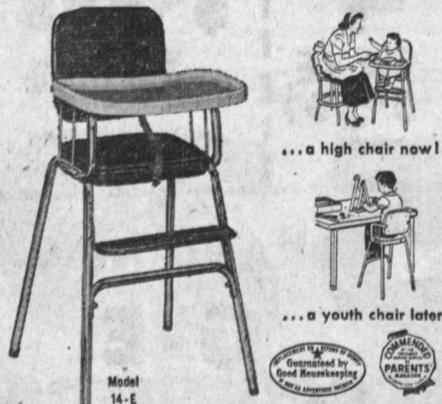


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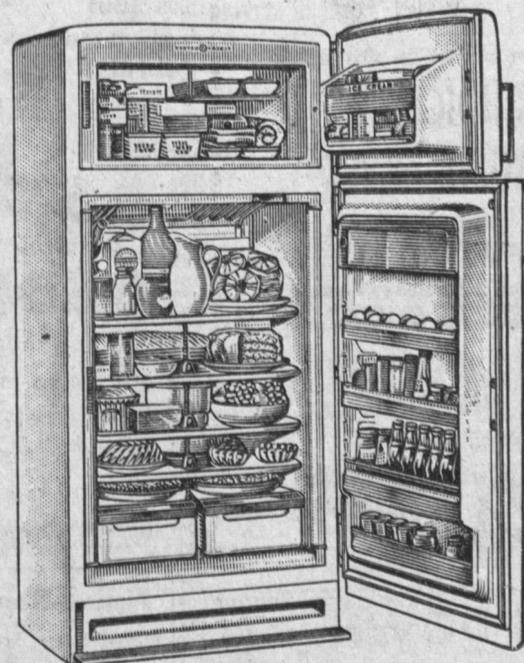
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