

DEAR EDITOR....

Came to Criticize Stayed to Praise

Torrance Press
 Editor
 In regards to your editorial of January 31, I would like to say that my first impressions of the Torrance Unified School System really did startle me.
 I thought back to when I went to school and wondered how my son would ever learn to spell or read without learning his "A, B, C's". I waited to see just what would happen, and to my amazement, he is a very good reader and speller.
 It was then I decided to probe

more into the system. I had my doubts about certain things so, to satisfy my own curiosity, I asked numerous questions of the principal and teachers. The questions were answered to my satisfaction.
 It is true that, here at Seaside, they have only two conferences a year. But it is the privilege of any interested parent to visit the school at any time to see just how well their child is progressing.
 Some parents are only too ready to criticize; but when asked to take an active interest in school activities, are always busy with something else.
 The Progress Card that my son brought home showed me where, in what subjects he needed to improve, because of this, I can help him. Speaking for myself, I say the teachers are paid to teach the children! They are going a grand job and should be given more praise than they receive.
 It has been our privilege for 10 years to be foster parents to 936 children. Some of these children were slower than others; there were those who could not learn regardless of what public school they attended.
 Needless to say, during this

time we have become familiar with many educational systems. We find the one at Seaside very satisfactory.

If our son is unable to spell or read at a high level of efficiency when he graduates from Seaside, he may be a slow learner. Does this necessarily mean the fault lies within the system or with the teachers?

One thing parents are inclined to say is "We didn't do that when we went to school." I know, I said the same thing many times until I went to the school and found out for myself that schools stress the same basic fundamentals. The only thing different is the manner of presentation.

Seaside urges all parents to visit it. If one has any doubts as to how your child is being taught, go to the school, speak to the teachers, go through all the classrooms, have the system explained to you, and above all, if there are any criticisms forthcoming, present them directly to your child's teacher or to the administration. This is what we did; and now, we are staunch supporters of our school's system.

We dislike intensely unwarranted criticism based on generalities rather than factual proof.

Very truly yours,
 (S) Merle and Marion Unger
 5214 Vanderhill rd.

rangements had already been made to install a proper heating system. This should be done in a matter of days. The stove is all right, since there is a vent hole in the ceiling.)

No Phone

Editor
 Torrance Press
 I want you and the rest of Torrance to know that the picture taking award-winning city of Torrance is nothing, unless you are one of the favorite few.

While this "All American City" affair has been going on I have been trying to find out why or what Torrance should win. I now know there is nothing to it.

If Lomita and Rolling Hills can stay out they are lucky. We have been in the Palos Verdes Riviera for three months.

When we bought this place it was because of what we had read in the different papers. Never once did it mention we would not be able to get telephones.

On moving in and applying for a phone, we are told it will be September. My doctor then sent in forms of all kinds saying I must have a phone because I might need medical care any second.

My husband's company asked for one and even appealed the case. This all did no good.
 The end came when my husband was rushed to the hospital

for an emergency operation. I again called Mr. Hoffman with General Telephone company. This did no good.

Mr. Hoffman said, "maybe when you bring your husband home and he needs medical care." Well, if my need of medical care at any moment did not help, how could I believe this. So they then put an emergency phone two blocks down the street from me.

Due to the distance I can't hear it ring, and to the size of the booth I can't sleep there.

Then to add to all of this we have no street lights, and to go down there at night is not a pleasant thing. Today I find my husband will need another operation.

I called our picture-taking mayor of the city. Oh yes! he talked to me.

He suggested I call Mr. Vaupel of General, and I did. I received the same line from him. I then called the mayor back, and all he could say was he had done all he could.

With this I finally call the "Press" and spoke to a Mr. Ralph Gompertz—for the first time a person with feeling, and ready to help me if possible.

Now I understand Mr. Mayor is very busy rehearsing with Mr. Blount. It seems Mr. Blount was very concerned about his child, and the idiotic blast put off by the mayor.

I wonder how he would feel if he was alone in a town, and knew no one, and didn't have a child, and asked for a phone

when his wife lay desperately ill 20 miles away. I ask you, is that taking care of your citizens of Torrance?

Oh yes! I also asked Mr. Mayor which police would come for me if they were called suddenly. Palos Verdes or Torrance. It seems Palos Verdes would not.

Isn't it about time I asked again for Mr. Mayor to quit grabbing up towns and help the ones here. He may have 80,000 or more people here, but how many are happy and how many think he is doing anything? Read your Editorials, Mr. Mayor.

Sincerely,
 (S) Nellie K. Raciti

(Editor's note: General Telephone co. officials attribute the whole delay to the trouble the firm had with the city of Torrance about permission to expand their operations. There are 151 individuals ahead of Mrs. Raciti on the priority list, it was pointed out. It's an unhappy and unfortunate of affairs, which won't be overcome until September, officials said.)

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TORRANCE PRESS
 Published each Thursday at Torrance, California
 Office: 1406 Cravens Avenue, Torrance, California, Telephone: FA. 8-2345
 W. E. Zappas, publisher
 R. E. Gompertz, managing editor
 W. E. King, advertising mgr.
 Subscription Rates:
 Local, per year \$5.50
 Out-of-town, per year \$6.50
 (Payable in advance)
 *All manuscripts are submitted at owner's risk. The Torrance Press can accept no responsibility for their return.

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Dangerous Condition

Editor
 Torrance Press
 On a recent trip I make with some children through the Walteria fire station, some very startling facts were brought to my attention.
 As a long-standing Torrance resident I feel these facts must be brought to the attention of the people of Torrance. A terrible tragedy could very well take place in this Walteria fire station at any time.
 The firemen of Torrance who work in this station have to deal with death daily, as they live with an unvented heater, and an unvented stove.
 Who is responsible for these unheard of conditions? Is the fire chief aware that these conditions exist and that they are unlawful?
 (Name withheld on request)
 (Editor's note: You are right regarding the heater. Officials at the Fire Department are aware of the situation and indicated that ar-

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