

Letters to the Editor

OF TIME AND TREES
Editor,
Torrance Press.

I am enclosing the following letter which tells my story:

A. E. Thompson, president Chamber of Commerce
1345 El Prado
Torrance, California
Dear Mr. Thompson:

This will acknowledge your letter of December 20th, addressed to our Torrance Office, inviting us to join your Torrance Tournament of Roses Association for the purpose of financial participation in sponsoring a float this year. The "All America City" should most assuredly be represented. We should like to pay our share of the way in your highest category, that of a Patron, or possibly, more. However, we feel considerably less than well-inclined towards the City of Torrance. You may be interested in learning why.

We opened our Torrance Office just about a year ago. Our investment included a very expensive, large neon sign with possibly the largest electric clock (5' diameter) in the city, for the convenience of its people and, naturally, to advertise our business. When we entered into a long-term lease on these premises and contemplated the installation of our sign, we were well aware of the existence of a tree almost directly in front of the office which towered almost twice as high as any of the others on Crenshaw Boulevard, well into the power or telephone lines. We assumed it would be a mere formality to correct the obstruction, either by removing the tree, trimming it to the size of the others, or planting a new one. Therefore, we did not hesitate to lease the premises or to order the sign and have it put up.

The run around we received from the "All America City" was classical. My correspondence indicates it took several months, in the first place, to contact the "Official" in charge of "trees." It was then determined that an appeal to the highest authority, the City Council itself, would be required. We prepared the necessary papers, processed approximately 16 copies to meet the needs of all officialdom, and the writer wasted many hours of most valuable time attending two consecutive sessions of the August Torrance City Council. You may be sure I was duly and deeply impressed by the majestic, spaciousness and beauty of the City Hall building as well as its grounds—obviously, the taxpayers of the "All America City" had laid out a pretty penny to inflate the ego of their elected officials.

My experiences at the proceedings might best be described in terms that the "script" should have been written for the perennial Amos 'n Andy radio or television show. At the second meeting, one of the mental giants on the City Council blandly commented that he had passed the location and "the tree did not at all obscure the sign", or some gibberish to that effect. I pointed out to him openly and unequivocally that if he were capable of making that statement of fact, he must be blind! At any rate, the upshot was the rejection of my application and the tree hasn't been touched since, not even to the extent of trimming that portion which rises through the utility lines—and it now appears as though normal growth has actually raised its height another foot or so.

Yes, there were neighbors at the second meeting who protested the removal of the tree. Regardless of my personal opinion of their reasons or even their reasoning power, they were within their rights. But note the following: I offered to personally pay the cost of removing said tree and planting another of a smaller size similar to the other trees lining Crenshaw boulevard; if this were unsatisfactory to all parties concerned, I offered to pay the cost of removing and replanting all the trees (I think it was about four or six) on Crenshaw boulevard from 172nd street to 174th or Artista. However, the proud governing body

of the "All America City" proved to be not only blind, but deaf as well.

As a result, when the damn clock went askew in July or August and thereafter stopped completely, I didn't even bother to telephone the maintenance service. This, in spite of the fact that many motorists traveling in a northerly direction had undoubtedly become accustomed to using it and checking their watches. I felt that if they hadn't taken the trouble to elect City officials of a higher calibre,

they, as well as the south bound motorists, might just as well do without the convenience. Fortunately, I can afford to indulge myself in such syllogism, faulty though it may be.

Mr. Thompson, why don't you drive by my office and see how the blind led the halt? See how this particular mangy-looking tree, even now, devoid of leaves, towers into the utility lines, and as a matter of fact obscures not one but three business buildings from south-bound traffic (when it's "in bloom," these buildings are completely hidden). Then tell me frankly and honestly, in view of all the circumstances, if you were in my shoes, would you be inclined to feel more kindly towards the "All America City" and its City officials? Do you know, Mr. Thompson, I even begrudge them the measly \$24.00 business license renewal fee for my office there and I am inclined to question the validity of any city's extracting "protection money" from business people within its environs in return for what?

Needless to say, I am not enclosing a check to support a Tournament of Roses float by the "All America City." Can you suggest any good reason why I should?
Very truly yours,
Mac Frankel

RESTORE THAT CASH-RE
SERVE through Torrance Press classified ads! Sell surplus things by calling FA 8-2345 for an ad-writer.

APPRECIATION

Editor,
Torrance Press
We, the carriers of the Torrance Post Office, wish to take this opportunity to express our appreciation, in public, of the thoughtfulness of Harvey Abramson of the Torrance Furniture Co., in giving to us a fine Christmas gift for, as he puts it, "the fine handling of my circular mall throughout the past year."

We can only say "Thank you, Mr. Abramson" and we will continue to serve you and our other patrons in the same manner throughout the next year and the years to come.
Earle Sumpter, President,
Branch 2207, National
Assoc. of Letter Carriers.
R. D. Brown, Secretary

Thursday, January 2, 1958

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Maples Pin Team Leads League

League bowlers continued to pound the alleys last week racking up high scores.

In the Men's Industrial Handicap League, J. Pennington has chalked up the enviable high season series of 704. F. Earlywine and R. LePont have tied with 275 for top game honors. This league is led by Oscar Maples team, two games in front of American Plant Growers.

Retired School Teacher Dies

Services for Sadie Margaret Brown, retired high school teacher, of 3805 W. 181st st., were held Tuesday in the Colonial

by L. King's 699 series and W. Baxley's 286 game.

R. Blum tallied a scorching 698 series in the Marine Clerks League while D. Stamper recorded a respectable 256 game.

Taking to the lanes Tuesday morning, the Ladies Handicap League features M. Irgens high series of 630 and C. Montgomery's top game of 241.

Chapel of the Hardin and Flanagan Mortuary.

Miss Brown died suddenly Friday in a Los Angeles Hospital. She was 75.

She was a graduate of Bushnell College, Ill., her home state, and spent most of her teaching career in New Mexico.

Rev. Joseph M. Appelgate, pastor of the Crenshaw Christian Church officiated. Interment was in Pacific Crest Cemetery.

She leaves a niece, Mrs. Mae B. Combes, and a nephew, George Beckham, both of Torrance.

THEY'RE SUPER Yes, Torrance Press Rent Ads daily fill vacant units! Room, house apartment, anything, FA. 8-2345

KCOP

Thursday, 8:00 to 8:30 P.M.

"Adventure Tomorrow"

Channel 13



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PULVITA MULTI-VITAMIN \$1.90
All in One Capsule including 5 mcg. VITAMIN B-12

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Face Cream \$1.49 Size 98¢
10-oz. Jar.....
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CINNAMON ROLLS
Ralphs
Pkg. of 6 23¢

Ralphs FRESH BAKERY
Chocolate Chip Cookies 33¢
THE REAL HOMEMADE CHOCOLATE CHIP RECIPE 6-oz.....
White or Wheat Bread 19¢ Large 28¢
Standard 15-oz..... Large 1-lb. 6.5-oz.....

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Black Raspberry Ripple Ice Cream 97¢
Pint... 2 for 49¢ Half Gallon
SWANS DOWN Instant Cake Mix APPLE CHIP OR BUTTERSCOTCH BANANA LEMON FLAKE 37¢
19-oz..... 19-oz..... 19-oz..... 41¢
RECOMMENDED BY CHEF MILANI

PEANUT BUTTER
Ralphs Creamy or Crunchy
12-oz. 33¢ 18-oz. 45¢

ARMOUR STAR U.S.D.A. GRADE A FRYING CHICKENS FRESH DRESSED EVISCERATED

Whole Lb. 33¢ Cut Up Or Quartered Lb. 37¢
With Chicken Serve Ocean Spray Cranberry Sauce

SLICED ALASKA Halibut Lb. 49¢ **LUER Pork Links** 1-lb. Pkg. 71¢

Sliced Bacon **FARMER JOHN Flank Steaks** Lb. 73¢
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MAXWELL HOUSE Instant Coffee \$1.19
6-oz. Jar Marked "10¢ Off" SALE PRICE...
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KING SIZE OR REGULAR 1-lb. Pkg.
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SWIFT'S Meats for Babies 2 for 45¢
STRAINED OR JUNIOR 3 1/2-oz. ...

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PLASTIC POT CLEANER
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LIMIT ONE COUPON PER CUSTOMER

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14-oz. ...

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APPLE SAUCE APPLE TIME
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ROYAL GELATIN Assorted Fruit Flavors
3 Pkgs. 19¢

DEL MONTE Fruit Cocktail 1-lb. 23¢
1-oz. ...

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Plus 1¢ Tax



Ralphs FRESH PRODUCE

FANCY FUERTE Avocados JUMBO SIZE 15¢
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SWIFT'S FROZEN Fried Chicken 26-oz. \$1.59

STRAWBERRIES LIBBY'S Frozen Sliced 17¢
10 1/2-oz.

M. J. B. Rice Brown White Long Grain Quick Cooking
24-oz. 31¢ 28-oz. 39¢ 24-oz. 41¢

LIPTON TEA THE "BRISK" TEA
TEA BAGS Pkg. of 12 49¢
1/2-lb. 85¢ 1-lb. \$1.65 Size 49¢ of 48. 67¢

Cheer Detergent Giant Pkg. 79¢
Plus 3¢ Tax

Ivory Soap Personal Size 4 for 26¢
Medium Size 3 for 31¢
Large Size 2 for 33¢
Plus 2¢ Tax

PORK & BEANS VAN CAMP'S 1-lb. Can 11¢

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1336 EL PRADO FA. 8-4101
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Ralphs Nearest Store Is The South Bay Shopping Center, Redondo Beach and Hawthorne Blvds. at 174th