

The Press Editorials

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Day of Decision

The Day of Decision is upon the trustees of the California state college system.

Today they are scheduled to select the site for the new state college to serve the Southwest portion of the county. They apparently will be faced with selecting the inappropriate site on the Palos Verdes Peninsula which the vast majority of residents who live in the college's service area do not want—or with making a move toward selection of the logical Torrance site.

If the trustees follow the leadership of chairman Charles Luckman and his cohort, Dr. Glenn Dumke, chancellor of the state college system, they will pick the Peninsula location—for which they are seeking justification by aggressive power politics — tactics that have disturbed many of the sounder heads on the board of trustees.

A HAND-PICKED SITE

These influential financiers and attorneys feel the criteria for a college site and for the kind of college should have been definitely and firmly fixed — according to the need — FIRST and that THEN the search for the site should have begun.

Instead, as was pointed out by at least three trustees at the last meeting in San Diego, the site was hand-picked. Then criteria were set up that the site could presumably meet. In fact, Dumke and Luckman have indicated several times that they would change the criteria as needed to achieve their objective.

They told the Peninsula civic groups they would modify the college plans — make it smaller and more esthetic — to satisfy residents of the area. They would, in fact, subvert their own sworn purposes as trustees — to serve the taxpayers of the state.

The need for a state college in the Southwest part of the county is evident. A COMPLETE, accessible college is obviously part of the blueprint of the present and the future.

Such a college can only be developed logically in the heart of this growing district — and the only city that meets the requirement is Torrance.

This paper has carried the fight for the Torrance site from the beginning. We have stressed the centrality and the obvious advantages of Torrance.

UNWITTING AID

We have now been unwittingly aided by Luckman and Dumke, who created four criteria for the Peninsula site — requirements which we are now certain the Peninsula CANNOT meet — and which Torrance will certainly more than satisfy.

Despite Mr. Luckman's scare tactic of telling the Peninsula group that the hill site was "just about their last resort," it is a fact that many of the trustees are now beginning to realize that there is a readily available site in the heart of Torrance. In fact, we can look out the window and see it.

It already meets the stated criteria — the land is available, the community services are available, the community will welcome the college — 100 per cent — and the soil conditions are perfect.

It is doubtful if the intended Peninsula site will truly meet any of those criteria. It is also doubtful if the limited college which Dumke is now ready to promise the Peninsula will meet the ultimate needs of the Southwest county population.

If the state college trustees truly want to bear a lantern for the future, they will locate the college in Torrance, where growth represents the exciting vitality of tomorrow.

They will locate the college in Torrance, where industry is locating its most exciting projects of the future.

TORRANCE THE CENTER

They will locate the college in Torrance, which is the geographic, the economic, the political and the population center of the area the college will serve — and that will be Torrance's position from now on.

The county supervisors voted unanimously to endorse the Torrance site. Virtually every community in the area has expressed its approval of Torrance. Even the majority of the Peninsula people are strongly opposed to the college there.

It is our strong hope that the full board of trustees, realizing their responsibility, and fulfilling their oath of office, will act for the people of the state, and those whom they represent.

That kind of decision can only lead to selection of Torrance.

IT'S AMAZING!



OPINIONS OF OTHERS

Issue Is Money

From Pasadena Star-News

Like the proverbial bull in the china shop, politics continues to run rampant in California education. The State Legislature, which just finished another session of bickering and backbiting over education, has failed for the second session in a row to face up to the number-one problem.

Instead, too many legislators wasted valuable time and energy on overblown fabricated issues.

Side Issues

The real issues in California education are not such things as the appointment of Thomas Braden to the State Board of Education, the restricted use of the Dictionary of American Slang in a few high schools, or the fact the state board has given teaching credentials back to a few rehabilitated people who got into trouble.

The biggest issue is finance. That was so in 1961, when the Legislature passed a lot of laws such as requiring foreign language in elementary schools. Local administrators told them

then that the laws were fine, but that costly programs were being mandated. This session the legislators listened a little, and unworkable restrictions may be eased. But the big need, increased state financial support of education, has fallen on deaf ears.

Less than 10 years ago, the state and local districts were in an educational partnership. Each paid about 50 per cent of the cost. Now the state has cut its share to about 38 per cent. It is even lower in larger districts, such as Pasadena, where the ratio is about 28 per cent. Who is footing the ballooned cost? The local taxpayer.

Taxpayers Rebel

Taxpayers have already rebelled in too many districts where they have refused to vote needed tax overrides to continue improved programs in the schools.

In many areas summer classes have been curtailed or dropped. So have transportation and programs for the gifted. Kindergartens have been eliminated or doubled up.

Yet, in pronouncements by Dr. Maxwell Rafferty, state superintendent, we have heard little about this number-one problem. Sure, he is for more state financial support of local school. But his voice on this matter, in comparison with the furor he has raised over side issues — the dictionary, a few misguided teachers — has been a mere peep. And too many legislators, spurred by Dr. Rafferty's ultra-right supporters, have jumped onto the bandwagon. They've gotten headlines, but have not come to grips with the real problems.

Gamesmanship Hit

Such action on the part of Dr. Rafferty and his followers in the Legislature does not evidence leadership in education or statesmanship. It smacks of political gamesmanship.

Now the Legislature has a chance once again to face up to the real problem: easing the cost of education to local taxpayers.

Any other issue at this time should be suspect. For it would be only a diversion to avoid the main problem.

Soul-Searching Needed

From San Francisco Hobokeni Manichi

We have no intention at all of telling the Negro community leaders, brazenly, to soften their fight for integration and for equal opportunity—for that is our (Japanese-Americans) fight too.

But we believe there is a crying need on the part of the Negro community as a whole to make a concentrated effort sincerely to better themselves. And this effort should be made hand in hand with their effort to break down the social and economic barriers.

Do not say, impatiently, there is not time. Life is long, and America will be here for centuries and centuries after we are gone. This is the time for soul-searching for all Americans—from President Kennedy down. And American is doing it today. Negroes should be a part of it, too.

Behind Barbed Wire

Twenty-one years ago, many of us were behind the barbed-wire fences concentrated in 11 internment camps. Our only crime then was our color. "Why can't we be like other Americans?" our children asked and made their parents weep with silent tears.

We then thought the Nisei were terribly mistreated, losing property and citizenship. It is also true Nisei were refused service at some hotels and eateries, but even with this unpleasant background and discriminatory experience, the Nisei are not equipped to fathom the mental suffering and emotional agony of their colored brethren of today.

It is only in the past 10 years we have had any sort of communication with them living together in the same neighborhoods. We

have come to know them better, their aspirations, their habits, their problems.

Afraid to Go Out

We have met outstanding Negro leaders. We confess we have had more occasions to come in contact with lesser Negroes who make a great number of our people afraid to come out to a Japanese district at night.

They blame society for illegitimate children and living on welfare checks. They blame society for petty thefts and attacks being perpetrated by their menfolk. We have yet to hear any

Negro voices blaming themselves for their social maladjustment.

What we are trying to say most sincerely here is that the Negro leaders should do a little soul-searching of their own.

We have no intention at all of expecting the Negro children to be long-suffering for education like the Oriental children—who are impressed with the virtues of long-suffering—for this may be considered feudalistic and anachronistic in this age of pragmatic living.

Hannah's Harpoons

BY HANNAH SAMPSON

Supermarket Math

A sticky problem has been presenting itself lately at the supermarket. Is the Large Economy Size really larger and really economical?

Take tuna-fish. The usual size contains (in the brand I usually buy) 6½ ounces. The LEC contains 12 oz. and costs twice as much as the smaller size. It looks economical, though.

Then there's the new package of spaghetti. It used to contain a full pound, 23 cents. Today, the package sell costs 23 cents, only now it contains twelve ounces. Who's getting off with the other quarter of a pound? And what about hot dogs? In the market today I saw, cheek by jowl, a 12 ounce package and a full pound package; same manufacturer, same name, SAME PRICE.

Well, who in his right mind would buy the 12-ounce package when he can have four ounces more for nothing? Who? Plenty of us. Those of us who don't read labels; those who haven't time to shop around; all of us who are sitting ducks for these producers of products we use daily. This is a form of cynicism: Let's see how much we can get away with before they begin to holler.

Too Lovely to Open

And FANCY! Some of the packages are too lovely to

open. Do we really need all this beauty in a package we intend to tear open and throw away? Every extra paper sack and lacy insert is added to the cost. (In France and England they still use the daily newspaper to wrap up the fish, and the housewife takes along her own shopping bag into which the man puts her groceries. And the bread they carry home, naked and in full view, under the arm! But I'll bet they get a full loaf, or know the reason why).

Are we forgetting how to holler? Do we really want three-fourths of a pound instead of a pound? I'll bet those guys are laughing all the way to the bank!

In the Pink

A regular feature of a column that appears in a Los Angeles paper is the cataloging of phrases that are old-fashioned; faded, I think he calls them. I have news for him: those phrases are no more outmoded than long underwear.

Any day of the week you can hear someone say he's "in the pink," or "where you been all my life?" or "Call me anything but don't call me late for dinner." And hundreds more.

Recently I found out why these bearded clichés are still around. The people who use them think they just made them up.

(You can buy long underwear from any catalog sales company, for men, women and children and plenty of people still wear these regularly).

RECREATION COLUMN

What ISN'T There for Child to Do?

By BETH BOZAK

If a Torrance parent were to ask, "What is there for my child to do in this city in the summer time," the informed listener might quickly answer, "Don't you mean, what ISN'T there for him to do?"

This answer would not be an immodest one, for in addition to the more familiar activities found on any well-planned, well-run playground or park of a conscientious and forward-looking city, Torrance, through its recreation department, offers to its youthful citizens many activities of a special and unusual nature.

Traveling Puppet Theater

One of the more outstanding and delightful of these special activities is the "Happy Wanderer," a traveling puppet theater, housed in a gaily painted covered trailer, which travels among the Torrance parks and playgrounds during the summer. The "Happy Wanderer" stays at each area for a three-day interval, during which time the children who participate make the puppets, write the scripts, and put on the productions — all of their own creation.

Experience in the Arts

Other activities of a creative nature are offered. At Sea-Aire Park, the department's arts and crafts center, a diversified program includes experiences in crafts, singing, dance, drama, and stagecraft, much of which will be integrated into a public performance scheduled for mid-August at the Torrance Recreation Center.

The elementary age musician can find continuing practice and enrichment in the Fun thru music sessions offered at three of the parks and the Recreation Center. The "Fun Thru Music" programs will give a combined parks concert on Aug. 25.

Modern dance classes at selected parks and playgrounds stress the learning of modern dance techniques and the basic movements.

Summer stock experience is provided by the youth drama sessions at the Torrance Park Bandshell.

Co-Recreation

The social needs of youth are recognized by the recreation department's co-recreation program, which offers to 7th and 8th grade boys and girls a variety of social activities, including swimming parties, trips, and camping experiences. Camping activities are of-

fered in a variety of ways. Camp Clatawa, at Big Bear Lake, accommodates boys and girls from 9 to 14 years of age for one week in mid-August. Since Camp Clatawa reservations were filled early in the season, the recreation department's day-camp personal attempt to provide genuine camping experiences on the playground and park areas.

Under the leadership of qualified counselors, the participants hike, make craft projects, learn camping skills, cook-out, and take a field trip in four-day session. The day-camp session ends with an overnight camp-out, where participants learn to prepare their meal that evening and the following morning.

Interesting Field Trips

Knowing that the city's children will benefit from widened horizons of enjoyment, the recreation department sponsors several supervised field trips through the summer months. Among the trips which will be offered this year will be excursions to Catalina, Griffith Park Zoo, Disneyland, Marineland, and others. The field trip personnel are developing some exciting new plans which will be announced at a later date.

Sports Activities

To the athletic-minded boys and girls a wide selection of organized sports activities is available at the parks, the high school areas, and the city's Benstead Plunge. Instruction is provided in golf, tennis, tumbling and gymnastics, fencing, and swimming, while organized games in softball, and basketball are also offered.

Parks Playgrounds Backbone

However full the above program of activities may seem, the day-to-day programs of the convenient neighborhood playground and nearby park probably remain the most available source to the child looking for something interesting and constructive to do with his summer days.

Under the able leadership of the area leaders and their aides, these programs continue to be the backbone of Torrance's total recreation picture. The value of the afternoon ball game, or the cartoon movies, or the caroms, crafts, dances, community sings, and occasional tournaments — none of these can be underestimated in the child's summer experience.

LIFE IN THE ROAR by KANE

