

Hannah's Harpoons

BY HANNAH SAMPSON

Recently I was amused by a sign in a busy physician's office that stated, "If you are keeping your head in the midst of this confusion, it is evident that you have not properly evaluated the situation."



To properly evaluate the situation and still keep one's head is the vocation of the optimist.

A NATION OF OPTIMISTS

We in his country are often referred to—sneeringly, to be sure—as a nation of optimists. There is nothing wrong with being an optimist providing the optimism is not achieved by ostrichy behavior.

Last evening we watched a performance of Sidney Kingsley's play, "The Patriots," an excellently-acted production of a portion of American History.

The play points out with heartbreaking clarity the struggles that came after the Revolution. Yet, in our history books, our children are shown that after the "shot heard 'round the world" had been fired, we as a Nation "had it made."

STRUGGLE FOR POWER

Of course, this is not even near the whole truth, for as late as 1801 there was a struggle for power that came very close to seeing the Democracy replaced by a monarchy! In the end, as we know, the People got what they wanted and the cynical power-politicians went without their king.

It seems to me that the real battles—those that came after the Revolution—should be made apparent even to children in elementary schools. It can do nothing but good for the young to realize that nothing valuable comes easily, and that our country's independence is no exception.

To watch the sacrifice of such of our great Patriots as Washington, and Jefferson—who gave up everything they held dear—is to renew one's own determination to see that reason continues to prevail.

This determination—in the face of the general confusion that exists today—may be correctly labelled "Optimism."

ROSEY-GROESY

There is a never-ending American family of children's dolls: big ones and small; infants that cry and create extra laundry problems; teenagers that have like-boy friends and need their own homes and cars and record-players. And, of course the wardrobes cost more than some I've owned myself.

Perhaps everyone has heard about the newest addition? Called Rosie-Groesy. And what do you suppose is special about Rosie-Groesy? She, of course, does the one thing none of the others do: She gets bigger and taller, and her entire wardrobe has to be replaced every three months. What a boon to a faltering economy, eh?

ENCOURAGING SCOUTS COSTS

The cost of encouraging our youth continues to soar with every passing year. It now costs 1 DOLLAR a crack to get off the hook to the Scouts in this neighborhood. How can they learn the value of money when they sell a box of candy that is worth maybe 50 cents, for a dollar?

I would rather spend 50 cents for something they sweated over and made themselves out of scraps; what is more, the entire 50 cents would go to the Scouts. If they washed cars for a dollar a car they could reap the entire harvest. They would be tired, and dirty, and would have used up time and energy. This is my idea of a service project.

LITTLE HARPOONS

DARTS . . . WHY does the Air Pollution Control Dept. say "light smog" when you can't see the mountains for the disease?"

Abe Sapherstein

WHY does the son go down so early now and we can't go out after dinner?

Jane Sampson

EXEC DENIES UNION BIAS

Protests by two former employees of Al Ortale Ramblers were branded as "personal batters" by an executive of that firm this week.

Keith Muir, general sales manager, said the discharged worker's protests in no way whatsoever has any connection with the union. "These men were discharged for cause and in no way reflects any attitude toward the union," Muir said.

The discharge of two men which has led to a picket line at the company's showrooms, had been taken to the National Labor Relations Board by the union and then withdrawn on the hearing date. A second request was filed and this had been withdrawn also, Muir said.

The auto agency executive said that the company has requested and received an injunction against the picketers to prevent them from interfering with customers. Muir also issued a state-

ment denying remarks of the firm's attitude toward the union that were attributed to him in an area daily newspaper. The paper has since retracted the article.

"Insofar as Al Ortale is concerned, our employee benefits, wages, and working conditions are reputed to be the finest in the Southern California area and the striking individuals in no way reflect the attitude of the majority of this firm's employees," Muir concluded.

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TORRANCE Pop Warner team coach Ralph Hogue receives check from Officer Charles Oates, Torrance Peace Officers Association president, to finance trip to San Diego. The Blue Devils have received an invitation to play in a bowl game Saturday, Nov. 30, against a team from La Mesa. Without financial support of the police association, the boys would have been unable to make the trip to San Diego for the important game.

—PRESS Photo

Record Building Year in Sight For L.A. County

With new housing permits topping 2000 for the seventh consecutive month, Los Angeles County is assured of a record building total for 1963. Supervisor Burton W. Chace disclosed today.

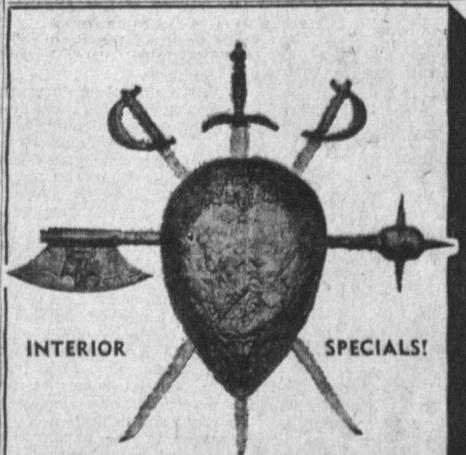
Commenting on a report by John A. Lambie, County Engineer, Supervisor Chace noted that the \$455 million building volume for the first ten months of the year is well ahead of the \$428 million for the full 12 months of 1962.

October, with \$41.7 million, also topped construction volume for any previous October, the report disclosed. Tract housing for the month amounted to 821 dwellings with a valuation of \$12.7 million.

The Lennox District, with a combined building valuation in excess of \$3 million, topped all area offices of the Los Angeles County Building and Safety Division, the Supervisor added.



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THE PRESS
Established April 15, 1949
Published Semi-Weekly, Wednesday and Friday. Entered as second class matter Oct. 8, 1957 at Post Office, Torrance, California, under act of March 3, 1879. Adjudicated a legal newspaper by Superior Court, Los Angeles County, Calif. Adjudicated Decree No. LB-C-23548, April 8, 1958.
Publisher: W. R. Zappas
Director: Bob Mann
Managing Editor: William Schell Jr.
News Editor: Rennie Saunders
Mechanical Superintendent: Walter Vahr
Classified Manager: Jay Delany
Circulation Manager: Larry Robertson
Business Manager: Ruth Peterson
Office and Plant:
2328 W. Sepulveda Blvd.
Torrance, California
Telephone: DA 5-1515
Subscription Rates:
(Payable in advance)
Carrier Delivery: 25c per month
Local and Out-of-Town, per year: \$12.00
All manuscripts submitted at owner's risk. The Torrance Press can accept no responsibility for their return.

FILE DIRECTLY
Changes in beneficiary listings for G.I. life insurance cannot be made in a last will or testament but must be filed by the policyholder directly with the VA by using VA form 9-336 in order to be valid, the Los Angeles County Service Office reports.

DESIRE
What we most need is the prayer of fervent desire for growth in grace, expressed in patience, meekness, love, and good deeds.
—Mary Baker Eddy

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