

# That's Enough! He Declares

The other night, in a burst of public service, Saks Fifth Ave. provided lessons in the proper way to dance at a discotheque. A sinewy young man, wearing a shiny black suit that had been painted on, was demonstrating the frug, the ska and Watusi, the Madison, the hully gully and the Swim. It was hot, buckets of champagne were being spilled, and a lot of people approaching their dotage were standing in a large circle, bravely trying to emulate the young man's adroit movements. And failing.

Sipping the warm champagne, I reviewed all the dances I had failed to master. The after-school sessions at a girl's house in Sacramento, trying to learn the Rio Nido (to a Gus Arnheim record of "Say It With Music"). The Varsity Drag, which it certainly was, and the Balboa Hop and truckin'—with your right finger raised and wagging idly. The Big Apple (you were supposed to get in the middle of the hand-clapping circle and "shine") and Varsouvienne ("Put your little foot, put your little foot, put your little foot right THERE." Heaven help us all).

Further indignities were in store. For a while there, under the malign influence of Carmen Miranda, the country seemed to be one long conga line, and the Andrews Sisters were singing something about the crack in the back of your sacroiliac. Arthur Murray invented the Magic Step, with numbers, to help wheezing middle-agers learn the intricacies of the rumba ("Make a box, make a box!" shouted the sweating instructors), and as soon as that was safely in your repertoire came the samba, the cha-cha and the mambo. What we really needed was a step called "Enough, already."

But there shall be no peace, no rest for the wicked. Along came the Twist, opening a new box of horrors, and everybody was standing in front of mirrors, trying to follow the simple instructions: "The movement is that of wiping your back with a towel while grinding out a cigarette with your right foot," which I discovered at the time, is one way to burn hell out of your foot.

Now the Twist is out—loud, scandalized cries of "No, no, you're TWISTING!"—and an entire new set of pelvic motions is in, preferably danced to any record but the Beatles (they seem to be on the way out, too, and just as I was getting used to them). The only one that appeals to me is the frug. The name comes perilously close to expressing my sentiments exactly. As for the Swim, it might be worth pursuing if it were expanded to include mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

I finished my last glass of Saks champagne and watched the teen-agers grinding away at each other—close, but not touching (as a fox-trot man, I can only ask "What's WRONG with body contact?"). There comes a time in a man's life when he no longer has the time or energy to be With It, and I think the time has come.

I'm reminded of the time Oscar Levant went to a movie preview in Hollywood. Afterward the producer asked Levant what he thought of the film, and Levant replied: "It was terrible." Flared the producer: "Who are YOU to say my picture is terrible?" Countered Levant: "Who do you HAVE to be?"

Levant's response strikes me as a valid one. Anybody who buys a ticket to a movie, say, or a ball game, is entitled to be a critic—and the Supreme Court's "one person-one vote" verdict should be extended to include "and one opinion." In this tinderbox age, when the red button of annihilation is entrusted to politicians, you'd better have a political opinion, because you may not get another chance to express it.

Speaking of Vietnam, which every commentator must now and then, or lose his card, I see where Goldwater, Nixon, Rockefeller and the other hawks think the war should be extended to the North "to cut off the Viet Cong's source of supply."

On the other hand—to employ a liberal phrase—Pentagon sources say that most of the Viet Cong's equipment is captured from the South Vietnamese Army, which is supplied by us. Is it the opinion, then, of the hawks that the Pentagon should be bombed? It's something to think about, as they say in fuzzy-minded circles.

## City to Permit Sunday Dancing

The city's "never on Sunday" law—at least as far as dancing is concerned, has been modified by the City Council. Councilmen last week voted to make Sunday like any other day of the week when they amended the present dancing ordinance to permit dancing between midnight and 2 a.m. and after 8 a.m. on Sundays.

## NEW CAR DIRECTORY

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## Free Mother, Baby Care Classes Offered in Area

Parents-to-be can become wiser and surer in handling clothing, bathing and feeding their expected additions by enrolling in the free Mother and Baby Care course to be offered by Red Cross at two area locations in September. The 14-hour course will be taught on seven consecutive Mondays and Wednesdays from 7:30-9:30 p.m. at 1322 Hermosa Ave., Hermosa Beach, beginning Sept. 21, and at 390 W. 7th St., San Pedro, beginning Sept. 9. Enrollment can be made by calling Red Cross, TE 2-8321 or FA 8-0510. The course for expectant parents is one of the ways in which Red Cross aids the community. This and other preparedness training courses are made available with funds raised during the annual fund drives, like the United Crusade in October, when the public will be asked to support Red Cross and the United Way agencies. Specially trained registered nurses teach the Mother and Baby Care courses.

## County to Begin Tests Of Chemical Weed-Killers

The County's flood control district this week will begin an experimental program to test new chemical weed killers along a section of Dominguez Channel in the harbor area, according to Supervisor Burton W. Chace. The program is designed to get the most effective and economical product for use along the hundreds of miles of channels and storm drains maintained by the district. Chace said control of weeds is a continuing problem because of their high fire hazard and their effect on properties adjacent to the channels. A substantial portion of the district's maintenance budget annually is allocated for weed control. Since June, district engineers have been collecting samples of every type of weed growing along the agency's facilities. These have been identified, classified and their propagation habits closely studied. THE DISTRICT will be working with U. S. Borax, Dow Chemical Co., Geigy Co., and Standard Oil Co. of California in testing the latest in weed chemicals. The firms will supply chemicals and direct district personnel in their use. The program will be completed in a year, with initial phase concentrated along a mile area of Dominguez Channel.

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Assorted Colors  
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"Bitch X" by Sovereign — Full figure face, luminous sweep second hand, matching steel expansion band. **6.95**

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