

Press-Herald

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The Need for Redress

The Public Utilities Commission has ruled that errors in future telephone books will mean a free ride for the person listed.

For the first time, telephone subscribers may have redress for errors — perhaps very costly errors—made by the telephone companies in listing names, addresses, or telephone numbers.

Because of the vital role the telephone has come to play in the everyday conduct of our business and social lives, the PUC order fixing a responsibility on the telephone companies for giving each subscriber a correct listing is to be commended.

Now we could suggest another area where some responsibility might attach — the Post Office.

To those who have been forced to rely on the U. S. mails since the city severely curtailed the housing of pigeons, there is no recourse when unreasonable delays mean the cancellation of business contracts or the loss of personal opportunities.

We noted this week that the Post Office Committee of the House of Representatives has organized a tour of mail stations in London, Paris, Berlin, Bern, and The Hague.

As a suggestion, perhaps the committee could find a few minutes for Torrance, Podunk, and Mason City — if there's a little time left over after the exhausting study of the European postal systems.

GUEST EDITORIAL

The New Courthouse

(The Press-Herald today publishes the second in a series of comments by community leaders on subjects of public interest. Superior Judge John A. Shidler, whose Southwest Superior Court now is located in Inglewood, looks ahead to the day in 1967 when the huge court complex on the Torrance civic center is opened for business.)

By JOHN A. SHIDLER

Judge, Southwest Superior Court

Out behind the City Hall in the Civic Center, a large courthouse is being built.

In 1967, at least 12 judges will move in and judicial business, such as Torrance has never seen, will begin. At least five hundred employees will accompany the judges. In addition, hundreds of jurors, witnesses, lawyers, and suitors will add a new confusion, a new activity, to Torrance.

The Municipal Courts will try civil damage suits where the demand is below \$5,000 and will decide misdemeanor criminal cases. They will also hold preliminary hearings in felony cases.

The Superior Courts will try civil damage suits where the demand is more than \$5,000. They will also hear divorce, probate, and adoption petitions in the civil field.

In criminal problems, the Superior Court will determine guilt or innocence, and sentence, in felony cases — including the death sentence.

Los Angeles County is divided into nine districts for Superior Court services. The Southwest District, one of the nine, with more than one million persons, encompasses Torrance, the South Bay, the Inglewood-Hawthorne-El Segundo area, and part of Los Angeles City. Superior Court litigation arising in these areas will be tried in Torrance, after 1967.

Heretofore, most of the South Bay Municipal Court work has been handled at the Redondo Courthouse, but in 1967, this work will come to Torrance.

As never before, Torrance will be a focal point for legal visitors, willing and unwilling. From the San Diego Freeway to the Civic Center, Crenshaw Boulevard will be jammed with traffic. So, too, will be Torrance Boulevard.

The burden of the new visitors upon the older residents will be considerable. Lost persons will have to be directed. Hungry people will have to be fed. Criminal types will wander our streets.

We recently have passed through a population boom wherein we increased residential inhabitants by leaps and bounds.

When the Court is established in 1967, Torrance will make an even bigger change. Our way of life will be more changed than just by numbers of population.

We no longer will be just a bedroom for Los Angeles, but a metropolitan center.

Let us pray that we will continue to be a positive, friendly city. Let us plan ahead to that time when Torrance will take her place as a rounded, complete, American City, so that we will always be proud of her.

Morning Report:

I feel sorry for Vice Admiral Hyman Rickover but he will have to go. The Navy has put up with him long enough.

We all remember that little affair of atomic power. The Navy was well satisfied with electricity for submarines. Rickover demanded atomic power and finally won. He was promoted twice with the wild wind screaming through the mental rigging of the Navy brass. Now, this maverick admiral calls for an end to the "stable of professional football players" at the Naval Academy.

This is too much. How can the Navy "sink the Army, sink the Army" without a winning team? After all, it would be clear treason, and violation of our treaty with Russia as well, for the Navy to use atomic power against West Point.

Abe Mellinkoff



FROM the MAILBOX

Writer Traces Source of Material Published Here

Editor, Press-Herald:

Last Sunday's Mailbox section carried a lengthy letter concerning "Current Communist Goals," which the letter writer stated, "The Honorable A. S. Herlong, Jr., Representative from Florida, on January 10, 1963, placed in the Congressional Record . . . We are then warned in the letter to be very much afraid of . . . the goals which he (Rep. Herlong) listed . . ."

Before commenting upon the actual text of the "Goals," it should be noted that it is factually misleading and intellectually dishonest to ascribe the listing of these goals to Rep. Herlong, for as the Congressional Record for that date clearly states, Rep. Herlong merely inserted an article by a Mrs. Patricia Nordman, "an ardent and articulate opponent of Communism," who published an "anti-Communist" paper in DeLand Florida (the Deland Courier).

Further, the material is not original with Mrs. Nordman, for the Congressional Record again clearly states that Mrs. Nordman had excerpted these "Goals" from the well-known "anti-Communist" work, "The Naked Communist," by professional anti-Communist Cleon Skousen. Thus, the cited Goals are taken third-hand from Mr. Skousen, who presumably made them up or obtained them from still other sources. Why did not the letter openly credit Mr. Skousen with the "Goals" rather than deceptively ring-fencing in the U. S. Congress and Rep. Herlong for authoritative backing. It is intellectually irresponsible to cite the U. S. Congressional Record as authority for alleged "Communist Goals" when it is merely third-hand reprinting of the works of a professional "anti-Communist."

As for the actual "Goals" themselves, regardless of their origin, each one is a carefully loaded statement in a total shotgun blast whose impact is to create an attitude of irrational fear — an almost paranoid feeling that conspiratorial forces are working to undermine all the values and institutions of our society. This type of fear-filled, unreasoning, free-floating anxiety sees mental health, the UN, foreign aid, free trade, free speech, folk music, federal aid to education, social welfare, and the relevancy of religion to solving social problems, as part of some gigantic plot to subvert our society and nation, rather than as rational and reasoned responses to domestic social problems and foreign policy dilemmas. The effect of such a "list" is to create a serious divisiveness and diffuse a sense of fear with-

in our society and an unhealthy distrust of all levels of government, the churches, schools, mass media, or any other institution which seeks to meaningfully address itself to solving our current problems.

It is one thing to rationally analyze a problem area and come to certain conclusions, which may differ with those of others who have similarly studied the problem; it is an altogether different matter when the study of the problem and the conclusions generated are summarily rejected with a curt "Communist" label, rather than by an honest and open discussion of their merits. This is a convenient device for avoiding any discussion or debate on the issues of our times. Thus, anyone who, for rational and demonstrable, valid reasons, opposes loyalty oaths and the House Committee on Un-American Activities, or believes in free speech and federal aid to education, is, in this conspiratorial view of history and society, viewed as merely another agent (perhaps unwitting) in carrying out the overall master plan for our subversion and overthrow. This cry of "Communism" serves as a convenient excuse to avoid looking at a problem and finding a sound or viable solution. It is an attitude which is at war with modernity and the rational assessment of the problems of social change. It is an attitude which is intellectually sterile.

Sincerely,
CARL B. PERALSON, JR.
20610 Vaccaro Ave.

Editor, Press-Herald:

Throughout the month of November we at the Goodwill Industries are saying "Thanks-for-Giving" to people like you. We appreciate the cooperation and interest you have shown in our work by the news stories you have published.

With a weekly payroll of over 200 people, Goodwill is proud of the fact that it has given jobs to over 350 different people during the past year. A great many of these were enabled to go on to jobs in various industries because of the rehabilitation and training they got here.

We are told that there are over 400 physically handicapped in this area who could use our services if we had room for them. There are at least that many mentally and socially handicapped who also need the environment of a sheltered workshop. With your continued help we will reach as many of these as is possible.

Sincerely yours,
THOBURN SPEICHER,
Community Relations

Quote

Increasingly in years ahead, the greatest premium will be placed on those individuals who can demonstrate this priceless quality of flexibility. The old virtues of personal integrity, hard work, loyalty, and dedication to the principles of our society are, and will remain, of central importance. Within these terms, the ability to deal pragmatically with the emerging problems of a changing world is the key to our new future. Only the adaptable person holds the potential progress that this new, changing future holds for all of us. — Robert E. Williams, executive vice president, Youngstown Sheet and Tube Co.

Becoming wiser today is painful. It makes a person realize what a fool he was yesterday. — Lee Batchelor, Sauk Rapids (Minn.) Herald.

The easiest thing in the world to do is to become discouraged. — Jim Marrs, Garfield County (Okla.) News.

HERB CAEN SAYS:

San Francisco Proves It Can Still Throw a Party

NIGHT OF A THOUSAND STARS: Well, the old town might be falling apart here and there, but San Francisco still knows how to throw a party — as the Opera Fol de Rol proved, despite the silly title . . . Frank Sinatra, gorgeous in tails but nervous as a cat, kept running to a hallway bar for liquid courage (his definition of outer space: "Three feet from the bar"). However, he did a splendid job, especially in "One for the Road," which prompted an opera singer to note in astonishment: "He's the only man in the world who can sing and smoke at the same time." Sinatra assumed an Otto Preminger Cherman accent to describe Opera Director Kurt Herbert Adler: "He walks like a supmarine commander" (he does) . . . Hayley Mills, a chain-smoker at 19 ("I started when I was 15, at a girl's school in Switzerland") had a memorable night, too: at Villa Taverna, she tasted an oyster for the first time — and the last. "Ieccech."

EXPERT WITNESS: The most expensive S.F.-produced book of the forthcoming Christmas gift season will be "Alamos," a collection of eloquent photos of that Mexican town by Richard Elkus. The book, printed by Grabhorn, will sell for \$75 a copy, and it contains a moving foreword by Barnaby Conrad. Samples of the

Conradian prose: "Each town of Mexico has its own character . . . In Spanish, they call it duende —elf— and every town has its own elfin charm. It is quite possible that Alamos has more of the magical and elusive duende than any other town in all that great country . . . These photographs have caught the charm of Alamos . . . This is a unique place, this treasure of the Sierra Madre."

What makes Barnaby's words especially moving is that he has never in all his life been in, or even near, Alamos, Mexico.

SCIENCE WRITER Richard Carrington, quoted in Insider's Newsletter: "If the earth's history could be compressed into a single year, the first eight months would be completely without life, the next two would see only the most primitive creatures, mammals would not appear until the second week in December, and no Homo sapiens until 11:45 on December 31. The entire period of man's written history would occupy the final 60 seconds before midnight."

CAENFETTI: The grand theft charges against Marguerite (the ex-Mrs. Willie) Mays have been dismissed. As we tipped a few colms ago, strictly a case of mistaken identity . . . I'm de-

lighted that Leo Durocher was named manager of the Chicago Cubs. It isn't every day that a 59-year-old man gets a new job . . . Further baseballiana: Orlando Cepeda took off for Puerto Rico in a funk; he's sure he'll be traded by the Giants this winter . . . Screenstar Bob Wagner showed up at one of the local galleries to look at Kenneth Howard's smooth primitives, meanwhile displaying a surprising knowledge of S.F. painters. "But why are you surprised?" he grinned ingratiatingly. "I'm from Los Angeles, the city of culture" . . . Mme. Sally Stanford's long-delayed naughty biog, "Lady of the House," is set for December publication by Putnam's; meanwhile, galley proofs have been sent to Director George Cukor, in the hope that he's looking around for a sequel to his "My Fair Lady" ("My Foul Lady?").

ADD LITERARY NOTES: When Bing Crosby's wife, Kathryn, signed a contract to write a book for Appleton-Century, she didn't want cash in advance — she wanted the publisher to buy her a \$20,000 Faberge box that she could give Bing for Christmas. "So," whispers Ted Purdy, Appleton's editor-in-chief, "we compromised. We gave her the \$20,000 so she could buy the box and I hope I haven't spoiled Bing's Christmas." Au contraire!

ROYCE BRIER

Ku Klux Klan Revived by Desegregation Decision

Nathan Bedford Forrest, the Confederate cavalry genius, was a founder of the old Ku Klux Klan. An unreconstructed rebel, he and a few cronies didn't like the Union military occupation, which sought to give freed Negroes a limited citizenship.

So the Klansmen became night riders, dashing about the countryside and intimidating freed men, and occasionally a carpetbagger from the North. It was strictly a mobocracy, not unlike Adolf Hitler's Brown-shirts of the 1920s.

So with the revival of the Klan in this century, the new Klan added Catholics and Jews to its proscription lists and undertook to impose on the American social order its particular authoritarian stamp.

It was not a success. Like Hitler's boys, Klansmen

tended to employ their secret hoodlumism in pursuit of personal vendettas which backfired.

The 1920s Klan therefore wilted for many years until the change in the lot of the Negro, which was triggered by the Supreme Court desegregation decision.

So the Klan again revived, with some scattered membership in the North, but closely enmeshed with the fanatical white supremacists in the South. That is, a white supremacist need not be a cross-burning Klansman, but a Klansman is always a white supremacist.

There is no need to ask what a modern Klansman wants — he wants to suppress the constitutional right of all Negroes, and of anyone else he elects for disapproval, and he would further this by intimidation.

In the circumstance existing, Klansmen exert a powerful and often controlling influence in the political life of the South. They, or non-Klansmen sympathetic with them, are to be found in many elective and appointive offices, from dog-catcher to governor.

Now the House un-American Activities Committee is investigating the Klan, a welcome change of pace for that body, and is finding the work as unrewarding as investigating supposed leftists.

Robert M. Shelton, the imperial wizard of the Klan, was on the stand recently and took 74 Fiftys, and several other amendments to boot. He didn't know from nothing.

Then everybody was interested when a couple of "grand dragons" were identified with the American Nazi Party. Nobody was dumbfounded, though, because George Rockwell, the self-styled "fuhrer" of the outfit has been in the front row of the committee hearings.

Who should be surprised: Rockwell follows Adolf Hitler's philosophy of procedure slavishly, and you'll be taxed to find a difference between Hitler's aims and the Klan's aims. Happily, Rockwell doesn't turn out 100,000 hearers, as Hitler did at Nuremberg, nor has the Imperial Wizard yet achieved anything comparable to Forrest's discombooperation of General Grant when he knocked over Grant's main supply depot at Holly Springs, Miss., one day in 1863.

WILLIAM HOGAN

'Letters' Reveal Many Facets of Jack London

In November, 1898, the 23-year-old Jack London offered the editor of the Oakland Bulletin an article on his recent year's residence in the Clondyke, including a 2,500-mile journey down the Yukon. It was London's first experience with an editor, and perhaps typical. For the Bulletin man replied that interest in Alaska had subsided. "I do not think it would pay us to buy your story."

This is the first item in a collection of nearly 500 printed pages of letters that Jack London wrote during a brief, hectic career before he died, at 40, at his Sonoma ranch. At first glance, a collection of this size would seem a bit too much for the average reader. Yet once caught up in this personal correspondence, anyone even casually interested in the London saga will find it a spirited and vastly revealing "autobiography." I find it a direct look into London's mind and troubled heart. It reveals a side of a tormented man and writing talent that has not been caught in several biog-

phies, including Irving Stone's novelized biography of some years ago, "Sailor on Horseback."

"Letters From Jack London" is a work of scholarship performed by King Hendricks, a Utah State specialist on London, and Irving Shepard, London's nephew and literary executor. This out-sized exhibit was selected from an enormous bulk of the author's correspondence, housed chiefly at the Huntington Library. Apparently London made it a point of discipline to answer all letters in a "mountain of mail," which grew with London's own fame.

He wrote as he thought, the editors emphasize, and "never pulled a punch." He comments on his past and future work; he argues with editors. There is an exchange with Sinclair Lewis, in 1910, when Lewis was selling "plot outlines" to London for fast, money-making stories. To the wife of poet George Sterling, London wrote a long and curious analysis of his love affair

with Charmion Kittredge. As a war correspondent based with the Japanese army in Manchuria, 1904, London wrote to Sterling:

"How often I think of you and the fresh California days in the open, the while I sweeter here in a Chinese city breathing alike the dust of the living and the dust of the dead . . ."

The letters tumble on; from his sailing craft, Snark in the South Pacific; to Socialist "comrades," like Anna Strunsky; to editors, appealing for more money; to members of his family; to Frank Harris, over a charge of literary piracy; letters from "Beauty Ranch" at Glen Ellen just before his death. All of it provides another, more intimate version of an astonishing life. Mark Schorer has noted that the letters are "the nearest thing to a real autobiography — and biography, for that matter — that we have yet known." One must agree. This is a dazzling chronological narrative as well as a feat of literary scholarship.

My Neighbors



"Awright, now — step forward — we know that one of us is the patient here."

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