

Press-Herald

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GUEST EDITORIAL

Recreation Philosophy

To help guide us successfully to reach the public recreation goal of healthful, happy outlets for the leisure time of Torrance residents, the Torrance Recreation Department has adopted six guidelines. We believe these guidelines should be publicized so that all residents can participate in evaluating the programs offered by the Department.

1. To create an opportunity for wholesome recreation outlets equal to and competitive with the unwholesome outlets available.

2. To provide the opportunity for children to see their parents in a positive and creative environment. To set up activities which permit children to brush shoulders and work with adults engaged in building and creating.

3. To provide a program of "work-like" organizations for people. The Recreation Department must maintain a "work climate" in its sponsored clubs so members of these clubs are responsible for carrying out the plans and programs which they have set for themselves. This, psychologists and sociologists tell us, is vital in maintaining the mental health of our maturing youth and retiring senior citizens. Recreation programs of these clubs must "involve" its members.

4. To provide the opportunity for communication between the artistic elite and the masses, thus providing a needed valuable experience for both. The artist instructs the public in the arts, both in appreciation and the more technical aspects. The artist, too, needs contact with the people.

5. To provide the opportunity for the entire family to become involved in the renewal of the "spirit" through a wholesome creative experience. In this modern world of technology, man very seldom finds opportunity for creative expression. Providing this opportunity is a major obligation of public recreation. In the same way that recreation departments furnish the opportunity for physical and mental exercise, we must also provide the opportunity for individuals to find themselves through creative activities.

6. To provide variety. Every individual has different tastes, different wants, and different desires. And with each individual these things will constantly change. Therefore, the Recreation Department must offer a great variety of recreation programs which are constantly being changed to meet changing needs. We must offer what we offer with assurance. Our program must be flexible, but positive and firm, if dullness, monotony, passivity are not to prevail.

Considering present terminology, recreation is an art and not a science, and the evaluation of art is an exceedingly personal subjective thing.

Recreation can best be evaluated by what it does to an individual. A good program can improve the attitude of a person toward his family, his friends, and his community. It can make a happier, healthier person—and a happier, healthier community.

Opinions of Others

If Section 14-b is finally repealed, think this one over: In the 19 states now having so-called "right-to-work" laws, some 250,000 workers presently working in shops where union contracts exist but who are not union members will be forced to join up in order to keep their jobs.—Rockville (Md.) Monitor.

It is a scientific fact that soap and water are the greatest destroyers of disease germs and bacteria.—Philadelphia Trades Union News.

JAMES DORAIS

Punch Boss in the Nose And Collect, We're Told

Do you feel like punching your boss in the nose? Go right ahead—the risks are minimal.

You'll undoubtedly get canned, of course. But almost immediately, you can draw unemployment insurance at the rate of \$65 per week for 26 weeks, and under some circumstances for 13 weeks beyond that.

It is true that the law requires that a person who quits his job by this method must wait for five weeks before he can start drawing unemployment benefits. But the Southern California Teamsters Council has come up with a useful gimmick by means of which anyone who yields to the impulse to commit mayhem can beat the waiting rap.

In analyzing the benefits of Assembly Bill 518 which increased unemployment payments from \$55 to \$65 per week, a recent Council publication offers this advice:

"Follow these instructions to protect your benefits if you do quit or are fired after September 16. Since the law applies only to your most

recent work you will not be penalized if you have been laid off from your most recent work even though that most recent work (meaning the work you did before filing or reopening a claim) only lasted a few hours.

For example, if a claimant last worked for 20 years and was fired for slugging his employer or quit because he did not like the attitude of his employer he will be disqualified until he has earned five times his weekly benefit.

But if the same individual holds off from filing a claim and works half a day as a lumber, or driving a taxi or picking tomatoes and is then laid off he is not subject to penalty. So if you quit or are fired play it safe and try to get a temporary job before you go down to file a claim."

The Unemployment Insurance Association confirms that this interpretation of the new law may very likely be correct. According to the Association: "If a person quits or is fired for misconduct from his regular job he



FROM the MAILBOX

Superintendent Details Vocational Center Need

Editor, Press-Herald

In an era where we speak of educating "all children," most school districts have had trouble in providing realistic programs for nearly half their students. Recognizing the impact of automation and other technological advances, we can expect that roughly 50 per cent of the graduating high school seniors will not go to college. If high school is to be the terminal point of schooling for half of our students, then logically we ought to design some of our high school programs accordingly. We ought to provide students with some saleable skills that will enable them to get their foot in the economic door.

There are certain dangers inherent in giving young people a preformed package of skills without a built-in adapter system. There are those who feel that a good general education is the best vocational education, but it is a harsh fact of life that this general education has its limitations as a marketable skill. Vocational education is not intended to replace general education, but does complement the training one gets in general education. If young people are to go up the economic ladder,

they need some help to get on the first rung.

Vocational education is that training which a person gets which is usually proximate to, and prepares him for, employment. Industrial arts is a general subject for both consumers and producers. It provides representative experiences in industrial processes and techniques. The primary purpose of industrial arts is not one of preparing students for a particular type of employment, although such training may lead to such employment.

Trade and professional journals are replete with statistics supporting the need for more and better vocational education. This training need is not limited to high school students. In the next ten years possibly seven million young persons will enter the work force without a high school diploma. Additionally, millions of adults need either training or retraining. We are not talking about someone else's problems: Torrance and the South Bay Area have hundreds of persons who are either unemployed or underemployed.

The Torrance Unified School District has provided a variety of training for students which may properly be called vocational education. With federal aid, new programs are being added. There are still many types of training that are needed but are not available. High cost, low potential enrollment at a single high school, special scheduling problems related to course length, and availability to adult and continuation students are some of the factors that seem to dictate a need for a special vocational center.

There is much doubt concerning the feasibility of the comprehensive high school as a facility for providing a quality level of vocational education for all who need it. Providing expanded and improved vocational educa-

tion opportunities for certain high school students, for continuation students, for students under vocational rehabilitation, and for adults needing training or retraining can best be done at a specialized vocational center.

Some federal funds are available to help build and operate such a center. Accepting federal aid also involves following some federal procedures. Districts must weigh the merits of local control with limited finances and programs versus federal aid and expanded vocational opportunities plus federal regulations. In either case, this training is needed if we are to meet the educational requirements of all our young people and provide for adults needing specialized training.

J. H. HULL
Superintendent TUSD

Editor, Press-Herald

Your timely editorial "50 Years of Service" in the Oct. 24 edition of the Press-Herald deserves special recognition and sincere thanks.

In pointing out the contribution of the Naval Reserve in times of national crisis in the past and in the present conflict, you have reassured the citizens of our community that a potent force of interested and dedicated men are maintaining a degree of readiness for any contingency.

As representatives of the Naval Reserve in the South Bay area, we at the Hawthorne Training Center are also ready to serve here at home for the benefit of the community.

Thousands of Reservists in this immediate area are regularly devoting a night or a weekend without fanfare and often without thanks. Your editorial notice of this activity is needed heartening to me and those within my command.

W. R. SHAW, Commander
U.S. Naval Reserve
Commanding Officer

Morning Report:

These people who burn themselves to death for principles are not brave. They are cowardly — cowardly and probably sick as well.

To me they are in the same class as the husbands who can't stand the wife and kids any longer and take a header off the nearest bridge. It is tougher to stay and fight it out. There is also a chance of winning.

The suicide, because of domestic crisis, of course feels he is going to prove to those left behind he was right all along. And the same with those who take the fire route for broader reasons. They have given up trying to convince people by more rational means that they have the answer. Sort of a final tantrum.

Abe Mellinkoff

HERB CAEN SAYS:

Princess Had Heard of Barnaby's Grandfather

DURING a dinner here, Princess Margaret turned to Barnaby Conrad and commented: "Barnaby Conrad is such an English name — are you of English descent?" Ekshilly, yes and no," replied Barnaby. "My great great great grandmother, Martha Custis, was born in Virginia and married an Englishman. But later he became an American citizen. His name was George Washington." "I've heard of him," nodded the Princess gravely. "Why, you may ask, was Marcel Clavien, owner of 'L'Etoile restaurant, running lickety-split down the street to a grocery store two blocks away and isn't THAT a long question? The answer, considerably shorter, is that he was after a couple of cans of beans to fill Lord Snowdon's peculiar breakfast order: scrambled eggs, hamburger patty and beans.

PACIFIC TEL & TEL: I don't suppose it'll make Horace Stoneham's day to learn that his ace pitcher, Juan Marichal, has taken up skin-diving on the Mendocino coast, but that's the way the flipper flaps . . . (Juanito asked Nick Geracimos to go with him, but Nick declined: "With my luck I'd run into a mermaid, and I'm a leg

man") . . . Tim Stafford, the Yamaha (Japanese) piano man here, delivered an upright to Carol Channing's Hilton suite in return for two "Dolly" tickets, and I think she made a helluva deal . . . A columnist for a Paris newspaper, visiting here, challenged: "I hear this is the Paris of the West. Show me." After he was taken to the Condor, the Copper Lantern (topless male dancers), the Tool box (leather jackets) and a new dikey hangout he cried "Oncle! Oncle!" adding in a weak voice: "I don't think Paris is even the San Francisco of Europe" (Oyez! Oyez!) . . . Frank Sinatra's newest project is Cal Jet Airways, which charters those nifty little Lear jets — "whose aerodynamic stability," writes Frank breathlessly, "is so perfect that you can balance a cocktail on the back of your hand." Wouldn't you know that's the way he would test a plane? . . . And Frankie Laine is a smoothie one, too. At Highlands Inn nr. Carmel, he was approached by a LOL in her 70s who beamed: "I understand that you like old ladies so I thought I'd introduce myself." Frankie arising: "I DO like old ladies, but I like

ladies of your age, too." hoo-boy.

WENT INTO Gold Street for a refresher, and Waitress Lori Wenski said: "Funny thing happened to me this morning. I overslept because the alarm didn't go off. When I woke up, the clock wasn't even there, but a hamburger patty was. So I went to the refrigerator to put it back, and there was the alarm clock. How about that?" Said "How ABOUT that" and ended my disappointed rounds at Trader Vic's, where I was delighted to see that the two old shrunken heads — hallmarks of the original Oakland place — have been installed in the lobby. In 1939, I caused a sensation by pasting under them a caution reading, "My, that certainly WAS a dry martini!" but in '39 it was easy to crack people up. You're much tougher.

THE LAST WORD: Marine officer caused heads to snap at the Alameda Naval Air Station Officers Club when he announced casually: "I just gave a pint of blood for the Viet Cong." When a guy grabbed him and hollered "Why? Why?" the Marine flicked an ash, sipped his drink and cooed: "Because I've got hepatitis."

ROYCE BRIER

Food Production Lags In Race for Industry

tion these nations experience. American food contributions to undeveloped countries runs about \$2 billion a year. India is the largest consumer, but only because of its vast population.

This food is delivered under Public Law 480 which expires in 1966. The Administration is studying ways to change the food grant system, and the New York Times carried a brief analysis of the problem. At the present rate of population growth, the United States in 15 years will be able to raise enough food to fill the gap.

But the story was not designed to explore the underlying problem, here derived from other sources.

To understand the problem we must go back to the war. Then the leaders of the undeveloped countries and colonial territories not yet nations, took note of a stunning fact: despite elaborate preparation, the aggressor nations were unable to overcome the immense productivity of the industrial nations, particularly the United States.

A postwar obsession then seized the politicians and

put the program on a more sensible basis.

planners of the undeveloped countries: the sole road to modern power, hence salvation is industrial development.

So every little nation had to have a steel mill, a refinery, a chemical, and electronics plant. They even had to have a home airline equipped by Boeing or Douglas.

To man these scores of tiny industrial complexes, it was necessary to import technical personnel from America, Europe, or the Soviet Union, and to plunge into a forced native training program. This cost all the dollars and sterling these poor people could rake together, and the process still goes on.

The result was inevitable. For 20 years food production has been the poor country cousin of virtually every undeveloped nation on earth. For millenniums they had raised enough food to subsist their masses, and they continued at subsistence level, while pursuing the glitter that would make them rich and powerful.

And with hardly an excep-

enced a population explosion which only deepened the imbalance between food and industry. A few thousand native industrial workers never had it so good, while millions in the countryside never had it so bad.

Did these countries build little chemical plants to make fertilizer to increase their food production? No. They had to have miniature du Pont plants. Did they build hydroelectric plants? Only in special cases where heavy industry would benefit. Let the peasants use kerosene for lighting.

The United States as a food donor has been aware of this gross imbalance for a decade but most efforts to get food-receiving countries to divert more energy to the soil was met with apathy. The report now is the United States is going to invest India start building a fertilizer industry to qualify for food aid. But India has no worse imbalance than many other recipient. It only happens to be the most conspicuous.

With a new food program coming up, enough prodding might persuade the new Congress to ask the Administration what it proposes to

WILLIAM HOGAN

Canadian Writer Builds New Case for Norsemen

GOOD-BY, COLUMBUS: It was bad enough news to partisans of the Italian master mariner—Yale University's discovery of a map, circa 1440, showing that the ancient Norse discovered North America long before Columbus. Now a very convincing document, "West-viking: The Ancient Norse in Greenland and North America," will add fuel to that controversy. It shows precisely how and when the Vikings explored and colonized areas of what is now Canadian territory four centuries before Columbus reached the Caribbean.

The author is the Canadian biologist, meteorologist, seaman, Arctic explorer and very able writer Farley Mowat ("The Desperate People"). He knew nothing about Yale's Vinland, or North America, map while performing his lengthy and stunning piece of historical detective work. Among other things, Mowat bases his hypotheses on Norse sagas, ancient church rec-

ords, contemporary maps, climatology (the northern weather was far more agreeable in those days), seaman-ship and anthropology.

Movat shows that Europeans were "crossing" the Atlantic as early as 800 A.D., by means of a northerly series of "stepping stones," islands and headlands. These reached far from Scotland, the Faroes, Iceland, Greenland, and later to Labrador and Newfoundland. None was more than 400 miles distant. He further shows that Basque cod fishers and whalers were operating off the Greenland coast by 1420, and English merchants were trading to Greenland perhaps even earlier.

As for Columbus — who actually visited Iceland in 1477, and probably knew all about the old Norse routes to the West—Mowat writes: "Columbus hoped he could get around the new lands and so sail to his declared goal, Cathay and the East. It is an ironic com-

mentary on how professional historians oversimplify history that Columbus's failure transmuted into the claim that he discovered a continent which had been known to European seamen for at least five centuries before his time.

It is not Mowat's intention to debunk Columbus's feats of navigation. Rather, it is to lift Norse explorations out of the realm of myth to demonstrate them as fact. The arguments are backed up in a large appendix, actually the second part of this book. It is an intriguing series of essays on Norse navigation, geographical concepts, ancient weather and shifting sea levels, mapmaking, house-making and kindred subjects, all of it attesting to the author's massive program of research.

This is a fresh approach to the Viking story—spirited, scholarly, believable and most readable. Also a classic narrative of adventure, no matter who got where when.