

The Babson Report: Beware of Unexpected

By ROGER BABSON
 "Peace and Prosperity" should continue to be the dominant theme in 1966. President Johnson will push ahead in attempts to capitalize on the inroads he has already made with his Great Society program. However, since 1966 will be a Congressional election year, he may find the going less easy than it was this past year; the Congressmen and Senators who are up for re-election will likely think twice before being so generous with the taxpayers' money.
 I, of course, would like nothing better than to be completely optimistic in this Forecast, but my more than

60 years of experience in predicting trends has taught me that unexpected events are most dangerous when conditions are brightest.
 1. The health of world leaders may well be a prime factor in 1966. These include President de Gaulle, Mao Tse-tung, and even President Johnson.
 2. Perhaps the biggest threat in 1966 will come from abroad. There is evidence that the coalition leadership in Russia may be centralizing into the hands of a strongman — something not seen since the Khrushchev ouster. Moreover, Africa could again hold the spotlight in the shifting pattern of the "cold war."

3. I do not look for war with Russia during 1966. Russia is still greatly concerned with trying to bring prosperity to her own people, and is especially troubled about the lag in farm productivity.
 4. The struggle for power within Russia may come to a head in 1966. If the strongman is anti-West, he could try to put on a good show by heating up the "cold war;" but this should constitute no more than threatening gestures and bold talk.
 5. The Berlin crisis is not likely to be a major issue in 1966, though there could be some nuisance events to "try our patience."
 6. I do not foresee all-out

war with Red China in 1966. Mao is not yet ready to risk major confrontation. His lagging farm and industrial programs still loom as major problems, and the task of extending Red China's nuclear progress is a heavy burden.
 7. The foremost task for Red China still is to get a seat in the United Nations. While Southeast Asia is an attractive plum, territorial expansion may well have to wait in Red China's timetable, as a peaceful profile on her part would make gaining a seat at the UN easier. UN admission, of course, would greatly enhance Red China's prestige in dealings with the Afro-Asian nations.

8. Despite talks of a prolonged struggle in Viet Nam, I forecast that it will be increasingly clear that the balance has swung our way. This should encourage our leaders to step up our commitment in Viet Nam in 1966 in order to force a "peace conference."
 9. I foresee no crisis over Cuba in 1966. The agreement Castro has made to allow more Cuban refugees to enter the U.S.A. underscores the problem he has in feeding his people.
 10. The Viet Nam situation and the Dominican Republic incident have convinced the Administration that the military might of our nation must be maintained at a "ready"

basis. This means stepped-up defense spending, which should add another prop to the economy.
 11. While such defense spending will focus heavily upon conventional military equipment, our space program will not be neglected. Having come from behind in the space race, the Administration is not likely to falter and allow Russia to open another wide gap.
 12. The increase in defense spending notwithstanding, I forecast that the economy will be hard pressed to match the fantastic achievements of the past four years. Threats of major labor strikes have been playing an important role in

stimulating inventory accumulations from time to time to keep things rolling along. I do look for industrial production to edge to a new high. However, I fear the peak will come before midyear and taper off thereafter. On the whole, the business climate in 1966 may well prove to be one of high-level stability rather than of vigorous climb.
 13. Business capital expenditures, which have been a key factor in prolonging the business boom, should remain a strong bolstering influence. However, I predict that they will not provide as much in the way of upthrust for the
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SIGNS IN . . . Carl Backlund, a postal employe for nearly 30 years, signs official documents on accepting appointment as acting postmaster for Torrance. Backlund, who lives at 2225 W. 239th St., succeeds Clara Conner, looking on here with Leonard Livingston, Baldwin Park postmaster. Mrs. Conner took the post 15 years ago. Postal Inspector C. E. Michaelson conducted swearing in ceremonies Thursday afternoon. (Press-Herald Photo)

Second Winter Storm Leaves Us All Soggy

Victim Tells Police

\$1,000-Ring, Purse Stolen In Car Theft

Theft of a purse containing a diamond wedding ring set valued at \$1,000 was reported to Torrance Police early Friday.
 Mrs. Dannielle La Rue London, 26, of 19615 Darien Place, was at a nightclub at Pacific Coast Highway and Ocean Avenue when the theft occurred.
 She told officers someone had taken the purse while her back was turned.

the home through an unlocked window.
 Police also reported the arrest of a 25-year-old unemployed steel worker early Friday. He was charged with attempted burglary.
 Keith Henry Weaver, 25, of 2209 Cabrillo Ave., was arrested after he allegedly kicked in the door of a room occupied by Bernice Payne, a 29-year-old waitress.
 Weaver was believed to have been chasing a female companion.



NEW POST . . . Gerald L. Russell of 252 W. 227th St. is included in a list of department heads in the Los Angeles District VII offices of the State Division of Highways to receive new assignments. Russell will head the Traffic Department of District VII, covering Los Angeles, Orange and Ventura Counties. He previously was executive assistant, holding the rank of supervising highway engineer.

Some Flooding In Low Areas Slows Traffic

More than 3.5 inches of rain fell in Torrance during the storm which struck here late Tuesday, resulting in street flooding in several sections of Torrance.
 Hardest hit were the areas near 236th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, Amsler and 247th streets, and Madrona Street and Sepulveda Boulevard.
 City Engineer Walter M. Nollac said some mud was reported in the vicinity of Amsler and 247th streets, where at least two buildings were flooded. No estimates of property damage were available.

MADRONA Street between Carson Street and Sepulveda Boulevard was closed to traffic early Wednesday morning, due to heavy flooding. Nollac said it might take several days to clear the road way of water and restore normal traffic patterns in the area.
 The flooding, Nollac said, is due to natural low spots in the area, as well as earlier rains which have saturated the ground and resulted in greater run-offs than might normally be expected. A sump is planned for the northeast corner of Sepulveda and Madrona, but until the sump is constructed, the city will face a continuing problem from flooding in the area, Nollac said.
 City crews spent much of Wednesday placing sandbags in the area around the Vine Street sump, located between Vine and Pennsylvania on 236th Street. Nollac said he had no actual reports of flooding, but he "suspected some homes might have been flooded." Pumps were in operation at the sump in an attempt to reduce overflow in the area.
FLOODING also was reported at the intersection of Sepulveda and Crenshaw boulevards where a small sump was unable to handle the large volumes of water.
 A small mud slide was reported between Nearncliff Road and Richville Drive. No homes were damaged when the saturated sand broke loose. Bluff Street, site of the
 (Continued on A-2)

Registration Opens for Art Classes

Registration is now open for the many classes being offered at Joslyn Studio of Arts, a program sponsored by the Torrance Recreation Department.
 A new class in the basic techniques of sculpture is being offered beginning Jan. 12 and continuing through March 2. The class will meet on Wednesdays from 7 to 9 p.m. Dr. Howard Hitchcock, professor at California State College at Long Beach, will instruct the class in modeling and carving procedures using clay, wood, or stone. Dr. Hitchcock received his degree in education from the Columbia University and his Master of Fine Arts degree from the University of Washington. In addition, Dr. Hitchcock has studied sculpturing at the Sculpture Center in New York City, and at the Brooklyn Art School. Also, he has some of his work in the permanent collection in the J. B. Speed Museum in Louisville, Ky.
 A NEW art class for teenagers is starting Jan. 10 and continuing through Feb. 28. This class, taught by Mr. Kling, will involve dealing with materials and methods in graphic arts. It will be an introduction to drawing, painting and elementary print-making. This class meets Mondays from 7 to 9 p.m.
 For further information, call Joslyn Recreation Center, 328-8362.

Lomita Delays Action On License Department

Lomita City Councilmen have postponed consideration of a plan to create a city-operated business license department pending a study of a proposed building and safety department.
 Both reports are expected to be on the agenda when councilmen convene Jan. 10. City Administrator Stanley D. Greene has recommended that Lomita establish its own business license department to improve service to the city's residents and place additional emphasis on local control.
GREENE SAID the license department study and recommendations were the first of three reports on specific areas of city services. The other studies involve the building and safety department and a city-operated planning department.
 Lomita was incorporated June 30, 1964, under the "contract plan." Under the plan, cities contract with the County of Los Angeles for most services, including business licenses, planning, building, and police and fire protection.
 Greene told the Lomita council "there is nothing sacred about the contract plan" as he outlined criteria on which any decision to establish a city department should be based. He said the plan "had once been called a 'cafeteria style of city government,' or pick and choose."
THE CITY administrator

17-Year-Old Hurt in Fall

A 17-year-old North Torrance boy who fell while running in the street Thursday evening was treated at Little Company of Mary Hospital for a badly cut wrist.
 Donald E. Drumwright, 18528 Van Ness Ave., was attending a party at 3625 E. 182nd St. He ran into the street about 8 p.m. and fell, cutting the artery in his right wrist.
 Police officer L. P. Bloise applied a tourniquet to the bleeding wrist and rushed the youth to the hospital. He was treated and released.

Three Held For Theft

Three persons were arrested Thursday on suspicion of grand theft auto after Torrance Police recovered two stolen cars. Two of the youths also were charged with attempted burglary.
 Arrested were Robert Clifford Andrew, 18, of 2374 W. 248th St.; Peter Joseph Simon, 19, of Inglewood, and a 15-year-old Inglewood High School student.
 Andrew was taken into custody at 7:30 p.m. Thursday near Torrance Beach after police officers identified a car stolen from the Torrance Municipal Airport earlier in the week.
 Simon and the student were arrested in the 21600 block of Anza Avenue about 6 a.m.

Signals on Hawthorne Approved

New traffic control signals and highway safety lighting have been authorized by the Board of Supervisors for major Hawthorne Boulevard intersections in the Palos Verdes area.
 Supervisor Chairman Burton W. Chace, head of the county's Road Department, said the work will be done by the Smith Electric Supply Co. under a \$24,127 contract just approved.
 The contract is in conjunction with the improvement of Hawthorne Boulevard between Newton Street and Palos Verdes Drive North. The work was completed earlier this month.
 This portion of the work provides a fully curbed, divided, and channelized highway with four traffic lanes and two parking lanes.
 The new safety program includes traffic signals and lighting along Hawthorne at Newton Street and Palos Verdes Drive West.

Council, Trustees to Meet

Both the Torrance Board of Education and City Council will convene for regular sessions this week. Trustees will begin the new year with a meeting tomorrow at 7:30 p.m., while councilmen will start their 1966 sessions Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. Both bodies face routine agendas.

Girl Falls Out of Car

An 18-year-old girl suffered minor head injuries Thursday afternoon when she fell from a car on Crenshaw Boulevard north of Maricopa Street. Beverly A. Westwood of 18245 Van Ness Ave., said she would seek private medical aid. She fell from the car, driven by her sister Patricia, 19, when the passenger door opened as the girls turned left onto Crenshaw. In an earlier accident involving three cars, police arrested Terry Miles of Long Beach on suspicion of drunken driving. Miles, 28, hit a car from the rear at 190th Street and Hawthorne Boulevard.

Torrance Wins Tourney

Torrance High won its third major basketball tournament title Thursday evening by defeating Rolling Hills, 83-53, in the final game of the Bishop Montgomery High Invitational Tournament. The Tartars previously have won the Pacific Shores and Beverly Hills tournaments. Bart Johnson, named the most valuable player Thursday, scored 33 points in the final game. The Tartars will join South High in the Compton Invitational Tournament, which gets under way tomorrow.

'Safety Film Festival' Slated Here Wednesday

A "Safety Film Festival" will be held Wednesday at noon during a combined meeting of the Torrance Safety Council and the Greater Los Angeles Chapter of the National Safety Council.
 The meeting will be held at the Indian Village Restaurant, 4020 W. Pacific Coast Hwy., according to James Becker, chairman of the Torrance Safety Council.
 Reservations for the luncheon are \$3 per person and may be made by calling 385-8461.
 Films to be shown include "Red Light Return," a study of intersection collisions; "Safe on Impact," telling of research on car glazing materials; and "Auto-Pedestrian," a film depicting what happens to victims of such accidents through the use of instrumented dummies.