

Mr. Johnson's New Peace Plan

Herewith is another chapter in that invaluable unpublished textbook: "World History — 1950 to 1999."

On April 7, 1965, President Lyndon Johnson delivered an historic address setting forth five concise points concerning U.S. policy in Vietnam: (1) The U.S. was engaged in a noble struggle in Vietnam in which all Americans could take pride. (2) It wasn't his fault, it was President Eisenhower's. (3) The U.S. loved the Vietnamese. (4) It was going to continue to bomb them to smithereens unless (5) they agreed to accept \$1 billion to please stop fighting.

It was this last point, of course, that became known as "The Texas Peace Plan," under the slogan, "If you can't lick 'em, buy 'em."

At first the Vietnamese were understandably suspicious of this unique offer. But when the examples of Germany and Japan — which the Americans had devastated during World War II and then rebuilt were pointed out, they agreed to accept.

As for the U.S., The Texas Peace Plan seemed eminently sensible. For by rebuilding an enemy country before completely devastating it, tremendous savings were realized. Unfortunately, however, this radical policy change set a dangerous precedent.

☆☆☆

It was in January, 1966, that the Defense Minister of Upper Volta called in the U.S. Ambassador and announced he was thinking of attacking Togoland. "But if you do," cried the U.S. Ambassador, horrified, "we would have to bomb you to smithereens!"

"Right," chuckled the Defense Minister. "And we have calculated that it will cost you no less than \$1.6 billion to rebuild our shattered nation afterward."

"Okay," said our Ambassador with a weary sigh, "how much will you settle for on the spot?" In the end, Upper Volta generously accepted \$600 million not to be bombed to smithereens. And while this was a clear saving of \$1 billion for the U.S., there were scattered outcries in Congress of, "Where will this lead?"

Where it led, of course, was to the threat by Mauritania the following week to invade Zambia, which we settled for \$143 million. Indonesia maneuvered off the Galapagos (\$212 million), Outer Mongolia poised for an attack on Sardinia (\$87.2 million), and Uruguay had the bad luck to be devastated by an earthquake before it could threaten to be devastated by the U.S.

While savings soared, so did costs. The crisis came when Russia threatened all-out war, a move which, under the Texas Peace Plan, would have bankrupted the U.S. Congress, in an angry mood, passed the Texas Peace Plan Law, which declared that no nation might threaten to be bombed to smithereens by the U.S. more than once a decade. It also set up a sliding scale limiting payments to a maximum three per cent of assessed property valuation. The penalty for violations, of course, was to be bombed to smithereens without being rebuilt.

All nations agreed there was no point in getting devastated if you didn't get rebuilt afterward. Total cost to the U.S. was \$13.8 billion annually, which was more than made up for in defense savings. Moreover, Americans didn't have to kill anybody any more.

So it was thus the world joyously embraced an uninterrupted reign of Texas Peace.

Provident Life Insurance Reports Rapid Growth Here

A net gain of \$824 million in life insurance in force brought the total at the end of the year to \$5.1 billion. Health insurance premiums increased by \$15.8 million in 1964 and set a new high of \$125 million. Total assets were \$336 million on Dec. 31. Provident made \$39,478 benefit payments amounting to \$134 million during the year or an average of more than 18,000 checks each week. The company's home office is located in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Provident reported new life insurance sales of \$900 million, a total health insurance premium volume of \$125 million, and a \$34.9 million increase in assets.

COUNT MARCO SAYS

A Motto: Never Be a Bridesmaid

Lent is over, spring is here, and the wedding stampede soon will be upon us. So here is a bit of good advice: Never be a bridesmaid. Not only is it a waste of money and time, but never again in your life will you so openly resemble a member of a herd following the lead. As a group, bridesmaids become a lost cause immediately upon accepting an invitation. With malice aforethought, your leading lady has dreamed up costumes for you that would make the cast of Tobacco Road look like Royalty alongside you. There you are, my dear, one of a losing lot of fat, tall,

skinny and short paraders looking sheepish, ill at ease and sickly. Who wouldn't, with what you're forced to wear? All those staring eyes say, "Poor thing; always a bridesmaid, but never a bride." No wonder. Face the truth. Color is as important in selecting a dress as are accessories. The bride must have tossed and turned many a night to have come up with the shade pawed off on you. It might be all right for Fatty and Miss Skinny, but on you, mon Dieu! Because tradition insists that all bridesmaids look alike,

you're stuck forevermore with a horror of a dress that you can't even wear on Halloween. As if this weren't bad enough, you add to the mess something masquerading as a hair ornament. When a hero performs a feat of daring and goes down fighting it is said of him, "Great love hath no man." Your love must have been even greater that you dare to wear a bridesmaid's outfit. Or else you're a bigger fool than I think you are or haven't an ounce of brains, self-respect or even spunk enough to say "No, thanks!"

There is a gracious way of refusing to be a mess. You, the bridesmaid, are usually required to pay for your own horror and accessories. Take that money instead and book passage on the nearest boat, train or plane that will take you out of town on that date. Then it's a simple matter and the truth, so help you, to say, "Oh, dear, I'll be in Maui on that date. But do tell me about it and show me the pictures when I return." One look at the pictures and you'll know that I've saved you from a fate worse than death.



AIM FOR BULLSEYE... Susan Herrick, Frances Davis, and Joan Cordes aim for a bullseye during archery practice at South High. The new South High program, begun in February for junior and senior girls, has proven very popular with the girls.

At ECC

College Awards Honor Students

Academic achievement at Redondo Beach is recognized with the naming 363 students whose grades have qualified them for membership in Alpha Gamma Sigma.

To qualify for the California Junior College Honor Scholarship Society, students must achieve grade averages of at least three points while carrying 15 units of work or an average of 3.3 for 12 to 14 units of work with no grade less than C.

A 3.0 grade is the equivalent of a B average. Of the 363 students cited for outstanding work, 17 qualified for membership with a four-point—or straight A—grade average.

The honor group, advised by Miss Maxine Trevethen and Dr. Jeanne Garrison, awards silver pins, available from the advisers in their campus offices. Graduating students who achieve a cumulative grade-point average of 3.3 will be given gold pins and certificates at the college's annual awards banquet in June.

STUDENTS CITED for their academic achievement from Redondo Beach and Torrance are listed below.

City, County Join Forces On Projects

An agreement providing for design of storm drain projects to be built in Torrance under the \$275 million bond issue approved by county voters last November has been approved.

Parties to the pact are the County Flood Control District and the City of Torrance.

It calls for the city to prepare the drain plans for submission to the district. Upon adoption by the Board of Supervisors, the district will seek bids for construction of the projects.

The procedure is similar to that developed under previous storm drain bond issue programs and makes individual cities responsible for preparation of design plans. The district is obligated to construct, operate and maintain the facilities.

Cost of the design work will be reimbursed to the city by the district from bond funds voted for the program.

The 1964 undertaking calls for construction of 267 projects throughout the county, according to Supervisor Kenneth Hahn.

Representatives of Redondo Beach are Ruth M. Davis, Joseph R. Richmond, Luis V. Anderson, Jeffrey O. Beard, David Bechard, Mary Ann Boden, Jacqueline Boyer, David Bryant, Stephen Cahill, Stephen Chatfield, Casey W. Coane, William J. Colter, Judy M. Cook, Eugene Cooper, Michael Daniels, Lynelle D. Anna, Thomas Engelhardt, Ellen J. Fair, Carol D. Gray, Dian D. Hasson, Gerald R. Hasson, Fred N. Hunter, Molly M. Jacks, Richard F. Johnson, Marcia K. Zardi.

Linda Kurth, Anne Leighton, Arden L. Martin, Linda C. Miller, Elizabeth H. Page, Joseph E. Peek, Janis G. Pubsamen, Charlotte Schoolcraft, Fumiko Tanaka, Enid Wakefield, George E. Warren and Stephen Wyatt.

ACADEMIC achievers from Torrance are James E. Eckhart, Brenda N. Jones, Ronald R. Adams, Anna M. Alder, Albert T. Alterbury, Marsha Bainer, Zita Baker, Vicki Lee Becker, George H. Basco, Francis J. Browning, William Brunlow, Gail G. Burns, Vicki Busey, Mary Jo Carter.

Medina Cheattle, Mari L. Christianson, Robert B. Cleland, Colleen Coody, Sandra L. Coffee, Janice Corter, Jeri Creekmore, Ray Lee Cross, Elaine Daszkoski, Linda L. Davis, Kristin Demules, Robert Dettman, John Di-Rosario, Maurice Dohner, Donna M. East, JoAnn Echols, Joann Eisenbrandt, Frederick Faeth, Annie Gitau, Robert J. Goebel, Joseph Grady, Douglas Gleason, Linda Junn, Larry J. Gunther, Geneva Gurule, Richard Hollins, Karen A. Jackson, John R. Job, Russell A. Johnson, William W. Johnson, Mitchell Jordan, Terry Kallick, Charles Kawakami, Linda J. Kern, Michael Kirkpatrick.

BEVERLY LARET, Florence Lembeck, Gale Little, Glenn T. Mackett, Shirley A. McDonald, Susan D. McVey, Michael Metzner, Betty Miyakawa, James S. Nelson, Raige L. Nichols, Judith A. Osborn, Judith Patsch, Gary L. Quinn, Patrick J. Rhodes, John W. Rhodes, John E. Robbins, Frank F. Roller, Naomi Saucier, Ronald Scarlata, Janice M. Shinkle, David E. Shoup, Gregory L. Stitt, Jean L. Terry, Steven Tsugawa, Connie D. Valentine, James E. VanAnda, Robert L. Vasquez, Donald R. Vendres, Jaxten Walker, Kerry Ward, Austin E. White, Janet Sue White, Kenneth M. Whitt, Joseph G. Woods, Larry T. Woods and David A. Woodword.

A Penny for your Thoughts

By HAL FISHER

Are Comic Strips comic? Pogo often speaks of politics. Bettie Baily notes at times the ludicrous side of military life, and Charlie Brown faces problems of childhood that strike a familiar cord among adults. With this new side of the comics in mind I asked several people: "What is your favorite cartoon strip and why?"

Pat Hausman, 2353 W. 251st St., Lomita: "I like 'Andy Capp.' It has a certain sly humor. Generally I like the cartoon strips that are funny and entertaining but still are aimed at adults."

Betty Saunders, 1812 Avenida Estudiante, San Pedro: "Peanuts is my favorite. You can see a relationship with real life, especially if you have children. For serious humor Below Olympus is a leader in its type."

Dorothy Allen, 22720 Suisun Ave.: "Jiggs and Maggie are my first choice. They give the best laughs of any strip with the people coming out of the picture frames and Jiggs' addiction to corn beef and cabbage."

Evelyn Horton, 22731 Suisun Ave.: "I have two favorites. Rex Morgan and Mary Worth because they both tell interesting stories."

Al Mastros, 909 1/2 S. Hobart Blvd., Los Angeles: "Blondie, because it appeals to the grown-ups as well as kids. Unlike most cartoon strips the characters age and progress as the years go by."

Ann Landers Says This Teenage Miss Has Stag Line Tip



Dear Ann Landers: This letter is for teen-age boys because they are mainly to blame for the misery of teen-age girls.

At every party, whether at school or in somebody's house, you always see clumps of girls, sticking together, laughing and talking. They appear to be having a blast, but the truth is, they are having a perfectly lousy time and they wish they had stayed home.

Why do you fellows run after two or three of the best looking girls in the crowd? Always it's the same girls who get the big rush. The plainer ones (like me) never get a tumble and it's just rotten.

So what if a girl is a little too thin, or too heavy? What if she isn't the greatest dancer in the world? I'll bet she'd appreciate a you more than the doll who is zeroed in on by every guy in the room.

The next time you go to a party or to a dance, fellas, ask a plain gal to dance or join you at the refreshment table. You may discover she is great company and that you've been missing something. — BITTER 16

Dear 16: Thank you for an excellent letter. I'd like to add this: The boy or girl who is quick to judge a book by its cover often cheats himself out of some fascinating and worthwhile reading.

Dear Ann Landers: What do you think about a husband who carries on a correspondence with a college friend even though he knows his wife does not approve of it? Edwin and I were married

a few weeks ago. He never spoke much about Nanette except to say she was fun and had a terrific sense of humor. They used to work together on the college yearbook but so far as I know it was just pal stuff.

Three days ago Edwin received a letter from Nanette. I opened it by accident. The letter was full of tired jokes and references to people I don't know. I answered it from both Edwin and me, saying "I'd love to meet you sometime."

I handed Edwin the open letter and told him I had opened it by mistake. I also told him I had answered it because from now on we would be doing everything as a couple.

He said I had humiliated him and that I had no business responding to a letter addressed to him. I say there should be no secrets between a man and his wife. You always emphasize in your column that the more things a couple can share, the stronger the marriage will be. Please comment. — WILTED ROSES

Dear Wilted, it is possible to open a letter by accident, but you can only answer a letter on purpose. This was out of line and I don't blame Edwin for blowing his top. Sharing is important but it's equally important to respect one another's privacy. To be "one," yet to remain separate and distinct entities may seem a contradiction but it is the secret of a good marriage.

Dear Ann Landers: I am planning on being married

this summer. Mother has been married four times. Daddy is now married to his second wife. My fiancée's mother is on her fourth husband and his father is on his side marriage.

You may think this is crazy but all the exes get along fine together and they see each other socially. Mother insists that we invite all the ex's to the wedding. What do you think this will look like? — B.B.B.

Dear B.B.B.: It will look like the discarded pages from a number of old wedding albums. But don't let it spoil your day. The books will probably have a lovely time.

Liquor can ruin your mind, your body and your life. To learn the boozy-ways of teen-age drinking, write for ANN LANDERS' booklet, "Teen-age Drinking," enclosed with your request. 20 cents in coin and a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Ann Landers will be glad to help you with your problems. See these to her in care of this newspaper enclosing a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

© 1965, Publishers Newspaper Syndicate

Add Names To Optimists

Two new members, E. V. McDonald and Tom Coleman, joined the ranks of the Optimist Club of Torrance Monday evening.

Special guests were oratorical candidate, Mark Ruth, and his brother, Bob Ruth. Mark presented a speech, which was followed by group criticism.

The program, Mark Twain, Part II, was presented by Roland Petrat.

Press-Herald Sunday Crossword

(Answer on Page B-3)

SUNDAY, APRIL 18, 1965

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN | DOWN | DOWN |
| 1—Stone cut in relief | 69—Possessive pronoun | 104—Old (poet) | 16—Forest words |
| 2—Athletic group | 70—Neckpiece | 105—Later | 17—Spirited |
| 3—Place for keeping birds | 71—Fruit cake | 106—Versé | 18—Borsa |
| 4—Cruel | 72—Esculent | 107—Arrive | 19—Trials |
| 5—Place for keeping birds | 73—Forces air through nose | 108—Strives | 20—River in Belgium |
| 6—Cruel | 74—Means | 109—Anglo-Saxon name | 21—Part of body |
| 7—Cruel | 75—Dutch town | 110—Competitors | 22—Woody plant |
| 8—Cruel | 76—Dipping | 111—Stays | 23—Soup plants |
| 9—Cruel | 77—King of birds | 112—Drumkards | 24—Provides crew |
| 10—Cruel | 78—King of birds | 113—Deck | 25—Woods |
| 11—Cruel | 79—Fat of swine | 114—Let it stand | 26—Cruel |
| 12—Cruel | 80—Vegetable | 115—Sea in Asia | 27—Cruel |
| 13—Cruel | 81—Embassies | 116—Cruel | 28—Cruel |
| 14—Cruel | 82—River duck | 117—Cruel | 29—Cruel |
| 15—Cruel | 83—Worm | 118—Cruel | 30—Cruel |
| 16—Cruel | 84—Adjective used as noun | 119—Cruel | 31—Cruel |
| 17—Cruel | 85—Football goal | 120—Cruel | 32—Cruel |
| 18—Cruel | 86—Parent (colloq.) | 121—Cruel | 33—Cruel |
| 19—Cruel | 87—Wife of Garret | 122—Cruel | 34—Cruel |
| 20—Cruel | 88—Music, as in "The Swan" | 123—Cruel | 35—Cruel |
| 21—Cruel | 89—Near | 124—Cruel | 36—Cruel |
| 22—Cruel | 90—Macaes | 125—Cruel | 37—Cruel |
| 23—Cruel | 91—Ceremony | 126—Cruel | 38—Cruel |
| 24—Cruel | 92—Sun god | 127—Cruel | 39—Cruel |
| 25—Cruel | 93—Merry | 128—Cruel | 40—Cruel |
| 26—Cruel | 94—Priest's measure | 129—Cruel | 41—Cruel |
| 27—Cruel | 95—Server | 130—Cruel | 42—Cruel |
| 28—Cruel | 96—Fresco | 131—Cruel | 43—Cruel |
| 29—Cruel | 97—Falloids | 132—Cruel | 44—Cruel |
| 30—Cruel | 98—Prisoners | 133—Cruel | 45—Cruel |
| 31—Cruel | 99—Shuffled party | 134—Cruel | 46—Cruel |
| 32—Cruel | 100—Glued | 135—Cruel | 47—Cruel |
| 33—Cruel | 101—Clan | 136—Cruel | 48—Cruel |
| 34—Cruel | 102—Bain of fruit | 137—Cruel | 49—Cruel |
| 35—Cruel | 103—Short hit | 138—Cruel | 50—Cruel |

Grid for crossword puzzle with numbers 1-138 indicating starting positions for across and down words.

Distributed by The Press-Herald, Inc.