

Press-Herald

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Wanted: A Solution

Plans to expand Little Company of Mary Hospital which have hit a snag in the city's building department because of a paper street bisecting the property will go before the City Council Tuesday evening.

Problems arose when hospital officials sought a building permit recently to build a convent. They were notified that issuance of the permit was conditioned upon a dedication of Maricopa Street across the rear line of the original hospital property, bisecting the property now held by Little Company of Mary Hospital.

It came as quite a shock to hospital officials to find that a street was projected through their property, the Press-Herald has been told. Hospital spokesmen say they were aware of zoning regulations put in force with the adoption of the Victor Precinct Master Plan, but were not aware of street changes. No one has been able to refute their claim.

Unlike the members of the Planning Commission who were reluctant to regard the Little Company of Mary Hospital as anything special, the Press-Herald believes the hospital is among the city's most important institutions and deserves all the consideration possible in its efforts to meet the needs of the community.

Developers have the talent and facilities to keep track of paper streets, street maps—existing or projected—and to govern their building activities accordingly. Persons whose principal concern is operating a hospital probably do not have an equal opportunity to keep abreast of such matters.

A solution of the street problems should be sought apart from opening a boulevard through the hospital property. The future of the hospital and its benefit to the entire community call for more than blind following of a so-called master plan.

Chemical Progress Week

Few, if any, industries have such a profound influence on our daily lives as does the chemical industry which this year has just observed Chemical Progress Week.

Most of us never do stop to think that chemicals play an essential part in the food we eat, the clothes we wear, the homes we live in, and most of the things we buy and use.

The industry also has an important role in the nation's economy, and particularly in the economy of Southern California. More than 400 firms are engaged in the production of chemical and allied products in the Southland, employing some 30,000 people who draw upwards of \$200 million in wages each year. The industry produces goods valued at more than \$1 billion annually.

The industry has been among the leaders in pollution controls and has invested millions of dollars in research and equipment.

A rapidly growing industry, 26 new plants will be opened in the Southland by the end of 1966, and 24 others are planned. In addition, 21 plants are presently under construction or undergoing expansion.

Chemical Progress Week has been a well deserved salute to an industry which has given us so much.

Opinions of Others

"We came away from a leadership forum of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce . . . with the thought that business and industrial leaders of the nation must play a far greater role in political matters if this country is long to remain a great, free nation. . . . After listening intently to speaker after speaker, we became more convinced than ever that our private enterprise system and individual initiative and incentive are headed for disaster. So we asked this question of a distinguished panel: 'Have we become a nation of sheep, easily led, as opposed to a nation of people capable of thinking and acting for themselves, and do the sheep outnumber the thinkers that there is little hope of slowing or stopping the trend to socialistic government?'"—Bedford (Ind.) Times-Mail.

"The monetary problem is serious enough, Lord knows, but over the long pull reapportionment has the most far-reaching significance for the people of Montana . . . who will get short shrift from the city slickers, who are in the main unaware and oblivious to the problems we in the boondocks have."—Harlouton (Mont.) Times.

"Heavier taxation will bring about (so some say) improved governmental services. If we had taxation we could improve our own immediate neighborhood without government interference and dictatorship. This goes for the so-called federal aid to schools. There is danger in the proposals."—Malvern (Ark.) Record.

"America is beset by a sickness called 'something for nothing' . . . Nature's laws are orderly, consistent and practical. We can use those laws to earn what we want. Every time a scientist discovers a new fact about the orderly universe, we have more knowledge with which to control our own destinies. The human being is capable of living a happy, fruitful life—if he's willing to accept nature as it is. . . . Do you face reality and use it to better your life—or are you praying that the laws of nature will be repealed?"—Tenino (Wash.) Independent.

People come in three classes: the few who make things happen, the many who watch things happen, and the overwhelming majority who have little or no idea what happened.—Industrial News Review.



ROYCE BRIER

Vietnam War Contradicts Asia for Asians Thesis

Richard Nixon, who represents a considerable area of Republican thinking, has upheld President Johnson's policy in the Vietnam war in two main particulars: if we withdraw from the war, American world prestige will be dangerously compromised; if we withdraw, all southeast Asia, and possibly more, will succumb to Chinese Communist domination.

But he closed his speech with what has the curious foreground appearance of a contradiction of his main thesis: he said the Asian future can only be determined by Asians, not by Americans or Europeans.

So now comes President Johnson with another foreground appearance, a change of policy in the Vietnam war. He said the United States is ready to enter "unconditional discussions" looking to a Vietnam settlement. Hitherto, while declaring readiness to negotiate, he has made a condition: cessation of Viet Cong aggression in South Vietnam.

Employment of the term "unconditional" would ap-

pear, then, to annul the condition previously made, but whether in practice the previous condition would be surrendered, only Mr. Johnson could fit with some future event.

In any case, the dominant note of the President's address was conciliatory, and this is being interpreted as due to international, rather than domestic, pressure.

Foreign pressure has steadily mounted since the bombing strikes on North Vietnam. Leaving aside the position of President de Gaulle, the British have become increasingly alarmed. They take with them most of the Commonwealth, including Canada, and many smaller nations of free Europe. The neutral or non-aligned nations, so-called, are universally against our experiment with fate. Thus most of the free world, not just the Communist world, opposes us in degrees ranging from dubiety to active antagonism.

Not since the Civil War, at least, has there been manifested such world-wide confusion and doubt over American aims, motives and

historical logic.

Then note an added, Asian factor in this doubt, revealed only the day before the President spoke.

Japan has an aggressive leftwing minority which has made hay with Vietnam. The overwhelming majority of Japanese, led by the new Premier, Sato, is conservative and pro-Western. But, himself pressed, Sato sent Shunichi Matsumoto, former ambassador to Britain, to Saigon to make a survey. Obviously, Mr. Matsumoto had access to persons unavailable to the West.

Matsumoto is skeptical of the whole American position. He questions if peace can be achieved by more bombing or military measures alone. He denies the Viet Cong is in a child-parent relationship with Red China or the Soviet Union. He avers the Viet Cong is a nationalist movement, that in fact, a civil war exists, not the international invasion portrayed in American policy pronouncements.

Considering its source, this is perhaps the most significant finding in the global controversy over the Vietnam war.

WILLIAM HOGAN

Not-So-Promising Tour Becomes Original Book

The idea is not promising: A travel report by a Bronx young man who, with his artist pal, make it across the continent to a girl friend's house in Menlo Park, Calif. They make it aboard a pair of temperamental Heinkel motor-scooters, Couchette and Jenny, the latter named after a character in Brecht. What comes out is a book of youthful charm and exuberance titled "I See By My Outfit," taken from a song they sing, a parody on "La-Redo" that begins "I see by my outfit that I am a cowboy . . ."

The author is Peter S. Beagle, a veteran of the Stanford creative writing program and author of a well-received, original first novel, "A Fine and Private Place," which Beagle wrote the year he was graduated from the University of Pittsburgh and which was about

what goes on behind cemetery walls.

The motor-scooter book is funny and good because Beagle is a funny writer and a good one. He can make exotic American places like Ypsilanti, Sandusky and Salinas seem interesting. Naturally they are not. It is Beagle who is interesting—as in the scene where he is looking at guitars in a Midwest pawn shop run by a fellow who is homesick for "Jewish music," or another where he describes the cold eyes of cops in a "fuzromobile" or tells how it is to sleep on the frozen ground of East Stroudsburg, Pa.

Like his novel, the travel book is an original and sustained performance. Maybe the secret lies in Beagle's basic trepidation, his fundamental dislike of adventure; that, and the controlled jauntiness of his prose. This is a young man's book, often as cockeyed as the idea of such a journey by motor-scooter. But Beagle's eye is sharp, and he tempers his nonsense with an interesting poignancy (this showed up in "A Fine and Private Place"). His character sketches are created with quick, bold strokes and are

believable. Witness the sequence of a put-upon prostitute in Las Vegas. Instead of being phony as a boy novelist's treatment of sex, the girl here is "Nana" in miniature.

What was the emotion behind that Las Vegas vignette? I reached far back for a comparison and came up with the movie version of "The Petrified Forest," where Leslie Howard in a haunting scene tries to explain Francois Villon to the little waitress, Bette Davis. That's reaching. The point is that Beagle is a writer, and even this kid-stuff trip he describes becomes something richer and more meaningful than a hipster's "Travels With Charley." A less gifted writer would have settled for that.

There are a few dull stretches in all this, like the roads from Columbia to Kansas City, or the highways around Fresno. Beagle's charm triumphs over the routes in the Triptik map he followed, and the book is a success. It's good to have a talent like this around. (Look for "A Fine and Private Place," too; it's available as a \$1.95 Delta paperback, and well worth reading.)

Quote

"We have the power to make this the best generation in the history of the world. Or the last."—DeAnne Caudill, 19, San Bruno.

Sacramento Report

New Aircraft Insurance Controls Being Sought

By CHARLES E. CHAPEL
Assemblyman, 46th District
Assembly Bill No. 2239, which I introduced on April 5, 1965, permits a taxpayer in a county with a population of four million or more (such as Los Angeles County) to petition the county board of equalization for a reduction in an assessment and taxes extended thereon between the first day of September and the last day of October, rather than between the fourth Monday in September and the fourth Monday in November.

Few people realize it, but the State of California has a State Police organization entirely separate from the California Highway Patrol. Unfortunately, the California State Police are in the same status as State Juniors and State Gardeners. My Assembly Bill No. 2310, which I introduced on April 8, partially corrects a long-standing injustice by giving peace-officer retirements rights to those State Policemen whose principal duties are law enforcement.

My Assembly Bill No. 2596, which I introduced April 19, prohibits the sale of aircraft life insurance within 48 hours of flight departure. My bill also makes a violation a basis upon which the State Insurance Commissioner must revoke the Certificate of Authority of the insuring company. The object of this bill is to stabilize the business of issuing insurance policies for aircraft flights so that the travelling public, airlines, and the life and accident insurance companies will all be protected. This bill is the result of my own observations and was introduced on April 19 only after consulting three experienced lawyers who have no axe to grind.

You can check on one phase of the bill yourself by going to any large airport, such as Los Angeles International Airport, which happens to be in the 46th Assembly District, which I represent. Go to any of the counters where ladies are selling aircraft trip insurance. If they are not busy, ask any of them about the advantage of buying a policy covering all flights on scheduled airlines for a year ahead. They are all trained to explain the money you can save by buying a policy for future trips instead of buying a policy for each separate trip.

Then you can double-check by going to any insurance broker who sells life and accident insurance. You will find that he can sell you a policy for even less money than you would normally pay if you bought the same policy through one of the airport insurance ladies.

It is true that you can buy aircraft trip insurance policies from vending machines, but in the long run policies bought by dropping coins into vending machines cost more because the vending machines cannot think, hence the risk to the insuring company is greater and in turn you must pay more.

Furthermore, the flight crews of airlines, the ground personnel, the district attorney, and the local police are all interested in anyone who buys a vast amount of life insurance for one flight.

Naturally, the life and accident companies are also interested because if they must pay too many large claims they must either go out of business or raise their premiums. Finally, you can write to the Legislative Bill Room, Room 215, State Capitol, Sacramento 14, California, and receive two free copies of my Assembly Bill No. 2596. You will receive much faster service if you send the Legislative Bill Room a stamped envelope with your address on it.

June 18, 1965, is the last day of the current regular session of the California State Legislature. Since the California State Senate must be reapportioned by July 1, or have the job done for us by three United States Judges who have their black robes already pressed,

ready to go to work, it is probable that the Governor will call the Legislature into special session on June 19, or sooner. The whole thing started when the United States Supreme Court issued a mandate to the State of California.

Now I realize enraged people want to write to someone but remember that Earl Warren is Chief Justice, U. S. Supreme Court. Before that he was Governor of California. Before that he was Attorney General of California. Before that he was District Attorney of Alameda County, where you go through Oakland to take the bridge to San Francisco. Also, Chief Justice Warren goes duck hunting with Edmund G. "Pat" Brown when Earl has time to come back to renew old acquaintanceships. Both are licensed to practice law in California.

HERB CAEN SAYS:

You Can't Bomb 'Em From There

ITEMS WEST: A German film company is in town shooting parts of a film titled "006," which is supposed to be a satire on the James Bond stuff (but how do you satirize a satire?) Anyway, they were all set to do a shot of Disc Jockey Don Sherwood, dressed in a business suit and carrying a briefcase, zooming in under the Golden Gate Bridge on water skis—while a baddie on the span drops a bomb on him. The shot, however, never came off because Jim Adam, boss of the bridge, refused permission. "It is against the law," he pointed out, "to drop ANYTHING off the bridge, including yourself" . . . Kathryn Ish of The Committee, who entered the Miss Universe Contest because "I am a deeply religious person and I believe God wants me to be Miss Universe," is in mourning. The Calif. Beauty Pageant, Inc., of L.A., owners of the Miss Universe franchise, rejected her application because she's married. "This," sobs Miss Ish, "proves that God does not live in Los Angeles" . . . Gim-mix, always gim-mix: The "Do Not Disturb" signs at the Palo Alto Cabana now contain an addition—"Starting Doris Day." You see, "Do Not Disturb" is the title of her new picture, and she owns the Cabana, see?

MORE NUMBERS: Tom Carmody of McGraw-Hill here is back from Las Vegas—where, on the highway outside the town, he saw an arresting sight late one afternoon: a seemingly endless string of buses, bringing workers back from Project Mercury, the Nuclear Rocket Test Center in the desert. Along came these buses, each one numbered in the proper order: 1, 2, 3, and so on followed by 11, 12, 14, 15 . . . And somehow, he found his indication of old-fashioned superstition rather reassuring in the Nuclear Age.

INSIDEOUT: Novelist Niven Busch is pounding out a script for a major movie about S.F. fire-quake—to be produced by Joe Levine—but Joe doesn't like Niven's title, "06"; So Joe paid \$1000 to Bill Bronson for the title of HIS book about the quake, "The Earth Shook, The Sky Burned" (but otherwise it was another April day) . . . UC Medical Center here has a new phone number—666-9000—and if you think all the docs aren't already calling it "Sick-sick-sick 9000" you don't know your medico-humorists . . . The wedding reception of Golftar Harvie Ward and Carolyn Davies was sort of a milestone. Instead of throwing rice, the guests squirted spray cans of "Silly Soap" all over everybody, and aren't you sorry you missed it? . . . Reuban Askanase, chm. of Dunhill International, explained here why the pipes-for-women boom went bust: "The first time a woman puts a hot pipe in her purse and melts her lipstick she goes back to cigarettes."

HERBERT'S ORBIT: To arms, Savo! The newest flash from Washington has the House Un-American Activities Committee coming here after all—in late April or early May—to investigate UC's Free Speech Movement, the duBois Clubs and the Cool Vietnam Crowd; if this goes through, the sessions will be held in the new Federal Bldg., which may or may not survive the inevitable onslaught . . . Flash from Novelist Ernest K. Gann, recovering at Children's Hosp. from a ski accident: "Everybody here is having a baby except me, but if I have to stay one more week, I wouldn't bet against it" (hold the presses) . . . Sausalito's civic leaders are sizzling at Time magazine. The photo it ran showing alleged "Sausalito teen-agers" allegedly smoking marijuana was a posed studio shot—not even taken in Sausalito. "This kind of publicity," growls a Councilman, "we don't need" . . . The stories on the separation of Artists Margaret and Walter Keane didn't tell us the most important part: Which one gets custody of the eyes?

Morning Report:

As American corporations get bigger, they split their stock and as American Communists get fewer, they split their parties. At the last count, there were 10,000 Communists in the country.

So the other day, some of them met behind closed doors in New York City and announced the formation of the United States Communist Party, formerly known as the Progressive Labor Movement, and not to be confused with the Communist Party of the United States. The new one likes China, the older one favors Russia.

All this is an added burden to the FBI, which has co-existed successfully inside the old Communist Party, and now has to start all over again with the new one.

Abe Mellinkoff