

Press-Herald

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REID L. BUNDY Managing Editor

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Challenge to Crime

Serious crime — murder, rape, assault, robbery, etc.—increased 13 per cent last year in the United States. One out of every 10 policemen in the nation was assaulted. Fifty-seven were murdered.

In that sorry crime story, California stands second only to Nevada in the number of serious offenses committed per 1000 population.

It is high time that crime be challenged, here and nation-wide. And it is good news that something is actually being done.

Appointment by President Johnson of a special blue-ribbon crime commission—including two top California law enforcement officers, Attorney General Thomas Lynch and San Francisco police chief Thomas Cahill—could be a major step on the national scale. In California the legislature passed, and Governor Brown approved, an important measure authored by State Senator George Miller Jr., of Martinez, which will permit state indemnification of citizens for injury or damages suffered in trying to prevent a crime, apprehend a criminal, or materially assisting a policeman to do either.

Both are meaningful moves in the right direction. Now, if the courts could ponder most seriously and thoughtfully the judicial trend toward creating new, highly legalistic shackles for law enforcement officers, the challenge to crime may well become a real and productive crusade.

Opinions of Others

"Why have we been unable to keep American values uppermost in our educational life? We have been sleeping soundly, while the Reds have been very much awake. We have ineffectively given insufficient doses of civics and history in which the American heritage is the chief ingredient. The resentments and frustrations thrust upon the big-campus student, who so often lacks understanding of his purposes in college, open him to radicalism. Where no objective values are forthcoming the route to false ideology is made easy. The pity of it is that too many of these recruits find their way into positions of respect and leadership—in education, in politics, in government, and in communications. So you take it from there!" —Garner (Iowa) Leader.

"President Johnson and his administration along with liberal lawmakers and self-seeking labor bosses are furthering the substitution of force and compulsion for freedom of choice by urging the repeal of Section 14B of the Taft-Hartley Act. This would take away the freedom of the individual to choose whether or not he wants to join a union. Compulsion has no place in a republic. Every American should have the right to work, whether he wants to join a union or not." —Grayslake (Ill.) Times.

"The administration discourages tourists from spending money abroad. They figure it's more efficient to send it over there wholesale than to have people spend it a little at a time." —Findlay (Ohio) Republican-Courier.

"Federal spending on scientific research is a succulent pie nourishing a fortunate few of our states, cities, universities, industries and private laboratories. . . . Currently one of the most sought-after of these goodies is a \$280-million, 200-BEV (billion electron volt) nuclear particle accelerator the Atomic Energy Commission plans to build." —Mesa (Ariz.) Tribune.

"It is difficult to challenge any program, in principle at least, which purports to guarantee medical care for our older citizens, regardless of ability to pay. This is a laudable motive, certain to be popular, and therefore 'good politics.' But, it should be remembered that this, too has a price which must be paid. . . . The notion of social planners that this nation's economy knows no limits; that the cost of such programs can be effortlessly absorbed by ever-expanding production is foolish and dangerous. If our economy had such capabilities, prices would be at the levels they were 25 years ago." —Weyauwega (Wis.) Chronicle.

"In our education process we should teach the relationship between economic and political freedom. It is also a matter of interdependence too. You can't substitute government fiat for the free action of the market system without dire consequences." —Waterville (Wash) Empire-Press.

Recreation periods are important if you want to lead a healthful and productive life, says the American Medical Association, but activities should be approached intelligently. To get the most out of exercising and to avoid disabling injuries, the AMA recommends learning your capabilities and limitations, practicing healthful living habits faithfully, and understanding the risks involved when participating in an activity." —Angola (Ind.) Steuben Republican.

"Did you ever stop to think how wonderful it is that you were born into a country where the greatest single problem is overweight?" —Fosterburg (Md.) Citizen.

"Years ago the moon was an inspiration to poets and lovers. A few years from now it will be just another airport." —Benton (Mo.) Democrat.



ROYCE BRIER

Increased Aid to India May Not Pass Congress

It is at least worth speculation, without attempting definitive analysis, that a plan to double aid to India from \$433 million to \$900 million is open to question. These are the figures said to be contained in a proposal of American Ambassador Chester Bowles and John P. Lewis director of the Agency for International Development, who have been studying the aid problem within the Indian five-year plan. The figures are not yet official, and according to a New Delhi dispatch, an effort was made to keep them secret because of political implications in south Asia. A serious breach in the relations of the United States and Pakistan has become evident this year. This is in part due to Pakistani resentment over a delay in American aid to that country, and this in turn relates to Pakistan's leaning toward Red China. Pakistan and India are in a sniping border warfare over territory, and Pakistan considers American aid to India an act of near-hostility. Pakistan has had a total of \$3.2 billion civilian aid and \$1.5 billion military aid, but India's aid has totaled over \$6 billion since 1951. American aid to India has suffered from the chronic disability to underdeveloped countries with soaring populations, and it is seen on a more limited scale in the Latin American nations. The disability is that the aid allocated cannot keep pace with the population growth, and indeed usually lags behind. Hence an aid grant to one of these nations may temporarily spare it from disaster, but does not materially improve its economic situation. A good example of the difficulty curiously involves a mechanical contraceptive just put on the Indian market. Production will be 1 million units in a year. Yet to have any effect, 50 million units would be needed, and then the rural population would have to be persuaded to accept them. In view of the general situation in India, economic, political and biologic, it may be doubted if the Congress will authorize any radical increase in aid.

WILLIAM HOGAN

Disturbing New Italian Novel Recalls War Years

Giorgio Bassani's novel, "The Garden of the Finzi-Continis," probably has been the greatest critical and popular success in Italy since di Lampedusa's "The Leopard." It is introduced in this country now in a sensitive translation by Isabel Quigley—an evocative love story, and ultimately a tragedy. It is beautifully made, in a rather old-fashioned way. It suggests a stroll through a timeless garden of a villa of great charm and antiquity. Yet I found it a difficult novel to finish. The reason is that an element of almost unbearable horror hangs over it. Bassani does not deal in scenes of shock or violence. In fact, the narrative proceeds on a low key. It is the inevitability of the fate of the distinguished and cultivated Finzi-Continis family that makes the reader squirm. The Finzi-Continis were an aristocratic, patrician Jewish family of old wealth in the provincial town of Ferrara. A romance develops between the spirited daughter of the house, Micol, and the narrator, who is also of an Italian Jewish family. The girl is a wonderful character and the narrator builds this character from the point of view of today in remembrances of things past. Bassani's story is played as Mussolini's Fascist racial laws of the late 1930s begin to close in on the Jewish community. There is a terrible scene where the intelligent Micol is refused academic honors at Venice because of the racial laws. The reader slowly becomes aware that Micol and other members of her family may soon be extinct. The novel stops short of that. But in an epilogue the narrator re-

Mailbox

To the Editor: As chairman of the Harbor Area United Way Board, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and your newspaper, on behalf of the United Way, for publishing the organization's annual stewardship report. As you know, last year's campaign was a combined effort of United Way, Inc. and the American Red Cross, called United Crusade, United Way's share of the funds supports many health and welfare services in this community. Your contribution of space for the Stewardship Report is an example of the generous support the United Way-United Crusade appeal has received in this area. It is this kind of support that makes a fund raising campaign a success. Your aid is deeply appreciated. Very truly yours, Walter Schoppman United Way Board Chairman

JAMES DORAIS

Is State Breaking FEPC Laws in Labor Shortage?

Is the State of California breaking its own Fair Employment Practice laws in an effort to solve the farm labor shortage created by Labor Secretary Wirtz' adamant stand against the importation of Mexican braceros?

Perhaps not, technically, but State Employment Director Tieberg apparently was practicing a sort of inverse discrimination recently when he said his department was concentrating on attracting Mexican-Americans into the tomato harvest.

In a back-handed repudiation of AFL-CIO claims that plenty of non-Mexican labor is waiting and anxious to rush into stoop labor jobs in the fields, Tieberg admitted, "The Mexican-American for many years was the man on whom California's agricultural industry depended for its success."

Apparently it still does, if his concentrated efforts to recruit from this minority group are any indication.

Aside from proving embarrassing to those who abhor economic favoritism based on race or national origin, Tieberg's statement might also have proved embarrassing to California's Governor Brown. In Washington testifying in favor of a minimum wage for farm workers, Brown discounted the seriousness of the farm labor shortage in California caused by the bracero ban.

The whole crisis, he implied, is the product of "paid political propagandists" who twisted the facts about California's labor problems.

Quote

"Why it is that most people will spend a large sum and put in hours of work in producing a beautiful Christmas tree, yet balk at putting out a few dollars for a beautiful American flag which will last for years?" —Walt Bakenhus, Mountain View, Calif.

"It is the awesome task of America's parents to help the youth of today to merit our inheritance — which is great — and to help us avoid the wicked snares of society — which are unfortunately plentiful." —Peter R. Andersen, 17, of San Rafael, Calif.

"Conscience is that still, small voice that tells you somebody is looking." —Dan Tabler, Queen Anne's (Centerville, Md.) Record Observer.

"The government is worried over the unemployment of youth not seeming to realize that laws and regulations and taxes for benefits, makes it almost impossible to hire youth." —George R. Bowra, Independent Aztec (N.M.) Review.

"A man seldom loses his shirt if he keeps his sleeves rolled up." —John Maverick, The Cherrvale (Kan.) Republican.

"If the going seems easy, you just might be going downhill." —Kermit T. Hubin, The Stewart (Minn.) Tribune.

"Today is the day of predictions. Tomorrow is the day of 'I told you so.'" —Gerald K. Young, The Excelsior (Blakesburg, Iowa).

Strength for These Days (From The Bible)

This is my commandment, that ye love one another. —(John 15:12)

It is sometimes difficult to find the good things in people when we dislike or have been hurt by them. Today, let's think of them as children of God. And in this way it is always possible for us to like a child of God. We will find it easy to get along harmoniously with everyone as we are spiritually one.

In contradiction, Tieberg confessed the state will face its most serious agricultural labor crisis to date in the forthcoming tomato crop harvest, when replacements will be needed for at least 37,000 braceros used in years past.

At stake are 100,000 acres with a potential harvest of almost 2.5 million tons which will "mean the difference to our state's economy of hundreds of millions of dollars," Tieberg said.

Last year the peak demand for tomato pickers occurred during the week of September 12, when 42,000 were employed in the fields. This year, in lieu of Mexicans the federal government has sponsored the recruiting of high school athletes into so-called "A-Teams" to fill the labor breach — (the California Farmer says "The A-Team Deal is a Mess") — but September 12 is the week when millions of teen-agers all over the country will be returning to classes.

HERB CAEN SAYS:

Brown Bows Out of Race

CAENFIDENTIALLY: After Nelson Rockefeller announced in Minneapolis, during the Governor's Conference, that he would not be a candidate for President in 1968 (applause), Pat Brown arose to beam: "Anything Nelson can do, I can do better. I wish to announce that I will not be a candidate for President in 1968 OR 1972!" (wild applause) . . . San Francisco's Yellow Cabies are sizzling at Teamster Boss Jimmy Hoffa for calling off the strike they'd already voted. Anger: Couple of weeks ago, Hoffa rode from the Hilton to the airport in a Yellow (tab: \$7.45), handed the driver a \$10 bill and said: "Gimme the change and keep 50 cents for yourself." Driver, icily: "I don't need your 50 cents, Mr. Hoffa, and just a second—here's your receipt. I'm sure you'll want to deduct this ride from your income tax."

FULLER INFORMATION: As I keep saying, you're missing a lot if you don't read newspaper "fillers"—those tiny, timeless squibs sometimes used to fill out a column of type. Here's a recent one: "During the past winter, Washington's population numbered one transient purple grackle for every two prominent people." You yawned, I shrugged, but Ken Malucelli was sufficiently intrigued to consult his encyclopedia to find that the grackle is "an American purple black-bird colored green and bronze," however that may be. Grackle, he further surmises, is a word derived by mixing together green, black and purple. He offers no theories on the "two prominent people," or proople.

NOTES SCRIBBLED ON A MENU: At a local restaurant recently, Richard Nixon was presented with a bottle of '52 Mouton Rothschild by the owner, who purred: "A very good year for wine and politicians." The latter may have turned, but the former hadn't.

ADD INFINITEMS: The Clipped Wings (retired United Air Lines steward) have just finished their nat'l convention, and I do wish they'd change their name; that one makes my arms ache . . . A sign on the office door at a camp near here reads "Please keep the door closed so bird won't eat our cat!"—and why? Because somebody gave the owner a turkey vulture, that's why! . . . And Terry Smith, an FM deejay, was singularly touched the other night to hear his four-year-old son, Michael, saying his prayers thusly: "God bless mommy, daddy, sister, brother and FM!"

RETROACTIVE ROCKET: Dick York has a beef. While moving from one house to another, he lost his grandfather's Congressional Medal of Honor—awarded to Pvt. Charles Edwin York, 27th Maine Infantry, during the Civil War—so he wrote to the Dept. of the Army in Washington for a replacement. Sorry, no soap, wrote back the Army in one of those typical gobbledy-gooky letters: "no firm guide lines" for decorations had been established at that time, wherefore in 1917, 911 Medal of Honor winners were scratched from the list, Pvt. York among them. Dick York's reaction: "Unfair and most unpatriotic to these men and their families."

Morning Report:

It could only happen in England. The Conservative party picked a new leader—Edward Heath. This is a fellow who is best known at home and abroad for failure—failure to get Britain into the Common Market.

In America, nothing kills a politician faster than defeat. We go for winners, even if we lose with them. Richard M. Nixon is the current case in point.

Over there, the British never forget a defeat and even turn it into something to be honored. Dunkirk of course is their prime example. I don't know if Mr. Heath will win the next time out at the polls, but I'm sure he'll make a big thing out of how General de Gaulle done him in on the Common Market bit.

Abe Mellinkoff