

Press-Herald

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The Industrial Boom

Torrance's growth—the talk of Southern California for the past decade—has veered off into a new direction, judging from events of recent months. And the direction is a good one.

After several years of relative quiet, the city suddenly has become one of the Southland's hotspots for industrial development. While new industries have been moving to town, existing plants have been expanding at rates thought to be impossible just a few years ago.

Among the newcomers are Hughes Aircraft, now building a major research and manufacturing plant on Lomita Boulevard; Ampco Metal, Inc., which received approval of its new downtown Torrance facility last Tuesday from the City Council; Brittain Industries, Inc., which will take over the old Mayflower lease at the Torrance Municipal Airport; Douglas Aircraft Co., now using the old Ryan Aircraft facilities; Volvo, Inc., which located its Western Distribution Center here, and Toyota, now in a new plant on 190th Street.

And some old neighbors are keeping pace with the growth by expanding their own facilities. They include U. S. Steel Corp., Mobil Oil Co., and Aeronca, which, according to reports, is planning added facilities on a now vacant airport leasehold.

There are reports of a planned 26-acre industrial park on Lomita Boulevard and R. G. Harris, developer of the 26-acre park, also has purchased an eight-acre section in the Central Manufacturing District and plans to build nine buildings there.

While all this is going on, the city is moving ahead—sometimes slowly—with plans for an industrial park in the 50-acre Meadow Park Redevelopment Area.

What does it all mean? Statistics compiled by the Torrance Chamber of Commerce indicate some of the following benefits from 100 new industrial jobs in the community:

An additional 175 other jobs, 300 new residents, \$400,000 more in retail sales, 250 new homes, 225 new automobiles, an estimated \$2.5 million in new tax base, work for 16 professional men, and \$750,000 more personal income.

With that in mind, it might be well for the city to take another look at its industrial land bank. The City Council, despite protests from many quarters of the community, recently took some 100 acres out of that bank by tentative approval of a cemetery and some 135 new homes. Such actions in the future could prove very damaging to the potential which Torrance now has.

New jobs, increased tax base, expanded plants—all serve to enhance the economic well being of the city and all of its citizens. The city's location, its past history of growing with as few pains as possible, its ability to meet the needs of both new and old citizens have helped to secure these new job-making plants.

And the Chamber of Commerce, too, has worked to tell the city's story throughout the nation.

There are indications the current boom will continue—if our efforts are continued and if our vision is not so short-sighted as to deprive the city of still more industrial acreage.

To our new industries, the Press-Herald says "Welcome." To our old neighbors, "Congratulations."

The Issue at Stake

The Sierra Club, a conservation organization, recently placed two newspaper advertisements declaring that proposed federal dams on the Colorado river would mar the beauty of the Grand Canyon. Within 24 hours the Internal Revenue Service issued a warning that the organization might lose its tax-exempt status because of its fight against the construction of these dams. In similar fashion, others have been denied the right to charge as operating expense—money used to oppose expansion of federal activities that could put the companies and organizations affected out of business.

One may not agree with Sierra Club activities which, all too often in the name of conservation, seem to needlessly promote expansion of government land ownership and block reasonable and needed development of natural resources. But the present situation raises a serious question. Should public servants be permitted to penalize private citizens for opposing government policies with which they do not agree? It is only a step from such methods to liquidating opponents with more violent centralized-government methods. The principle involved in this bureaucratic arrangement is the issue at stake.

Morning Report:

Just about any brilliant international banker with a computer brain, and two electronic computers to help him, can tell you what's wrong with England. Her pound is weak. And that country, as a result, is in a tizzy.

Somehow it doesn't seem fair. For just about 25 years ago, England saved the West from a nut named Hitler. The countries that followed him—Germany, Japan and Italy—are booming. The countries that folded quickly when he attacked—France, Belgium, and Holland—are booming. It's true we came on like gangbusters—years late—and we are booming.

I suppose a country can't expect help now for what it did then. After all, what has England done for the world lately?

Abe Mellinkoff

What's This "Tight Money" They Talk About?



DISTRICT ATTORNEY REPORTS

Adult Arrest Records Remain in Police File

By EVELLE J. YOUNGER
District Attorney

A professional in a large organization called the District Attorney's Office recently and complained that a member was having trouble getting a job because of an earlier arrest.

"He wasn't convicted of anything," said the caller. "He was never brought to trial. After the arrest, the police found they had the wrong man and they let him go. But now even though he has worked hard to qualify for a better job he appears to be running into problems because of that record. Can anything be done to erase it?"

The answer is no.

Does this seem absurd? I have long held that it is. There is a Penal Code Section, 1203.45 which provides for record sealing, but it applies only to minors and in misdemeanor cases. If an adult is totally innocent, he has no recourse.

It is true, of course, that not everybody arrested and then freed without conviction is innocent. Suspects sometimes escape punishment because of legal technicalities. This is one cogent argument against arbitrarily closing records of those who, in the parlance of their kind, "beat the rap."

Expressed differently, isn't it reasonable to bar a child molester from employment as a repairman? He would be going into people's homes. The fact that he "beat the rap" or has been rehabilitated does not automatically make him a good risk.

There are wholly different problems that are equally difficult. It has been estimated, for example, that it would cost perhaps \$2 million to ferret out all that paper and seal or erase the records. The policeman's report is only the beginning. There are jail records, medical examinations, reports to other agencies, and most of these documents are duplicated many times over.

What about fingerprints? Each costs about \$2 and expunging them, since they must first be found and segregated, would cost perhaps \$2.50. There are some 400,000 arrests each year which do not lead to convictions.

The authorities in Sacramento believe it would cost more than \$1.5 million dollars annually to destroy the prints.

There are other good questions. How, for instance, do you expunge newspaper records? What about law enforcement agencies which have legitimate needs for certain records? With so many people having identi-

cal names, how can you be sure of always sealing the right one?

There are no easy answers. Law enforcement agencies are looking into all these problems and legislators have listened to volumes of testimony about it. It is also true that efforts are being made to get industry to do their hiring on the basis of ability and qualifications, and there is increasing enlightenment among employers.

All these things give us good reason to be hopeful about the future. But they will not solve the whole problem. In the end we must find a way to protect all those who are innocent.

When the United States Supreme Court handed some decisions last March further defining obscenity, we foresaw court victories we had been unable to enjoy earlier. And so it has been.

We have 60 cases pending, involving paperback books, nudist and girlie magazines, film strips, commercial movies, still photos, and similar things, and our prospects rarely looked so bright.

A jury in Pasadena recently found six paperback books obscene and convicted the defendant of both counts charged. In another case, a theatre operator exhibiting the film "Dirty Girls" pleaded nolo contendere (no contest), so we didn't have to go to trial.

Among pending cases are two felony indictments of obscenity returned by the Grand Jury.

We believe two conclusions are apparent. One is that there is no substance to the statement that our present anti-entertainment laws are worthless. It would be tragic not to have those statutes. The other conclusion is that, as our obscenity prosecutions grow more successful, the message gets through to those selling indecent materials that their trade is more likely to lose money than make it.

The quality of objectionable matter for sale in Los Angeles County has become strikingly less conspicuous. It is safe to predict that this pleasant condition will continue.

So much has been said about the unfavorable image policemen have in some quarters that it seemed a good idea to arrange for more citizens to observe peace officers on the job. Why not permit some observers to ride in the patrol cars?

We can report that this is being done in some cities, and we hope that others will

adopt similar programs. In Covina, for instance, a program is under way for responsible citizens, and for school students who hope to become policemen some day. Other cities doing these things, or some of them, are Culver City, Downey, Hermosa Beach, Long Beach, Monterey Park, Torrance, and Whittier. Los Angeles also has a limited program, and the lines may soon be expanded.

There are hazards, of course, and a city must determine for itself whether it considers the cost of protection worthwhile, or even feasible. But for those who do, it seems to us that the advantages, the rewards of public cooperation, will be enormous.

A survey of the 206 deputy district attorneys in our office reveals that 153 of them earned law degrees at an institution in or near Los Angeles. That is nearly 75 per cent. The only other large source for our staff has been Boalt Hall, U.C., Berkeley.

Fifty deputies studied at USC, 39 at Southwestern, 29 at UCLA, 19 at Loyola. Others came from all over the country.

WILLIAM HOGAN

Literary Life of Soviet Writers Bared at Trial

The Trial: From the final plea by the writer Yuli Daniel in a Moscow court, February 14, 1966: "We are guilty—not for what we have written, but for having sent our works abroad. There are many political indiscretions, exaggerations and insults in our books. But isn't 12 years of Sinyavsky's life and nine of mine a rather excessive payment for our frivolity, thoughtlessness, and misjudgments?" "As we both said under preliminary investigation and here, we deeply regret that our works have been detrimentally exploited by reactionary forces and that thereby we have caused harm to our country. We had no ill intentions, and I ask the court to take this into consideration."

Apparently the court did not.

"On Trial: The Soviet State versus 'Abram Tertz' and 'Nikolai Arzhak,'" translated and with an introduction by the Oxford scholar-diplomat Max Hayward, will appear from Har-

HERB CAEN SAYS:

'Dinty' Doyle's Hot-Spot Tour Ends at First Stop

My first job on the San Francisco Chronicle, thirty years ago, was as radio editor, and the man I was replacing was the eminent J. E. "Dinty" Doyle, who was about to leave for what was then considered the pinnacle of journalism: New York. He was a hard-drinking, wise-cracking old-time newsman who hated me on sight because I preferred Jack Benny to his favorite, Fred Allen. Besides, he'd wanted his job to go to a friend in Oakland.

"The boss says I'm supposed to break you in," he said disgustedly, spitting into the wastebasket. "Well, let me give you some advice. The important thing about being a columnist—even a lousy radio columnist—is not the column. The important thing is to be SEEN, to become a character. That's what I've done, that's why I made it. I go to the fights. I go to ball games. I go to opening nights and people say 'Look, there's Dinty Doyle—man, he really gets around.' That makes them want to read the column. No matter how rotten the column is, they're gonna read it because you're a CELEBRITY. See?"

I didn't see, but I nodded. He put on his coat and said "So come on, I'm gonna show you the town. We'll have dinner at the Palace for starters. I'll introduce you to head waiters and bandleaders and other celebrities. We'll go to every joint in town, see everything. I don't think you can

cut the job, but at least you'll get the feel." Night was falling over the enchanted city as we stood at the corner of Fifth and Mission. "Where first," I asked excitedly. "Hanno's," said Dinty. At that time Hanno's was a clubby little bar and a true hangout for newspapermen. A great chorus of "Hiya, Dinty!" rang out as we walked in.

San Francisco
I was impressed and cowed and sat in a corner, nursing a drink, as Doyle shook hands and began downing straight shots in a very businesslike manner.

Doyle was a great raconteur, and he was soon regaling the customers with long and sometimes funny tales. The hours went by, and at 11 p.m., we still hadn't got any farther than Hanno's. "Hey, Dinty," I kept asking, more and more feebly, "I thought you were going to show me the town." "Relax, kid," he advised, his eyes now as red as his face. At midnight, he looked at his watch and said "Holy cow, kid, I got a column to write! C'mon, back to the office."

Once there, he put his head in the wastebasket and made awful noises for a few minutes. Then he looked up miserably and said "You write the column, kid." In a panic, I pounded out a thousand words about something and laid the copy before him. He reached for a pencil and scribbled at the top "By J. E. (Dinty) Doyle" just before he passed out for keeps. The next morn-

ing, everybody agreed it was certainly one of Doyle's worst columns, and I had to agree. "Not that I could do any better," I added modestly, and 30 years later, that still goes.

Marvelous Melvin Bell, who has been touring the country with Pat Montandon in tow (or vice versa), dropped the word in Chicago that he'll be delighted to make her Mrs. Belli No. 4 as soon as his divorce from Joy, the beautiful airline stewardess, is worked out; this last, however, will take a little doing. . . . Los Angeles Mayor Sam Yorty should get rid of that secretary whose initials are C.K., or maybe he doesn't care that his official letters are initial'd at the bottom "SY:ck" . . . We might as well tell you that the new commander of the Coast Guard cutter, Point Ledge, is Chief Stanley B. Sink, and that Elmore Snapp is the county animal trapper in Santa Cruz, and that Fred Story is mgr. of the book dept. at Capwell's in Oakland, and that William De-land works in the psychiatry dept. at Stanford Medical School . . . Or perhaps you prefer these things to be a bit more complex. Okay: Eversole's is Ukiah's leading mortuary, but the really wild part is that the chief mortician there is Jim Widdoes. As for Getz Bros., the big import-export firm, its man on Guam is Dick Tracey, who replaced Donald Duck and is under the supervision of Getz' Tokyo agent, Steve Canyon.

ROYCE BRIER

American Radical Offers A New Look at Red China

Anna Louise Strong, 81, is a veteran American radical who first came to prominence in the Seattle General Strike in 1919.

Subsequently, she went to the Soviet Union, and when the Mao forces won in China she moved there, and has lived there ever since. Miss Strong is a highly intelligent woman, one of the most reliable of living interpreters of the Marxist movement.

For some time she has been issuing a "Letter from China" for distribution abroad, and she probably makes her living with it. Just recently she said the present purges of intellectuals is "personally guided by Mao Tse-tung . . ."

"It is not a fight for suc-

cession ((to Mao). It is not a purge in any bloody sense, but some persons may find themselves in other jobs because they have abused their authority."

It is evident Miss Strong's letter had the approval of Mao and the Peking hierarchy.

It is in fact the first fairly objective report (dis-

World Affairs

counting Miss Strong's status in China) of what is actually going on there.

She writes that "due to specialized abilities" those being purged achieved leadership in academic, cultural and educational fields. They spread their views without

undue interference, and during the "hard years," 1959-61, they did not hesitate to criticize Party policies, such as the "great leap forward" communes, and the assignment of intellectuals to manual labor.

The Peking hierarchy is now calling these people "right opportunists" and "bourgeois revisionists." They number educators and editors in cultural and even scientific fields, and the hierarchy's present course is to expel them from their posts. Miss Strong says it is being done largely by public criticism.

The targets include the Mayor of Peking and the heads of several universities. It is by no means over. But the general outline of the continuing purge is freely published in the official Peoples Daily.

It is a news development of world importance, comparable to the Stalin purges of the 1930s, and even the Stalin-Trotsky struggle culminating in Trotsky's expulsion from the Soviet Union in 1927.

Indeed, it is the same kind of deep and persistent revolt, and its apparently non-violent course should not mislead us. It is a revolution, an "inherent contradiction" in the so-called society, to use Marx's own stigma for the bourgeois society.

It does not mean the so-called socialist society is about to go bourgeois. It does mean that the so-called socialist form has not in almost 50 years of application solved the human problem, as Marx's followers are forever promising us it will.

In any event, here in essence is the testimony. The book carries a lengthy introduction by Max Hayward on the writers, their work, their run-ins with the "influential yes-men" of the Soviet literary establishment.

The testimony could be translated into rare theater, but the mystery remains: Who, at the trial, took down this testimony and got it to Hayward in England? And why?

"It is possible," Hayward writes, "that parts of it were constructed subsequent-

ly from rough notes, but the bulk of it appears to be a verbatim record."

The case was unprecedented, since it is the first time a Soviet writer has been tried for his writings. Others have been shot, Hayward notes, or arrested, but their writings were not named as cause of criminal proceedings. Also, the accused refused to plead guilty. Both writers based their defense on the argument that literature and propaganda are different things, and that they do not necessarily share the sentiments pronounced by their fictional characters. This argument was rejected.

It has reached a point where taxes are a form of capital punishment."

