

Press-Herald

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REID L. BUNDY Managing Editor
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The Ballot Measures

California voters will be asked to decide on 17 ballot measures on Nov. 8 in addition to several measures of local interest. The Press-Herald today reviews the measures as a guide to voters in this area.

STATE PROPOSALS

PROPOSITION 1A—Offers basic revisions in California's 1879 Constitution. If approved, Legislature would hold general session annually, legislators would receive annual salary of \$16,444. Sets up "conflict of interest" law and reduces benefits and expenses. The proposal has wide backing including both gubernatorial candidates.

PROPOSITION 1—Permits investment of public retirement funds in corporate common stock under restrictions. The proposal was placed on the ballot by a unanimous vote of the Legislature, and is widely supported.

PROPOSITION 2—A \$230 million bond proposal to buy sites and build facilities for state colleges and the University of California under programs approved by the Legislature. Proponents point out that bonding is still the only feasible way to spread the cost of such building among those who benefit.

PROPOSITION 3—The so-called "Open-Space" proposal, approval would give the Legislature the power to define "open space lands" for assessment purposes. It has been promoted as a safeguard against speculation by permitting assessment on value as open space and not upon highest commercial value. Has the backing of Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, League of California Cities, County Supervisors Association, Sierra Club and others.

PROPOSITION 4—Would permit approval of local agency bond issues with 60 per cent favorable vote instead of the currently required two-thirds. If approved, Torrance school bonds, for example, could be approved by 60 per cent of the voters. Many states require only a simple majority.

PROPOSITION 5—Changes language to permit tax relief in the event of "a major misfortune or calamity." Now restricted to fire, flood or "other act of God." Because its first application could be Watts, some have called it "special interest" legislation.

PROPOSITION 6—Would eliminate a governor's pocket veto by calling Legislature back into session for a five-day period 30 days after close of general session for the purpose of considering only bills vetoed by governor.

PROPOSITION 7—Would permit county supervisors to set pay for all county officers including their own. The Legislature now sets pay for district attorneys, county auditors, and supervisors.

PROPOSITION 8—Would permit insurance company property tax deduction for home or principal office only on the area in any building occupied by company and affiliates and corporate or other managers. The present system has been credited with attracting large insurance company home offices to California.

PROPOSITION 9—Permits Legislature to grant top tax exemption of \$5,000 to California veteran blinded in both eyes while in service. Would permit exemption to 90 blind veterans in the state.

PROPOSITION 10—Would authorize the state to lend funds at little or no interest with Legislature approval to cover losses of private property in Governor-declared disaster areas.

PROPOSITION 11—Would take boxing and wrestling from the Constitution and place in the Business and Professional Code. The Legislature then would be in a position to legislate controls. No opposition has been reported.

PROPOSITION 12—Would permit any board of supervisors to set up assessment appeal boards, to fix salaries for the boards, and set procedures. Would remove present limitation of permitting boards in counties of 400,000 or more population.

PROPOSITION 13—Would do away with Constitutional requirement that taxpayer make an annual statement of real and personal property to county assessor. Generally ignored in California today. No organized opposition reported.

PROPOSITION 14—Would empower Legislature to enact law allowing California taxpayers to base state income tax on federal income tax return.

PROPOSITION 15—Would offer reading test exemption to prospective voters if the applicant was 50 years old or more on June 27, 1952, and had lived in this country 20 years or more.

PROPOSITION 16—So-called CLEAN initiative amendment is an effort to strengthen laws against the publication and distribution of pornography. Many California organizations have opposed the initiative as a violation of basic concepts of due process and equality under the law. The Press-Herald has opposed this measure in its editorial columns as being a threat to the publication and circulation of newspapers and general magazines.

Intercontinental Ballistic Missile



SACRAMENTO REPORT

Some Campaign Donations Can Be Deductible in State

By CHARLES E. CHAPEL

Assemblyman, 46th District

When you prepare your state personal income tax return in 1967, for the 1966 calendar and fiscal year, you can deduct up to one hundred dollars for campaign donations. If a man and his wife file a joint return, the maximum deduction is two hundred dollars, simply because the deduction is up to one hundred dollars per person.

This law is found in Section 1723 of the Revenue and Taxation Code of California. It became a law during the general session of 1957. I remember this distinctly, because, as a member of the Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee, I was one of the co-authors of the law.

The law is so worded that the deduction applies to campaigns leading to primary and general elections. For example, in 1964, if you

donated to the campaign funds of either Mr. L. E. Johnson or Mr. Barry M. Goldwater you could get the deduction when you filed your returns with the California State Franchise Tax Board in 1965.

It is not necessary for the donation to be either in cash or by check. For example, this year, if a lady holds a "coffee klatch" at her home for a candidate who will be on the ballot on November 8, the cost of the coffee, tea, cookies, etc., counts as a campaign donation, but there must be some documentary evidence of the expenditures such as a bill marked paid, a canceled check, etc.

Being able to present documentary evidence of all types of expenditures is essential for both federal and state income tax purposes. For example, at Christmas time I find it very difficult to pass Salvation Army peo-

ple without dropping money in their kettles. Naturally, the Salvation Army lads and lassies are not passing out receipts even though the money dropped in their kettles is theoretically deductible for both federal and state income tax purposes. Some people meet this problem by mailing a check to the Salvation Army and then shutting their eyes when they pass the kettles.

Unfortunately, there is no federal law allowing deductions for campaign donations. This is important because the federal income tax increases each year. So does the California state income tax. Both are bad but the federal bite cuts deeper and hurts worse than the State bite.

Incidentally, during my sixteen years in the California Legislature I have never voted in favor of increasing an existing tax or levying a new tax. My theory is that if the State would spend less income from taxes of all types.

Several years ago I heard a man and his wife (residents of the 46th Assembly District) complain to a Los Angeles County Supervisor that the taxes on their home were so high that they had to place a mortgage on it to pay the annual tax bill. They said to him: "What shall we do?"

He replied: "Sell your home and go on the county welfare rolls!" That Los Angeles County Supervisor is no longer in office.

Opinions of Others

Many in both the legislative and executive branches of the national government obviously believe that the country can both wage a war and carry on the Great Society at home. But other Americans are not so sure. They are concerned about continued deficit financing and growing inflation. If the war costs more and more, they feel domestic spending must be cut back.—*Findlay (Ohio) Republican-Courier.*

A good many years ago, when the first concerted effort was mounted by professional educators to get support from the federal government, The Enterprise pointed out that with federal money came control of the minds of our youth. The injection of about five to ten per cent federal money into our state school program has given them the right to plan bus routes, order the shifting of pupils, force changes in facilities, and submission by each school district to Washington of a plan of how they would operate their schools for the present year. Our school people got federal help—but they have lost control of education. You and I will only lose our children.—*Camilla (Ga.) Enterprise.*

Morning Report:

With understandable pride, France announced the other day she is now in third place in the atomic arms race behind us and the Russians. Of course in this game, third place is like third place in the World Series. You just aren't in it.

Not only that, but it's very costly in friendships. As France moves up, more and more countries get mad at her. And the closer to Paris, the madder they get. Belgium, Germany, and Italy are now first in line. China, however, is quite palsy-walsy.

As General de Gaulle is finding out, there's a lot of glory to be found in the world, but no justice. When France was flat on her military back, everybody loved her.

Abe Mellinkoff

HERB CAEN SAYS:

Choose Your Violations With Care, Save Money

Advertising Man Rod Rucker, one of the really fine thinkers of our time, has been making an in-depth study of the S. P. parking tag, and discovers some remarkable bargains thereon—regular "loss leaders," in fact. For natives and visitors alike, herewith a few of his more cogent findings:

If you park within 15 ft. of a fire hydrant, the tap is \$15 (Violation V22514) whereas if you park on a railroad track, it's only \$2 (H21A)—a saving of \$13. . . Why park in bus zones at \$5 a pop (22500I) when you can park on somebody's front lawn for only \$3 (P19). And think of the interesting conversations . . . Never block a driveway for \$15 (V22500E) when you can park in the middle of an intersection, lock your car and stroll away for a piddling \$2 (V22500A) . . . Overtime parking in a meter zone is a fair buy at \$2 (H81) but there are places where you can park over 72 hours for only \$5, a much better value (T37A).

Since he started choosing his violations with care, Mr. Rucker reports, he has been able to park much more conveniently, if illegally, for the past three months at a saving of \$30.

A few well-chosen words from Pulitzer Prizewinner Harry Ashmore: "In the early days of television, we

figured the relentless scrutiny of the camera would purge politics of the phony and venal. But once TV had demonstrated that no politician could succeed without employing the skills of the actor, some group of king-makers was bound to go the

San Francisco

whole way and seek an actor for a candidate." Why, they wouldn't DARE.

S. F.'s Jack Warnecke is indeed the Kennedy family's house architect. Now he's designing a three-level showplace for the Ted Kennedys, to be built on the Virginia Palisades, overlooking the Potomac . . . Never block a driveway for \$15 (V22500E) when you can park in the middle of an intersection, lock your car and stroll away for a piddling \$2 (V22500A) . . . Overtime parking in a meter zone is a fair buy at \$2 (H81) but there are places where you can park over 72 hours for only \$5, a much better value (T37A).

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Wonderful world: Peter

WILLIAM HOGAN

'A Long Way Up' Tells Story of Jill Kinmont

"Before the Crash — she already spoke of this as B. C. — she had no use for people who felt sorry for themselves, and now (she was permanently paralyzed) was hardly the time to start making exceptions." "A Long Way Up: The Story of Jill Kinmont" is a sensitively written, sentimental biography by E. G. Valens. His subject is an 18-year-old young lady, who, in the mid-1950s, was the fastest, most publicized feminine contender for the U. S. Olympic Ski Team.

During an important pre-Olympic competition in January, Jill Kinmont started a jump too late and crashed in the snow at approximately 40 miles an hour before a crowd of terrified spectators. She was taken off the slopes a quadriplegic, with broken neck, paralyzed from the shoulders down.

Valens has written a skiing story; a medical story, and a beguiling account of a girl who, after the near-fatal accident, strongly objected to newspaper stories of "plucky Jill" or "spunky young woman."

Plunky and spunky she might have been, as her condition improved from "critical" to "poor," there was really nothing else she could be, living under what seemed to be intolerable conditions. She was a human

being trapped in a tragic drama. Yet she managed to continue her studies in education at UCLA (confined

Books

to a big, old third-hand motorized chair) and ultimately made it as a student teacher in a Seattle high school.

This is quite a story. Valens has handled it with taste and a witty insight into the American teen-age mind where, under less sure hands, this might have be-

come a tired "inspirational" book, complete with "pluck" and "spunk."

It is a book that might appeal to younger Americans, among others, perhaps to relatively healthy teenagers who think they have problems, and Jill? She is still able to remember the runs in the old days before the crash, "every slon course, every downhill-land in my mind I can still find where I want to reup and where I'll have a cick. I know I could sk. . . if I could ski."

We Quote . . .

With the present day "cult of youth" encouraging immaturity, it might not be a bad idea to raise the voting age.—Thomas Wetzel, Hollywood.

The Big Government philosophy that money solves all problems is as fuzzy as that of parents attempting to help the errant child by largesse rather than wise discipline.—Joseph Brisbane, M.D., Thousand Oaks.

Life is the supreme test of man, and its aim is to have faced the test well.—William Morgan, Daly City.

Any man can be bitter if he has been treated, but it is a far bigger man who can rise above bitterness to achieve a far superior goal of human understanding.—Stan Jurd, Palo Alto.

Our goal is to help the needy, not just to satisfy the requirements of federal and state officials.—Assemblyman Jan C. Vene-man, Modesto.

Break and try the law and you'll see somebody. Keep that and respect authority and you'll go unnoticed all your life.—Mrs. E. H. Campbell, San Francisco, on philosophy of demonstration, hers.

Children able play with others grow up with a storehouse of shared experiences and communicative which will help them through problems of adulthood.—Dr. Albert Schrut, US psychiatrist.

My Neighbors



"Careful where you step—my pet mice are getting their exercise."

FROM THE MAILBOX

Press-Herald Opposition To Proposal Wins Praise

Editor, Press-Herald: Thank you for your editorial of Oct. 12 on Torrance Charter Amendment Z, which concerns the method of selection of the mayor.

We hope the voters agree that a thorough examination of the entire city charter will be better for Torrance good government than piecemeal and hastily presented charter amendments such as Amendment Z. We urge a "no" vote on this and insist that charter amendments should be properly reviewed by a citizens committee looking at the whole charter.

Money could be better spent on professional staff assistance in such a review than is now being spent in

placing Amendment Z on the ballot. The Torrance charter was adopted in 1945

Letters

and there is little doubt that it is time for a review of the whole.

MRS. WILLIAM F. RADCLIFFE, President, Torrance League of Woman Voters.

Editor, Press-Herald: Senior citizens on fixed incomes should look at the upcoming Torrance school bonds as an opportunity to keep their taxes down. They will have a few extra dollars to enjoy each year if new schools are financed with

bonds. If the Board of Education has to raise taxes for a pay-as-you-go school building program because the bonds don't pass, senior citizens who have no children will be paying more than their share for schools that will be used by the next generation.

This is a point that is often overlooked by people on fixed incomes. It is cheaper each year to build with school bonds. Naturally the lower rate has to go more years but so what if it keeps your taxes lower now. This is when you need the money, not 20 years from now.

Think it over! Vote "yes" and keep your taxes down. J. H. HULL, Superintendent of Schools