

Press-Herald

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Voters Speak Strongly

The voices of Torrance voters rang out loud and clear at the polls Tuesday, and if one word could sum it up, the word would have to be "dissatisfaction."

Three incumbent councilmen ran poorly, the city's uniform housing code was voted away and the move to raise monthly salaries of councilmen was soundly beaten.

On the winning team each of them backed by Mayor Albert Isen, were Dr. Donald E. Wilson, who now will resign from the Board of Education; William Uerkwitz, a telephone company employe, who talked strongly against urban renewal as the homeowners' candidate; and Orin P. "Bud" Johnson, real estate salesman and former assistant city manager, who stressed his city hall experience in campaigning as the best qualified candidate.

It was evident from the first tally Tuesday night that the incumbents were in trouble. Torrance voters apparently were not alone in expressing displeasure with the state of their city. Other Southland voters were busy turning out incumbent mayors and councilmen, including neighboring Lomita whose incumbent mayor was defeated.

If the new City Council can take one lesson from Tuesday's balloting, it probably should be that the people do not want urban renewal in Torrance.

We congratulate the new members of the City Council and wish them well in their endeavors to make Torrance a better community in which to live and work.

Two Voices Stilled

Two voice who had been strong and healthy influences in Torrance for nearly half a century were stilled by death this week.

Mrs. Jessie Wood, wife of Dr. Howard A. Wood, and W. E. Bowen, longtime Torrance business and church leader, each had served in many community roles since coming here in 1922. Each died Monday.

Mrs. Wood spent many hours in hospital auxiliary, Red Cross, and Gray Lady work, giving unselfishly of her many talents. She also found time to participate in women's service organizations and in the field of music in which she had been trained.

Mr. Bowen, who spent many years as the head of a local mutual building association, was active later in insurance and real estate. His business activities were almost a sideline, however, to his many endeavors for his church, the YMCA, and other community youth and philanthropic organizations.

Two strong people are gone, people who have influenced the direction this community went for more than 45 years.

We shall miss them.

Morning Report:

Running for the Presidency has never been easy. But this year it's harder than ever because a brand new special interest group has been added to the electorate.

Up until now, there were the farmers, who wanted higher prices; the businessmen, who wanted higher profits; and labor unions, which wanted higher wages. So the candidate came out in favor of higher prices, profits, and wages.

This year, however, the candidate must face the students, who cheer the candidate who promises the lowest draft call, the lowest, of course, being no draft at all. And the students appear to be holding fast on this issue—at least until they pass 26 and become farmers, businessmen, or union members.

Abe Mellinkoff

TIME TO SHORTEN THE LINE



HERB CAEN SAYS:

Bishop's Aide Not Eager To Publicize This Bunny

Racy doings on the religious front! It seems that the foldout "playmate" in a recent issue of Playboy is the daughter of a high official in a most dignified West Coast Episcopalian diocese (not Knob Hill). Understandably titillated, Lester Kinsolving, fighting religious editor of the San Francisco Chronicle, phoned the editor of the diocesan newspaper and asked: "When are you going to print this interesting news?" "The same day we print your obituary, fella," came the reply.

Flash from S.F.'s Evelyn
Report From Our Man
In San Francisco

Now then: John Cameron Swayze would be shocked to learn that one of his beloved Timex watches, immersed in three inches of water in the front window of a Chinatown pharmacy, is not running—and hasn't for days. What is there left to believe in? . . . The Clan Kennedy may be sore at S.F.'s Red Fay (over his non-defying book about the late President) but Old Red isn't one to hold a grudge; he's behind Bobby's candidacy "all the way" . . . Today's brain-boggler features Barry Goldwater, who plugs M. Stanton Evans' new book, "The Future of Conservatism" with these pearly words: "I think this book fills a needed gap" . . . And then there's Rudy Peterson, Pres. of Bank of America who commented in his speech at the University of Calif. upon receiving an honorary degree: "What this country needs desperately is the sort of person who can readily identify and discard the cliches. That goes without saying." To coin a phrase?

Kant Whitman in Rome: "Rome's Porta Portese Flea Market is loaded with good used American clothes in fine, new supply—just as it was after the Florence floods. With the Sicilian Earthquake Relief going through Naples, I suppose this was inevitable, but to see all those San Francisco labels—and to know how hard somebody in our North Beach Italian community worked to pack the things—makes the sight painful." Hey, Evelyn, if you run across my old Boy Scout uniform—Troop 39, Wolf Patrol—I'll buy it back.

A Letter To My Son

By Tom Rische
High School Teacher and Youth Worker

Dear Bruce,
I'm glad that you aren't old enough to understand the meaning of the headlines in our papers last week—those that told of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King.
I'm not quite sure how to explain that bit of violence, nor that which took other lives in revenge. Our nation supposedly the most civilized and best-educated on earth, saw some of its citizens reach back to the old frontier method of settling arguments. No wonder foreigners ask if our cowboy and Indian days are over.
To explain a bit, Bruce, the problem is about 10 per cent of America's citizens are black—descendants of slaves. Although the American Constitution said that all men are created free and equal, it didn't consider black men as a whole man, but only as 3/5 of a man and gave his owner the right to vote for him.
Although that part of the Constitution has been changed, Negroes still are discriminated against in various ways—in job opportunities, in housing, in schooling.
The difficulties occur because some people don't want the Negroes to have those rights and will use any means to prevent it. Many Negroes say that they have waited long enough for the white man to give them their rights and now they are going to take them by any means they can. If we can't have equal rights now, say some, then we'll destroy the country.
The man who was murdered, Dr. King, was seeking a peaceful solution—a middle way between the fanatics on both sides.
If there is any moral to such an immoral act, it is that we need to concentrate on finding solutions to our problems at home. Problems aren't solved by pretending they don't exist. Let's not return to the frontier or the jungle.
Yours for civilization,
YOUR DAD

SACRAMENTO SCENE

Major Efforts to Repeal Rumford Act Die Quietly

By EDWIN S. CAPPS
Capitol News Service

SACRAMENTO—It would seem that, nearly four years after the voters voted overwhelmingly in favor of Prop. 14, and nearly two years after the U. S. Supreme Court negated that vote of 4,526,460 Californians, the will of the court finally has been imposed on the people.
Within recent days, the California Real Estate Association, which sponsored Prop. 14—to repeal the Rumford Housing Act—said it would not support another initiative to repeal that act.

And Governor Ronald Reagan, who campaigned in 1966 for repeal of the act, and who urged modification of the act in 1967, now has said he would veto any bill sent to his desk which would repeal the Rumford Act.

The CREA said it favors SB293 by Senator Lawrence E. Walsh, D-Huntington Park, which had been introduced at its request. This measure would create a five-member California fair housing commission, with the emphasis on the commission's taking affirmative action against alleged discrimination in the sale or rental of housing because of race, creed, color, religion, or national origin.

Probably no law in recent times has had the controversy and impact on California as the Rumford Housing Act. The measure had been introduced with the frequen-

cy and lack of success of a bill for fair employment practices over the years. But, in the closing hours of the 1963 session of the legislature, it finally was approved.

This came following a three-week lie-in in the capitol rotunda, back in the days when this type of demonstration was in its infancy. Approval of the bill in

Review of Major News On the Sacramento Scene

the senate, just before midnight with some slick parliamentary maneuvering, caused some rifts among members which never have healed.

The floor strategy on that last night of the 1963 session was masterminded by Senator Edwin J. Regan, D-Weaverville, who later was rewarded by Governor Edmund G. Brown with an appointment to the appellate court. Brown waited until the last possible moment to sign the Rumford Act into law, thus cutting the time for qualification of a referendum and an effort in that direction was abandoned.

Then came 1964, with the grass roots effort to qualify Prop. 14 for the ballot and the overwhelming vote in its favor.

Perhaps the biggest surprise in the recent events was the turnaround by Governor Reagan. He had campaigned solidly in 1966

on the repeal of the Rumford Housing Act.

During the 1967 session of the legislature, a straight repealer of the law was passed by the state senate under the authorship of Senator Hugh M. Burns, D-Fresno, president pro tempore of the senate.

Burns sought passage of the bill last year, not on the merits of the Rumford Act, or lack of them, but merely because he felt the legislature should carry out the will of the people.

"I believe that when Prop. 14 was passed by the voters in 1964, it was passed with only one purpose in mind and that was the repeal of the Rumford Act," Burns said last year.

Burns said he felt one of the principal contributions to the defeat of the Democrats in 1966 was the party's endorsement and enactment of laws that were unpopular to the majority of the people and the Rumford Act was the straw that broke the camel's back.

Reagan said last year he would sign the repealer into law, although his office later supported amendments to the repealer to modify the law. That effort failed in the closing hours of the 1967 legislature. And now the governor said he would have to veto a Rumford repealer bill unless it included provisions for setting up some law in its place.

ROYCE BRIER

World Population Nearing Standing-Room-Only State

A few months ago there was a story that the world population growth had slackened in 1967, but this is not borne out by a recent report of the Population Reference Bureau.

Before the end of this year the world population will exceed 3.5 billion, and it is presently growing at about 70 million a year. In 1953 world population was 2.5 billion, and it will be 4.5 billion in the 1980s, 7 billion by the year 2000.

The present birth rate is 324,000 daily, and the death rate is 133,000. These are just figures until they are processed by experts, and out of the processing emerges the over-

whelming significance—and menace—of the population surge.

For instance, most of the growth occurs in the underdeveloped nations of Asia, Latin America, and Africa. But more astounding, in these nations about half of the population is under 15 years of age. Therefore,

Opinions on Affairs of the World

Chairman Mao, for example, rules what amounts to a nation of children, and the Red Guard turmoil of the past three years becomes understandable. In our country almost a third of

the population is under 15, which makes our own recent turmoil understandable, too.

Back in the 1950s, when we were spending about \$6 billion a year in aid of underdeveloped countries, our estimates of need were based on surveys made in the 1940s, an unreliable decade because of the interposition of war.

In any case, in 15 years the growth rate has far outrun our tables of needs of the undeveloped. In Latin America the rate of population increase, 2 per cent in the 1950s, now exceeds 3 per cent, and as the Reference Bureau says, "The high proportion of dependent children poses serious economic and social problems."

The key to this perilous situation is an imbalance between the rate of food production and human reproduction. Each day there are 190,000 more mouths to feed, and this requires a third of a billion calories at subsistence level. It is not being produced.

It is a long-time cliché to say the basic cause is a falling death rate and a rising birth rate. Only the developed nations, comprising about one-third of mankind, can at present cope with this situation. They have enough to eat.

A few years ago there was a flurry among the demographic thinkers about spreading birth control to the undeveloped countries. Stuff thinking and religious scruple delayed a start, but finally a sort of pilot project was tried in India. It never got under way because the weight of Indian tradition was against it. Family planning to them, except a minute educated class, was having as many children as possible to help the old folks on the little farm.

So the controversial steam has gone from world birth control—the peasantry answered the questions with indifference.

What next? Nobody knows. It is fairly certain that 22 years hence, when your child is living in a world twice as populous as today's, it won't be a better world.

WILLIAM HOGAN

A Guide to 'Childrenese' Receives Warm Reception

As a chronic observer of best-seller charts, I was interested to see that Dr. Haim G. Ginott's "Between Parent and Child: New Solutions to Old Problems" has been high on both the Chicago Tribune and New York Times non-fiction lists for a considerable number of weeks.

"Between Parent and Child" purports to tell you how to talk "Childrenese." It is billed as a new way to "get through" to your child. It discusses discipline, permissiveness, limits, new ways to "praise" or "criticize" a youngster, and offers other approaches to breaching this particular generation gap.

The author is a New York psychologist who for 15 years has worked with parents and children in both individual and group guidance and psychotherapy. Macmillan published the book in September, 1965. There are now more than 300,000 copies in print at \$4.95, and Ginott apparently is on his way to becoming the cerebral Benjamin Spock.

A half years after its initial appearance? A local book-seller reports that this articulate, persuasive specialist's appearances on television, especially the Johnny Carson show, are almost immediately reflected at sales counters. Another explanation is that word-of-mouth enthusiasm among mothers,

Browsing Through the World of Books

members of PTAs, women's clubs, and the like keeps building interest in this prospective panacea for a universal problem, or frustration.

Ginott is patient, sensible, indeed elemental as he talks, in this book, with hundreds of thousands of perplexed and questing parents. He finds that conversing with children is a unique art with rules and meanings of its own; that children are rarely naive in their communication; that their messages are often in a code that need deciphering; that children love and resent parents at the same time; and other facts that have been true for thousands of years, no doubt.

The book's "ambitious purpose," its publisher explains, is "to make life between parent and child less irritating and more rewarding." Its vast success is an interesting, even poignant comment on American mass culture, 1968. Just as "How to Win Friends and Influence People" was in 1937; "Strength for Service to God and Country," by Norman F. Nygaard, in 1942; Joshua L. Liebman's "Peace of Mind" in 1946; "The Power of Positive Thinking" in 1952; "Analysis of the Kinsey Reports on Sexual Behavior in the Human Male and Female" in 1954; and other best-selling pacifiers for grown-ups over the years.

Notes on the Margin

"Ribsy," by Beverly Cleary, has won the 1968 None Award, the Hawaii State Children's Book Award. The honor is given to the favorite book of the year, chosen by the children of Hawaii themselves, grades four through eight. Mrs. Cleary's through eight. Mrs. Cleary's 19th book, "Ramona the Pest," will be published this spring (Morrow).