

# Press-Herald

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## A Needless Proposal

We often hear it said that an endeavor which can produce little or no tangible results is "an exercise in futility."

That phrase might well be used to describe the proposal on the April 9 municipal ballot calling for the repeal of Torrance's housing code.

Proposed by a group called Active Citizens of Torrance, the ballot measure would repeal Ordinance 1567 by which the city adopted the 1964 uniform Housing Code. Also would cancel out whatever amendments had been made to the code, and it would prohibit the City Council from enacting another code without going to the voters.

Proponents seemingly believed that the cancellation of the city's housing code and its authority for housing inspections would block urban renewal in the city.

As fact, we are told, the repeal of the code would have no effect on renewal. The principal flaw in the reasoning, city officials say, is that the state's housing code would become operative here with the end of the local code. It contains nearly identical language.

A further threat is seen in the possibility that the city's plumbing, electrical, and building codes are in jeopardy at the same time. Add to this the doubts about the validity of the initiative as a legal requirement on the city and it adds up to a complex mess.

And all for naught. The only change it would bring would be to substitute state codes over housing in the city instead of our own. It would take the code out of the hands of the City Council and transfer it to the Legislature without affecting the operation of urban renewal here, the real target of the proposal.

We are convinced Torrance voters would be doing themselves a big favor if they would reject the initiative on April 9. It has no positive qualities to recommend it, and it has many bad ones.

Vote NO on Proposition A on April 9.

## Opinions of Others

In the wide coverage of President Lyndon Johnson's 'State of the Union' address, emphasis was given again and again that he means to press for maximum economy in the operations of the government. His avowed purpose is to get a dollar's worth of value in return for each public dollar spent. . . . It is to be hoped that the President will take still another needed step . . . that is, to urge the removal of government from the tax-exempt operation of commercial projects which can and should be undertaken by taxpaying private enterprise.—*Mullins (S.C.) Enterprise*.

One of the things that gripes us, no end, is that various groups and individuals who declare their right to free speech and demonstration deny that same right to their opponents. You can read daily of various groups who simply raise heck in assembly halls with their screeching and hollering when a respected member of our society reaches the podium to give his talk. . . . It is time that rowdy elements of our society garner the common rules of courtesy for their opponents, or in simple words practice the golden rule.—*Brighton (Colo.) Blade*.

If Congress is looking for priority targets for possible economies in the new budget, the contemplated increases in the \$25 billion federal payroll certainly merit a place close to the top.—*Towanda (Pa.) Review*.

A local executive commented to us that the one thing that disturbs him most about big government and its proclivity to mix into the affairs of business is the bureaucratic tendency to believe that failure is evil. If through government protectionism, business loses the "freedom to fail," it loses that which has driven private enterprise to its great heights of accomplishment.—*Honolulu (Hawaii) News*.

## SPEAKING OF THE DOLLAR DRAIN



## HERB CAEN SAYS:

# Savings Tycoon Admits Strong Union Leanings

Savings & Loan tycoon Bart Lytton does his own TV commercials, so he had to join AFTRA, the TV performers' union. When he came to the line on the application reading "Other union affiliations," he wrote, tycoon-like: "Union Bank, Union League, Union Oil." . . . New York City is so desperate for lawyers that it is offering a \$15,000-a-yr. starting salary for kids fresh out of school, and don't think that isn't worrying law firms here, where a good starting salary is \$10,000. At least one big and distinguished firm is ready to meet that \$15,000 figure—although I should think just the privilege of being in S.F. would be worth \$5,000. . . . As a Scotch drinker, it pains me to report this true fact: The importing of Scotch whisky costs us 10 times as much as our foreign travel, in terms of the trade deficit. . . . Be American! Stay home and get stoned on bourbon.

Onward: S/Sgt. Tom Callahan of San Carlos, Calif., member of a helicopter crew in Vietnam, sends some \$400

## Report From Our Man In San Francisco

a month home to be stashed away, but last month he mailed in only \$350, explaining to his parents that he needed the \$50 for a new uniform because "we had to bomb the village where our laundry is done." . . . The other day I was thinking of a few problems that even I can't solve: one is how to tell a driver on a straightaway freeway that his blinker turn signal is on. The solution is simple, according to a local sage. As you pass him you wave frantically with your fingers opening and closing on your thumb. If you don't care about being taken for a nut, give it a try. . . . The wives of our San Francisco cable car grippers are griping about their hobbies coming home on pay day without their paychecks. Now don't tell me there's gambling around our car barns!

Once the war and the elections are out of the way, the dinner table arguments these nights revolve around the movie, "Bonnie and Clyde." "Glorification of a couple of psychotic bums," "Incitement to violence," "Not even true to life," argue the antis. The pros counter with, "It's the greatest film in years." I tend to the latter viewpoint, recalling what Picasso said to a lady who was staring disdainfully at a picture of his

The other President who's in trouble these days is, of course, Mr. de Gaulle. The large picture of him in that S.F. enclave of super-Frenchness—the Cercle de l'Union (French Club) on rue Mason—has disappeared from the

LBJ is in trouble. This isn't my first exclusive—everybody knows it, including even LBJ. He's so worried he's coming to California soon to make one of his rare personal appearances outside an armed camp. That's because the LBJ-pledged State delegation to the national convention not only has some powerful absentee (State Assembly Speaker Unruh and State Senator Moscone for instance), there is even evidence that some of the "loyalists" ON the delegation are secret admirers of Eugene McCarthy. Zounds.

## Morning Report:

Nobody believes in superstitions any more. Well, nobody except the three-star general, now en route to Vietnam, who was in charge of interior transportation at the Pentagon the day the President and Secretary McNamara were among 13 passengers stuck in elevator No. 13.

The President's mood worsened when the public address system broke down soon after, the two-star general, in charge of communications, noted as he boarded a plane for Saigon. The one-star general, a weather officer, fingering his travel orders, said the rain that fell on the President was just "one of those things."

Why does bad luck always come in threes, I wondered, as I sat in my dentist's office the next day. It's room 1400, just one floor up from the 12th.

Abe Mellinkoff

## SACRAMENTO SCENE

# Summer Jobs for Youths Poses Gigantic Problem

By EDWIN S. CAPPS  
Capitol News Service

Governor Ronald Reagan's plan for hiring youth in summertime jobs may result in some realignment of who gets the jobs but, at this point, doesn't indicate it will put many more young people to work.

Spencer Williams, administrator of the health and welfare agency, announced several weeks ago that a full-scale program would be launched to find work for up to 400,000 young people, between the ages of 16-21. Along with efforts to find jobs for them in private industry, an all-out effort was planned for hiring the youth in state service.

Robert H. Hill, of the state department of employment, who is coordinating the program, said it's doubtful if too many results will be shown this year. He said the youth summer employment is not a crash program and may take another year to show real results.

Williams had said committees in state government and private industry would work toward removing some of the barriers which prevent young people from finding employment. One of the barriers specified by Williams was a present state regulation which prevents hiring of persons under 18 years of age in most departments. Williams said the personnel board would be asked to relax this rule.

To date, the personnel board has not been asked to make any changes in the rule. John F. Fisher, executive officers, said he didn't see that there would be any objection, unless there are legal problems, but there had been no request.

In the three state agencies which do most of the hiring of young people during the summer months, there won't be much change in the number hired this year, although the selection of the employees may be somewhat different.

One of the big employers is the division of forestry. The work is mainly firefighting. Employees are paid up to \$377 per month, with some \$30-\$40 deducted for room and board.

There presently are 1,400 such positions, although

about 1,800 youths are involved each summer because of a turnover. Robert D. Calkins, deputy director of the department of conservation, said more young men could be used if funds are provided for it in the budget.

However, a division policy requires that preference in hiring be given to those persons who have worked a

## The Men in Action on the Sacramento Scene.

successful summer for the division. As a result, about 1,050 of the 1,400 employees will be returning this year after service in previous years.

In the division of beaches and parks, where young men are hired for general maintenance work, as well as in some other areas, the number to be hired this summer will be about 1,200, or about the same number as last year. Frank D. Nicol, deputy director, said preference would be given to disadvantaged youth, including 100 from poverty areas who will be hired this summer for work at Angel Island state park.

Nicol said a special program will be started for parks and beaches which are near Indian reservations, for the hiring of Indian youth. He said not all of the 1,200 temporary summer positions are for people between 16-21, however, as some are for life guards and other specialized types of work. Nicol said it is hoped that 300 disadvantaged youths might be hired this summer.

In the department of fish and game, the 1968-69 budget would restore the seasonal aide program to the level it was before last year's budget cuts. In the current fiscal year, the hiring of part-time workers in the summer actually was cut by about two-thirds in order to meet economy orders.

It is expected the budget for 1968-69 will restore the summer employment program in fish and game to about 150. It had dropped to about 50 last year.

In the department of employment, Hill said work was progressing at removing barriers from hiring of young people by the state. However, he said the bar-

riers were primarily informational or educational.

As a result, Hill said the state personnel board was preparing a brochure which would inform young people of what job opportunities existed with the state. In addition, the board is setting up a class for part-time summertime help.

Hill admitted there would be only a limited number of jobs available this year and said the department "didn't want too much publicity" on them. Hopefully, he said, more planning can be done for the future, with the result the summer hiring program may be going strong a year from now.

## Quote

We don't plan to let people influence us to divide our nation in a time of peril I ask you to join in a program of national austerity to ensure that our economy will prosper and our fiscal position is sound—President Lyndon B. Johnson.

Ushering common drunks through the "revolving door" of the criminal process has failed to deter public drunkenness. It has failed to rehabilitate persons with chronic drinking problems. It has proved to be unnecessarily expensive.—Assemblyman W. Craig Biddle, Riverside.

If federal officials can set their own regulations on resident wildlife, including the killing of wild birds and animals when they please, other land owners might claim the same right for the same reason.—Walter T. Shannon, director of fish and game.

"Opened by mistake" applies more to mouths than to letters.—James A. Williams in the Southwest Virginia Enterprise.

Everyone is of some use—even if nothing more than serving as a horrible example.—Jack E. Hester in the Charleston (Ind.) Courier.

We are on trial as a nation as to whether we have the discipline and the courage and the leadership to pay our way.—Congressman George H. Mahon (D-Texas).

## WILLIAM HOGAN

# JFK Secretary Says LBJ Scheduled to Be Dumped

Inside Stuff: An unexpected salvo has been leveled against Lyndon B. Johnson—and from an unexpected critic in this election year. She is Evelyn Lincoln, who joined John F. Kennedy as personal secretary after he was elected to the Senate, and remained with him until his death.

Very much a Kennedy person, and author of a previous book, "My Twelve Years with John F. Kennedy," Mrs. Lincoln spills a few secrets in "Kennedy & Johnson," a record of their running mutual antagonism. JFK and LBJ simply did not get along well, Mrs. Lincoln tells us. They hadn't since they both jockeyed for the presidential nomination of 1960 when Mr. Johnson finally backed Hubert Humphrey in the West Virginia primary seeking to eliminate JFK right there. Mr. Kennedy's first choice for vice president after the nomination, she reminds us, was Orville Freeman.

This book was in the news recently when Sen. Robert F. Kennedy denied her statement that Mr. Kennedy decided to dump Mr. Johnson from the 1964 election ticket. She relies on a detailed daily diary of everything that happened in Mr. Kennedy's office, and one tends to believe in her position as "sieve" for all information coming into that office. Mrs.

Lincoln on Mr. Kennedy's choice for 1964:

"At this time," he is quoted, "I am thinking about Governor Terry Sanford of North Carolina. But it will not be Lyndon."

At best, "Kennedy & Johnson" is a footnote to history.

## Browsing Through the World of Books

Mrs. Lincoln admits she is not a professional historian. Yet there are painful moments that show Mr. Kennedy seldom at ease with Mr. Johnson. One particularly distressing vignette describes Mr. Kennedy's pain during a pre-election visit to the LBJ ranch; the 6 a.m. deer-stalking assignments, and perpetual blare of loudspeakers relaying ranch orders, or just piping Musak.

After the election, she tells us, Mr. Johnson was always after her to get him on important White House social guest lists. Other embarrassing out-of-office tales range from Mr. Johnson's lifting the President's personal copy of the New York Times to tantrums, abusive language, and the Vice President's irritating habit of shaking his finger under the President's nose and saying: "But now let me tell you, Jack."

Mrs. Lincoln's diary entries carry a certain gossip value, and certainly emphasize the vast difference in

political styles of the two men. President Kennedy was acutely aware of this. Perhaps, Mrs. Lincoln writes, the difference between them is best summed up in a wire Mr. Johnson sent to Mr. Kennedy when the Kennedy baby was born: "Name that boy Lyndon Johnson and a heifer calf will be his."

## My Neighbors



"Don't look now, Harold, but I think our tree's been bugged."

## A Letter . . . To My Son

By Tom Rische  
High School Teacher and Youth Worker

Dear Bruce, Sometimes I ask my students what to say in these letters, and they give me all sorts of ideas. Here's a letter I liked, from a girl named Betsy, and I hope that someday, you'll feel that we were good enough parents and write something like this to your mother and I:

"Dear Mom and Dad—I'm supposed to be writing you a letter, giving you advice on how to raise teenagers. But who am I to be giving you advice? You who have raised two before me and will raise three after me. You who have dried my tears, patched my hurts, and done other things too numerous to mention."

"If I had any advice to give you, it would simply be this: do what you've always

done, share my joys and my sorrows, love me when I'm good and love me when I'm bad, but don't spoil me.

"Be there when I need you, but leave me alone sometimes too. Worry over me, but don't shelter me. Be happy with my successes, but don't be too gushy—or indifferent."

"I know that sometimes I don't act like it, but I really do listen to you and try to follow your advice, but it's hard and sometimes we both want to throw in the sponge. Eventually, I'll grow up and look back and see what you were molding me into, and then I'll turn around and raise my kids like you."

Your daughter  
Hoping our relationship can be like that.  
YOUR DAD