

Closing of Border Stations is Five-Year State Goal

By HENRY C. MacARTHUR
SACRAMENTO — Phasing out operation of California's border stations over the next five years, is a goal of the state department of agriculture, according to Director Richard Lyng, who reasons that the stations over the past 48 years, have performed their duty in protecting the state from an influx of farm pests.

And the reason for withdrawing the stations, is that the job can be done in a more efficient manner with

other prevention activities. These contemplate that the stations would be replaced with a greatly strengthened program of internal survey and detection of pests, with a much swifter program of eradication.

Under the new plan, Lyng said the goal would be to discover a new pest as soon as possible, confine to the area of discovery, and attempt to eradicate it before there is a spread throughout the state.

Of the stations in Califor-

nia, one, Woodford's, already has been closed, and two more, Topaz and Long Valley, will be closed by Oct. 31. The 15 other stations are located at entry points along the California, Oregon, and Nevada borders. Those known best to most Northern California motorists are located at Truckee and Meyers, where thousands of motorists have undergone delays when returning from the Nevada casinos. For some years, at these two stations, examinations of automobiles for pests, if per-

formed at all, have been perfunctory, and an apparent waste of public money.

As in the case of many another government operation for which there is no longer any use, or which can be performed better on another front, there will be opposition to closing the stations. Lyng, however, aside from being an experienced agriculturist, is a businessman as well, and sees no necessity for keeping a function operating at public expense when it is no longer needed.

He does not contemplate cutting staff to close the stations, as in the phasing out process, it is believed that employees can be taken care of in other fields, and positions lessened by normal attritions.

"With the tremendous increase of traffic into California," he said, "the border stations are becoming less and less a factor in the war against pests. The number of cars entering California will more than double by 1981, and border stations

cannot cope with the prospective work-load.

"In addition, by 1976, just as many people will enter California by air as by car, and the possibility of excluding pests will become even more remote."

When the first border stations were established in 1920, there was a danger to California crops from an invasion of alfalfa weevil from Nevada. In those days, there were no motels, and travelers frequently rolled out on blankets in the Nevada alfalfa fields, picking up the wee-

viis when the beds rolled up. This problem was handled, but others arose, necessitating the extension of the border quarantine stations, which now cover almost every point of entry into the state.

There is no question that the inspectors at the various stations performed a real service to agriculture through their work over the years, and likewise, there appears to be no good reason why, if the job can be done better, that the stations shouldn't be closed.

Your Right to Know is the Key to All Your Liberties

-Comment and Opinion-

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1968

United Crusade--It Helps

Years ago when communities in the Los Angeles area were widely separated, people pitched in and helped their neighbors when someone was in need. But today, these communities have grown together into one great urban area where people often do not know their neighbors or their needs.

We still want to help our neighbors, because we still care. We now have that chance through United Crusade, which allocates funds to 244 United Way agencies and 12 Red Cross chapters.

This network of United Crusade-

supported agencies serve families and individuals in many ways. Last year, more than 500,000 boys and girls took part in youth programs, such as scouting, Camp Fire Girls, YWCA and boys' club. Childrens Hospital heals hundreds of sick and hurt kids every year and the United Crusade picks up the tab when no one else can. Many servicemen visit USO clubs throughout the world.

Thousands benefit from Red Cross services such as safety and first aid courses and aid to the military and their families. And the Red Cross is always on the scene to assist victims of disasters.

Over five thousand people in the Harbor area cities (Carson, Gardena, Harbor City, Lomita, Palos Verdes, Rolling Hills, San Pedro, Torrance, and Wilmington) are now volunteering their time to raise funds for the United Crusade. They are doing it because they care about people and because they want 256 voluntary agencies whose only business is helping people to stay in business.

United Crusade is like a community trust fund. Everyone collects the dividends in one way or another. One of every three persons in Los Angeles County will use, or will belong to, a United Crusade-supported agency this year.

United Crusade appeals to your generosity and concern. With it, you will be helping people . . . your neighbors . . . and making a better community in which to work and live.

Mail Flounders

The new administration and the new Congress which takes office next January may find themselves in a race with catastrophe. The nation's mail service is on the brink of breaking down, and the crisis involving America's line of communication can only be resolved by swift legislative and executive action which obviously will not be forthcoming in the waning, political months of 1968. The volume of mail has steadily increased, moving more slowly than ever despite higher postage rates. . . . Nearly 20 years ago, the Hoover Commission declared "the Post Office should be taken out of politics. . . ." Until somebody acts, the mail will continue to worsen. Meanwhile, Merry Christmas.

—Camarillo Daily News, Bob Lauffer; Managing Editor.

WILLIAM HOGAN

Marc Connelly Goes Back To 'The Green Pastures'

Marc Connelly, the American playwright, is now in his late seventies. Most of the cast of characters in his chatty, anecdotal book of memoirs, "Voices Offstage," are gone to some big Algonquin Roundtable, or "Vicious Circle" in the sky — Robert Benchley, Heywood Brown, Dorothy Parker, Oscar Hammerstein, and other members of that now legendary group which dominated the theater and films of the 1920s and '30s. "Voices Offstage" deals affectionately with them all in those halcyon days in the American arts. Unfortunately, it is a thin rendition of the legend, old-fashioned in its reliance on minor jokes which are interesting mainly because of the names they involve. Jascha Heifetz to Harold Ross.

Yet there are nuggets of theater lore (now theater history) in this account of the McKeesport, Pa., boy who went to New York in 1915 to see a musical show and stayed on, fascinated by the theater, making a living by free-lance journalism and humorous verse until he

and George F. Kaufman burst forth as the most successful playwright team of the era.

"Dulcy," "Merton of the Movies," "The Farmer Takes a Wife" and, of course, Connelly's own "The Green Pastures," a revolutionary and

Browsing Through the World of Books

highly successful black production of 1930 which Connelly staged himself and won a Pulitzer Prize. The story of "The Green Pastures" is the highlight of this book. Based on Roark Bradford's "Ol Man Adam an' His Chillum," the play was a retelling of Old Testament stories in the Deep South. The Lord (Richard H. Harrison), like everyone else in the cast, was black, which drove some white Christian zealots almost out of their minds. The play never did appear in England (although the subsequent film did) due to the privileges and whims of the Lord Chamberlain's censorship policy.

Connelly wrote "The Green Pastures" with com-

passion and pathos. Brooks Atkinson called the words "Gangway for de Lawd God Jehovah," spoken by the Angel Gabriel, "the greatest entrance cue in modern drama." Whether "The Green Pastures" would play in today's highly volatile climate is debatable, and Connelly does not comment on that.

He does comment briefly on today's playwrights, whom he finds are often too strident, who offer less persuasion than clamor. They exploit the theater, this voice from another age suggests, rather than serve it. Connelly reminds his younger colleagues that the theater is "a place for implication, not polemics. . . . It is twisted out of shape when someone tries to make it a lecture platform, a pulpit or a soapbox." Yet 70 years after the theater first filled Marcus C. Connelly with wonder and delight, he believes the theater is "the best social instrument man has ever devised. . . . the scope of its observation is limitless."

It's The Man Behind Who Always Wants to Debate **HERB CAEN SAYS:**

Alcatraz Eyed As a Fun Park

Something concrete seems to be in the wind for Alcatraz, you should pardon the mixed metaphor: an "educational and amusement" park financed by a major Eastern railroad. It's said to be the Mayor's "favorite" plan, but he seemed keen for Lamar Hunt's "Freedom Torch," too. . . . Even Gov. Reagan has taken to referring to Spiro Agnew as "Zorba the Veep."

Trouble on the John Wall front! Lockheed's management down the Peninsula, taking a strong anti-graffiti stand, posted this notice in the main mensroom, where it couldn't be missed: "Defacing These Walls Is Grounds For Dismissal." A doughty member of the Graffiti Underground promptly deleted the first two letters.

I ask you: What's happening over there at Standard Oil of Calif.? First they put out a Seattle street map adorned with a photo of the S.F. skyline, and now they have a San Francisco street map illustrated with a photo of the Truckee River in Reno. Let's hold those negatives up to the light, men. . . . Blow for freedom: 24 Coast Guard ladies invaded North Beach's most famous gay restaurant for lunch the other noon, their leader announcing "We have arrived to integrate this place!" Fruitless mission? . . . Maybe you had to be there: Congr. Pete McCloskey was haranguing about 60 listeners at a Woodside shopping center a couple of days ago when along came a Redwood City police car. Curious, the cop driver stared at the crowd — and ploughed kee-rash into a Mustang. Ever see blue turn red?

Meanwhile: Poster art, S.F. style, has come of age. Wes Wilson, one of the best of the psychedelographers, just rec'd a \$5,000 grant from the Nat'l Council of the Arts, for his contribution to American graphics. The only Bay Area artist so honored. . . . Dick Smothers of the Brothers bought a '52 Bentley Continental for \$4,500 and had Dennis Balchini of San Lorenza guzzy it up to the tune of another \$7,500. Now he has a \$12,000 16-year-old car.

Literary Event: You can get your hot pornographic best-seller absolutely free, printed at the taxpayers' expense. That Orange County (where else) legislator who conducted hearings on Michael McClure's "The Beard" is having the report published in Sacramento, complete with lengthy segments of the script and photos "sneaked" during performances. All in the name of smiting smut hip and thigh. Pardon. Upper limb.

Barrel's Bottom: Jeanne Poe realizes we're all tired of suggestive double bills at movie house, but she's sure I can't resist this at Union City: "Prudence and the Pill — Doctor, You've Got to Be Kidding!" . . . My esteem for the French has gone down another notch after learning that elephant jokes are the current rage of Paris. Of course, they do sound better in French — Comment font quatre elephants pour s'asseoir dans une 2CV? Deux devant, deux derriere" — but what happened to the Volkswagen?

I Agree: Hippies aren't as much fun as they used to be, but still, there was this flowing one at Powell and Market, peddling the Barb. Ron Bygum bought one, handing him what he thought was a buck (big spender) and starting to walk off when the kid hollered: "Hey, this is a hundred-dollar bill!" Ron tried to reward him but he refused with a nice statement: "No, man, let's not blow this good feeling." when Ron insisted, the hippie said "Wellll, my chick and I ARE \$3.50 short of a lid." Done. . . . Bud Scott presented a copy of his huge new book, "Saga of the Sandwich Islands," to Hawaii's Gov. John Burns, who inquired: "And how is your debilitating smog in San Francisco these days?" Bud: "Sorry, sir, did I understand you to say something about our exhilarating fog?"

Bodkins' Odds: Jimmy Price says he asked George Wallace "Are most of your supporters men or women?" and Wallace replied "Wa'al, it's hard to tell under all them sheets," but I'm inclined to doubt it, too. . . . Austin O'Toole's landlady kicked him out for making too much noise, the payoff coming when she asked: "Besides, I think you're breaking the rules by keeping a dog in there." "I AM a dog!" retorted Austin, who plays Snoopy in "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown." He's now sharing dogless digs on Diamond Heights with Bob Chicatelli, who plays Charlie.



FROM THE MAILBOX

Voters Advised to Look For 'Fine Print' in 1A

If ever a Legislative body deserved an Oscar for a masterpiece — our present one does. Proposition 1-A is a masterpiece of deception! As we all should know, 1-A was conceived in a matter of hours AFTER Proposition 9 came into focus and was ready to go on the ballot. It's appearance just slightly opened the eyes of our election officials. They surely couldn't have been completely awakened from their 10-year Siesta — because any group of persons with even an IQ of a 3rd grader would have walked out rather than live with such remorse and shame in labeling 1-A as a "property tax relief measure."

Proposition 1-A says in effect, "We will give you homeowners a rebate of \$70 — in cash yet — for relief of taxes this year."

But what these elected geniuses didn't tell you is that your taxes may very well be increased \$140 over last year, and, ditto for each year in the future. Their deceptive statement is, "At last a tax relief for the homeowner — a \$70 rebate."

How stupid and gullible do they think the Homeowners are? 1-A was conceived in fear and fear is

the motivation being used to sell it to the homeowner. In fact, even our school children are being used as vehicles to convey this fear — to their parents! (My understanding is that the tab the homeowners are shouldering for school was to be for education — devoid of politics. Shouldn't a few pointed questions be asked at this time???)

Let me remind you — were it not for Proposition 9, the Siesta in Sacramento would have been undisturbed for another 10 years. Special interest groups in our State Capitol stand constant vigil and make sure that the pitiful cries of the homeowner reach "deaf ears" . . . homeowners who have already lost, and those who are about to lose their homes by "due process" through excessive taxation.

1-A, tax relief! I spell "relief" a lot differently, as I am sure the public does. The instigators of 1-A should be informed exactly how to spell relief — the next time they come up from reelection.

Can we compete with special interests, their lobbyists, and their publicity agents on a financial basis Never! But we do have an equalizer: One vote!

A NO vote on 1-A and a YES vote on No. 9 will put us all on common ground. It will completely awaken our legislators, and they will be forced to stand up and admit that the time has come for them to listen to the recording — "The Homeowner's Lament" — It has been playing for 10 years — loud and clear.

In closing, may I ask (as I am sure you are asking) — why wasn't Proposition 1-A numbered in sequence? Yes, there are exactly nine certi-

fied propositions on the ballot! Why wasn't it No. 10 or 11? ANOTHER BIT OF SHREWD DECEPTION in placing it AT THE BEGINNING OF THE BALLOT! (The Superior Court, at this moment, has this point on its agenda to make a determination.)

Please vote! It is so terribly obvious that the State has no intention of doing anything whatsoever for the homeowner — except under pressure. It may very well be your last chance to lower taxes. (Read the small print in 1-A.)

Homeowners, your home is your castle — let's keep it from becoming "property of the state" by voting NO on 1-A and YES on 9.

BERNIE FRIBERG
Torrance

Quote

"I don't really care whether they are printing the money in the basement over there. It is on the university campus. It is a course for which five units of credit will be given toward a university diploma. As far as I'm concerned, it is an affront and an insult to the people of the state of California and let me tell you the calls and the mail are making it plain that the people of California have reached the end of the line and I don't blame them."

—Gov. Ronald Reagan on the appointment of Eldredge Cleaver to a UC post.

"This is not higher education!" — State Sen. L. E. Walsh, on the appointment of Eldredge Cleaver as a lecturer at UC.

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