

# -Comment and Opinion-

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1968

## A Reminder for Voters

In the last election, one third of the nation's eligible citizens failed to vote and thereby carry out the first obligation that every U. S. citizen owes to himself and his country.

In this year's election, voters in this community will help elect a President, a U. S. Senator, their Congressman, their Assemblyman, Superior Court judges, and will be asked to pass on a series of ballot measures.

Those men elected to office during next Tuesday's balloting will make and administer the laws under which we all must live. They will decide the role of government in our lives, the amount of government for

which we must pay, the wars we must fight and how many of our young men will be needed in our armed forces and for how long.

The Press-Herald has recommended the Nixon-Agnew team—and this includes Max Rafferty for U. S. Senator, and Joe Blatchford for Congress in the 17th District. We also are recommending the re-election of Congressman Alphonzo Bell in the 28th District. We believe the approach of these men to the critical needs of this nation offer the only reasonable hope for enlightened progress. We recommend strongly their election Tuesday.

## Our Recommendations

Three current members of the California Legislature who serve residents of Torrance have earned re-election at the polls Tuesday.

### Robert Stevens

State Senator Robert Stevens, a member of the Assembly from 1962 to 1966 and representing the 25th Senate District the past two years, has been serving as vice chairman of the Senate Institutions Committee and the Senate Welfare Committee and is a member of committees on Business and Professions, Judiciary, and Local Government. He has been a strong advocate of moves to curb welfare costs and has introduced and supported legislation in that area. His district, which runs along the beach from San Pedro to Malibu, has been served well and his re-election is deserved.

### Robert G. Beverly

Assemblyman Robert G. Beverly, who was elected to the post in the 46th District following the sudden death of Charles E. Chapel early in 1967, has proved to be an effective legislator and has come to be regarded highly by California Republicans for his leadership. He is a member

of the Assembly committees on Finance and Insurance, Municipal and County Governments, and the Judiciary. He should be re-elected.

### Vincent Thomas

Assemblyman Vincent Thomas, with service dating back to 1941, is dean of the California Assembly and holds membership on several committees considered important to the 68th Assembly District. He is a member of the committees on Revenue and Taxation, Conservation and Wildlife, and the Joint Legislative Audit Committee. He has been a strong voice in Sacramento, and has been a strong voice for his district. The Press-Herald recommends the re-election of Vincent Thomas.

### Joe Blatchford

The Press-Herald has previously recommended the election of Joe Blatchford as Congressman in the 17th District which has no incumbent this year.

### Fred Fredericks

We also have previously urged the election of Fred Fredericks to the Assembly in the 67th Assembly District. Election of these candidates will offer residents of this community the best hope for reasonable legislation and representation.

## Two Judges Endorsed

Los Angeles County voters will elect two judges of the Superior Court Tuesday.

And they will have the opportunity to elect two well qualified and capable judges.

This newspaper recommends the election of Joan Dempsey Klein to Superior Court Office No. 5 and Harold J. Ackerman to Superior Court Office No. 21.

Joan Dempsey Klein currently is the presiding judge in the Los Angeles Municipal Court Master Calendar Division. The 44-year-old mother of five has sat on the Los Angeles Municipal Court for the past five-and-one-half years. She is an experienced trial lawyer and served eight years as a deputy attorney general in the state.

Harold J. Ackerman was appointed a judge of the Los Angeles Municipal Court in 1966. He is a former chief deputy district attorney of Los Angeles County. An experienced trial

lawyer, he spent 15 years in private practice, specializing in criminal cases.

Both Judge Klein and Judge Ackerman were called the best qualified candidate for their respective offices in plebiscites conducted by the Los Angeles County Bar Association.

Judge Ackerman has been widely quoted for a statement made before the League of Women Voters: "I disclaim the right of anyone to choose which law he will obey and which law he will ignore."

That is the very essence of this nation's judicial system and without respect for the law, there can be no justice. Judge Ackerman and Judge Klein have demonstrated they have that respect in their work in the Municipal Court.

This newspaper recommends that Judge Joan Dempsey Klein be elected to Superior Court Office No. 5 and that Judge Harold J. Ackerman be elected to Office No. 21.

### 'T' Endorsed

Continuation of the \$3.30 general purpose tax ceiling for the Torrance Unified School District is being asked of Torrance voters at the polls next Tuesday. Extension of the present ceiling for another five years is asked through Proposition T.

School officials stress that approval of "T" will not raise the school tax rate, it will merely authorize them to continue to levy the current rate. Without approval, the tax limit would drop to \$2.40 next June, cutting an estimated \$2.5 million from the schools' operating funds. The result could mean drastic curtailment of some school programs.

The Press-Herald recommends approval of Proposition T.

### Courage Shown

Authorities at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J. took note of disorders on other campuses. They announced gutfully that any student demonstrations which "interfere with the operation of the university" will be countered by immediate suspensions and arrests of those responsible. Thus, the ancient and honorable university joins the University of Denver, University of Virginia and perhaps other institutions in promising instant and uncompromising crackdowns on troublemakers. No better way to avert campus violence has yet been thought up, so far as we know. University officials and student moderates, please note—San Clemente Daily Sun-Post (Glen Young, Editor)



## FROM THE MAILBOX

## Mayor Responds to Plea For Criminal Law Course

Editor, Press-Herald:

The unsigned Letter to the Editor in your issue of Friday, Oct. 18, from an unidentified Torrance policeman (who left the service thirteen years ago) calls on me "to organize the attorneys of our city to form a Board of Governors and establish a specialized course in criminal law leading to a special degree as a California Police Criminal Attorney."

This suggestion seems impractical and unrealistic. Certainly the ultimate goal of those engaged in police work is advancement in their own chosen career. The city of Torrance does underwrite a considerable number of in-service training courses for police and in some cases reimburses officers for tuition in highly specialized fields when the training would appear to be of substantial benefit to the city. There is also considerable incentive for all officers to pursue specialized education on their own time in order to develop their own individual capabilities. While their efforts do not necessarily lead automatically to increases in salary, they do lead to better capabilities in competing for many scholastic prizes which are available.

A number of officers are undertaking the study of law in their off-duty time. Some will in future years be admitted to the bar and because of their almost daily work with the law may become some of the state's finest attorneys. Officers who undertake this type of advance study have generally shown a history of superior performance in on-the-job training activities which the Torrance Police Department conducts on a daily basis.

It is my belief that we are now developing a training program so well balanced that the department is always educating its own experts to insure the continuation of recognized competence in every division. Certainly the Police Department must plan for and be able to provide some solutions for tomorrow's problems in such fields as narcotics, juvenile delinquency, traffic control, crime prevention, community relations and many others.

The department should also be self-sustaining in its ability to produce from its own ranks its future supervisors and administrators and thus insure that professional police work will always be available to every citizen of Torrance, that young men and young women will continue to enter

the service with enthusiasm and to serve their city with the dedication which is not the least of the rewards accruing to those who choose public service as a career.

This well-meaning, expoliceman (who states he

### Chaos Foreseen In Tax Reforms

To the Editor:

It is with dismay and displeasure that I find the Press-Herald supporting a yes vote on Proposition 9. Major opposition comes from school related groups such as the California Congress of Parents and Teachers, California Teachers Association, and California Association of School Administrators—all who are rightfully concerned about what passage of Proposition 9 may do to the public school system.

To cut out more than half the schools' operating budgets without providing an alternative system of revenue to replace the lost funds will subject our schools to financial chaos for the next five years.

I agree that we must have property tax relief, but not at the expense of the local school system. Local property taxes that support local school districts give parents a voice in how the money is spent. Let's keep the control where it belongs, with the local community and not in Sacramento. Vote NO on Proposition 9.

MRS. PERRY BAKER  
Torrance

### Candidate Says

Editor, Press-Herald:  
To the residents of Torrance:

Whatever the outcome of the election Tuesday, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your unqualified friendliness during my campaign.

Of course, I have most appreciated the support and assistance so many of you have given by walking precincts, calling your friends, and passing out our literature. I hope you will continue this vital work through Tuesday.

But I have also been overwhelmed by the fine reception all of you have given me as I met you in the shopping alleys, at the shopping centers, at the parks, in your clubs, and at the factories over the past two months.

I will always be grateful for your interest and friendliness.

JOE BLATCHFORD  
Candidate for Congress

was six years in the department) would be most interested in the advancements within the last thirteen years. Space does not permit me to go into details regarding increase in salaries, fringe benefits and liberalized pensions now enjoyed by members of our Police Department. In fact our Torrance Police are, in my opinion, working under the most favorable conditions of any Police Department in California and this is reflected in the devotion to duty and high morale of all members.

ALBERT ISENE

Mayor  
(The name of ex-police officer James Thompson was omitted from the letter in the Press-Herald in error.—Editor).

### ROYCE BRIER

## Red Summit Conference Has Become a Dog Fight

A monolithic communist world, ready for universal revolution, does not exist, and never did. It is a figment of a couple of decades back, made superficially plausible by the Chinese revolution.

About 700 million people live under communism in China, with a scattering in Mongolia, North Korea, North Vietnam, and Cuba, totaling about 40 million. About 120 million live under communism in eastern Europe, but Yugoslavia is separatist, and there is tentative and so far unsuccessful separatism in Czechoslovakia and Romania.

There are considerable communist parties in France Italy and roundabout and in Latin America, but the nations are under bourgeois rule. The total of nominal world communists seems to range around 1.2 billion.

The two chief centers of communist power, Moscow and Peking, are bitter doctrinaire enemies, seeming more hostile toward each other than toward bourgeois societies.

The Russians have been desperately striving to consolidate their ideological branch, hence the forcible suppression of Czech separatism. A primary motive in this is European Marxian solidarity against the openly menacing Asian brand.

Such a showdown is unlikely in the predictable future, but the Marxians are receptive to historical delusions.

Now the Russians are in trouble with their Czech adventure, so far unable to control the world reaction. They designed a "summit" meeting of all communists in Moscow Nov. 25. The purposes were (1) Eastern European solidarity for its own sake; (2) isolation of Red China.

They called a preparatory session for the summit in Budapest, delegates from 58 of the world's communist parties. But Italian and British communists had already formally repudiated the Czech invasion. Their delegates were recalcitrant about the November summit. They wanted to discuss the Czech affair, and the Russians refused. No formula could be found for the summit. A meeting expected to last a week lasted two days, finally forced a six-week postponement to Nov. 17. It leaves no time for effective planning of a summit eight days later.

It was a defeat for the Russians in their own Western world, but not necessarily a fatal one. There will be great scurrying around, seeking salvage, but the Czech situation continues a delicate obstacle. This is hardly a "world communist conspiracy." It's more like a world communist dog-fight.

The Russians took a big risk, but probably one they deemed obligatory, when they invaded Czechoslovakia. If the Czech concept of freedom spread up and down the satellite zone, the Soviet Union would have no shield against the bourgeois West. It could be fatal (the Kremlin thought) in an armed showdown with Red China.

Well, I guess our drinkers are still funnier than anybody else's. At the Iron Horse, this guy gulped down a martini, chewed slowly and reflectively on the olive, and then said "Good. That calls for an after-dinner drink!"

## Stuffed Olive Needs a Chaser

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Before he moved to S. F., Interior Designer Anthony Hail sold his Boston house to a Mrs. Peter Wick (Kathleen Lord). He has since owned only one other house—a Russian Hill jewel that has been featured in several nat'l magazines. The other day, he sold that to Betty Lord Lingo, and remarked to her: "Now there's a coincidence—do you know a Kathleen Lord in Boston?" "My sister," replied Mrs. Lingo. . . . Jean-Luc Godard's "Weekend," a film that makes "Night Games" look like "Bright Eyes," has been added to the S. F. Film Festival, and meanwhile, brush up on your Berlitz. Those subtitles don't even come close to reporting what those naughty people are saying. . . . Very big on Polk St.: his and his bath towels.

I don't know why the political sages keep repeating "1968 isn't 1948." Wallace lost then, too, didn't he? . . . It isn't true that Hubert Humphrey was never mentioned at the Gene McCarthy - Alan Cranston rally at Civic Aud. Monday night. Congr. Phil Burton uttered the awful words once, looking as though the roof might cave in, and then scrambled onto safer ground. . . . One of those rooftop cranes working in the financial district bears the legend "Heede Lyndon," but that's not a political slogan—just the name of the manufacturer. . . . Shades of "Free Huey": a big union is for the bill for 30,000 buttons reading "Free O'Brien" (he's the policeman accused of murder). . . . Or, in the immortal words of Eldridge Cleaver, as reported by the overground press: "— — —"

Spiro Agnew, otherwise known as Zorba the Veep, was asked about Cleaver at a press conference the other day. "Well," he said, "I don't think anybody with a criminal record should be allowed to speak on any campus." Asked a reporter from Life: "Would that apply to Oscar Wilde, say, if he were still around?" Zorba: "Oh—uh—Oscar Wilde? What was he in for?"

Mrs. Sally Hellyer, the art patron, is looking for a new dentist to finish the job. She stormed out of her old one's office in mid-cavity when he delivered a racist speech while she was sitting there with her mouth full of implements. . . . The weenie in Neiman-Marcus Christmas catalogue this season is "Jewels by the Month." For \$273,000, you get a precious gem monthly through '69 from Dallas-in-Wonderland. . . . My eye has also been caught (and mind boggled) by the artificial boxed Christmas tree being sold in various stores around town, labeled: "Remember Our Boys Overseas. Two Feet with Stand. Flameproof." . . . Quaint: Sherwood "Shakey" Johnson, the pizza millionaire, has "The Chorus Girl's Friend" printed on his business checks, and whatever did happen to chorus girls?

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