

GLIMMER OF HOPE . . . Thousands of red roses and Vanda orchids will adorn this year's Redondo Beach entry in the annual Tournament of Roses Parade on New Year's Day. The mammoth float will salute the Epilepsy Foundation of America with the theme, "Lighting Candles in the Dark-ness." Riding the float will be 17-year-old Marcia McDonald, reigning Miss Redondo Beach, and 7-year-old Dawn Martin, National Poster Girl for the Epilepsy Foundation. Redondo Beach has won a prize for every float ever entered in the Rose Parade.

Hahn Report

Supervisor Questions Price Rigging Penalty

By **KENNETH HAHN**
County Supervisor

An item in a Los Angeles newspaper last week told of the American Pipe and Construction Co. agreeing to pay an \$8.5 million settlement to 150 public agencies for rigging its prices.

You may have missed the item. It was "buried" in the financial section and dealt more with the effect of the settlement on American Pipe stock than with the fact that one of the largest companies in California had deliberately swindled the taxpayers.

However, you may recall an article telling of a mother of two who was sentenced to 270 days in jail for not reporting Social Security benefits when she was receiving public welfare.

I OPPOSE chiseling the public by welfare recipients but it seems to me an imbalance of values when a small theft is prominently reported and a \$8.5 million swindle by an industrial giant is "played down."

American Pipe was one of seven defendants which paid public agencies in three West Coast States and Hawaii a total of \$21.2 million after pleading "no contest" to criminal charges of price rigging on materials for public sewers, storm drains and streets.

ONE OF the largest stock brokerage firms in the nation, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner and Smith, Inc., was recently charged with impropriety in its operation. Its penalty: To shut down business for a week!

Like the American Pipe Co. case, the penalty is hardly sufficient for the crime.

In my opinion, equal justice for all means just that. Law and order works two ways. It should apply equally to the poor person or the rich.



'Epilepsy' To Theme Rose Float

Redondo Beach, whose first Tournament of Roses Parade entry was in 1906, will be entering its largest float ever on New Year's Day 1969, according to President James B. Wood, of the sponsoring Redondo Beach Chamber of Commerce.

The theme of the Parade this year is "A Time to Remember."

Redondo's float, which has won an award every year it has entered, will salute the Epilepsy Foundation of America this year, with the theme "Lighting Riding on this year's float will be 17-year-old Marcia McDonald, "Miss Redondo Beach," and 7-year-old Dawn Martin, National Poster Girl of the Epilepsy Foundation of America, from West Palm Beach, Fla.

The 17 feet high, 55 feet long and 20 feet wide float is the largest that the Tournament Committee will allow.

The float features a canopy of 100,000 Vanda orchids, supported by 8 cherubs; thousands of red roses form a pathway to the candelabra.

Other ornamentation is of chrysanthemums, onion seed and gladioli, stated Redondo Beach Mayor William F. Czuleger, this year's parade float chairman.

The drive for funds to help support this project is now under way, Czuleger said.

Donations, large or small, are being accepted at the Redondo Beach Chamber of Commerce office, 555 Harbor Drive.

Cigarette Tax Funds Distributed

SACRAMENTO — State Controller Houston I. Flournoy today began distribution of \$6,104,612 in cigarette taxes to the counties and cities in the state as the November apportionment.

Los Angeles County's share was \$146,897, and Torrance received \$50,209.

Press-Herald

Every Wednesday and Friday
253 W. Sepulveda Blvd., Torrance

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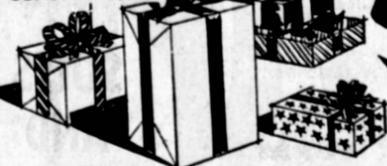
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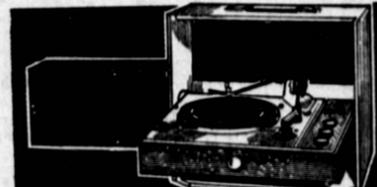
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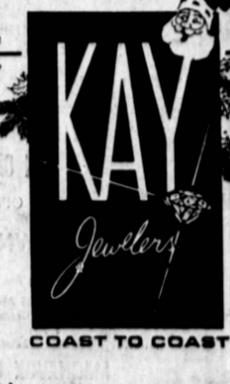
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