

EDITORIALS

The Chamber is for All

Torrance soon will have a new executive secretary for its Chamber of Commerce. Tom Watson, accepted after careful screening by the Board of Directors, will come to the community with a background of experience needed now to help pace the growth of this remarkable industrial and residential community.

Watson will have his work cut out for him. There is much that should have been done to promote the industrial and commercial interests of the community and there is much that can be done immediately and in the next several years.

There is no more important institution in the community than the Chamber of Commerce. It is in fact the clearing house of all commercial and industrial promotion and it is the meeting place of minds representing every phase of worthwhile community life.

As President Paul Loranger so pointedly stated in his annual address, the time has long since passed when business men should think of their membership fee as a contribution. Financial support of the Chamber must be regarded as part and parcel of a fruitful promotional expense.

The Torrance Chamber uniquely receives support from the city budget. In a way, this is an undesirable situation, but, one that must be tolerated so long as the city does not have a promotional department of its own. In the meantime, members of the City Council should at no time assume the attitude that they are in a position to hold a threat over the Chamber by implication or by deliberate reprisal. They would be justified in interceding when the organization strayed from the path of its intended objectives or became completely ineffective in functional effort.

The Chamber of Commerce will become completely effective only when all elements of the community realize that it is organized and operating for the benefit of all.

Eyesores and Menaces

The Long Beach City Council this week took action that will eliminate within two years unsightly wooden oil derricks and within three months reduce the hazards of open sumps, pits, and storage basins. The Long Beach action may be a pattern for Torrance where the Council already is giving serious consideration to the problem.

None will deny that the tottering wooden derricks, so numerous within the city limits of Torrance, constitute an eyesore. Tragedies and near tragedies, due to unprotected pumping equipment and unfenced sumps, periodically have emphasized the need for safety measures.

That the City Council is alert to the problem was evidenced only this week when George Powell, secretary of the Planning Commission, suggested a five-point program for adoption that largely would eliminate the problem. He suggested:

1. Elimination of sump and brine ponds.
2. Solid guard fence around rigs and equipment.
3. Penalties for leaving derrick over abandoned wells.
4. Give owners 60 days to clean up entire lease.
5. Put a performance bond on every well in Torrance beginning in 1956.

Powell also told the Council that a recent survey he made showed at least nine specific violations of existing ordinances. He also suggested amendments to ordinances 440 and 598 to put teeth in their enforcement.

Owners of the wells and leases are entitled to fair and reasonable consideration. Their cooperation should be sought; but, when all other efforts fail, legal power should be invoked.

The Freelancer

By TOM RISCOE, Herald Staff Writer

When Harry Hopscotch, welder, gets down on his knees to ask Myrtle Snodgrass, stenographer, to marry him, it's an easy matter if she's willing.

They skip to the altar, both say "I do," the minister says "I pronounce you . . ." and the knot is tied.

But when Princess Margaret of England decides she wants to marry Capt. Peter Townsend, a divorced gentleman, it's a very difficult matter.

It isn't something that can be settled on the sofa in Margaret's front parlor. It must be discussed in groups ranging from the Ladies Afternoon Knitting Club to the sacred halls of Parliament.

It isn't enough that Peter and Margaret both say "I do." A vast majority of the 600,000,000 people in the British Empire must also say "We do," if this particular wedding is to become a reality.

The British press has recently been busy with what is generally considered "a sounding out" campaign" to get public opinion.

Just last week, a leading Australian newsman got his walking papers for allegedly misquoting Townsend on the state of the romance.

It all points out the fact that Princess Margaret, or any other princess for that

matter, can't call her life her own.

She can't marry the man of her choice with elaborate preparations. She can't do the Conga without facing a number of raised eyebrows. She can't smoke or wear low-cut evening gowns without starting loose tongues wagging.

The accident of birth that made her a princess must often make Margaret wonder if it is worth being an heir to the Crown, since her life belongs to everybody.

The world has come a long way since royal marriages were arranged for the convenience of the parties involved, but he or she who wears or might wear a crown still isn't free to marry.

Margaret probably has pondered the fate of her uncle Edward, the former king who married for love and has lived in exile ever since. According to most reports, his exile has been an unhappy one.

Perhaps Myrtle Snodgrass Hopscotch, cooking dinner and keeping house in a \$60 apartment, is freer than Princess Margaret, who can command most anything she wants in her palace.

That's the royal price she pays.

Here It Was March 15th



AFTER HOURS

By JOHN MORLEY

Since the Nationalists landed on Formosa in 1949 and Chiang Kai-shek resumed his role as president, this correspondent has reported direct from Formosa and Quemoy on more than a dozen trips. With that there is no likelihood that the Reds could invade Formosa. We are stronger in this opinion today and our reasons have been reviewed in detail in previous columns. The Chinese Nationalists today are stronger, thanks to the formidable United States military assistance. I share the opinion of correspondents on Formosa that the Nationalist army can defeat any Red invasion, with or without the U. S. Seventh Fleet. With the U. S. Seventh Fleet assisting, Formosa cannot be invaded, even if the entire Russian submarine force were thrown in on the deal. Formosa is a naval operation. The United States Navy is larger and stronger than all of the navies of the world combined. . . . friend or foe. Our enemies just cannot challenge the power of our Navy like they can challenge our military strength on land. That in a nutshell is the military picture around the Formosa Straits today.

The real danger to Formosa is not military. . . . it's psychological. Every sign pointed to it as covered the Far East. I will check this again on another trip around the world which begins this month, via Europe to the Far East. Despite United States policy of non-recognition of Red China, Peiping is winning international recognition, through a phony show of strength, in which some of our allies are helping to engineer under illusory hopes that peace is possible through co-existence with Communism. It all began with the invitation of Red China to Geneva to take part in the armistice negotiations on Indo-China.

IT'S A FACT

By JERRY CAHILL



The SQUIRREL CAGE OF ALL THINGS

By ROBERT E. MARTIN

COMMUNISM
What is a Communist?
One who hath yearnings
For equal division of unequal earnings.
Lider or burger, or both,
he is willing
To fork out his copper
And pocket your shilling.

—By Ebenezer Elliott
In the Year 1831

IF IT WHERENT for the small-towners, little shots, and nobodies like you and me, it would be a matter of time before America loses its fight against Red influences here and overseas.

That's why each of us, in our own ways, have to keep plugging along like annoying mosquitoes. . . . keeps the big boys on their toes, I might say.

For one thing, the officials that we have elected, and those who have been appointed to lead this nation have apparently lost some faith in us as a People. . . . they are underrating our intelligence.

Take, for example, the announcement last week that copies of Pravda and Ivestia will be destroyed by the Post Office Department before being allowed to fall into the hands of American subscribers.

I've never seen a copy of these publications and what's more, I probably wouldn't know how to read them. I'm assuming they're printed in Russian.

WHAT GETS ME is the fact that a form of printed matter is being burned by governmental order. . . . And if I were a Red I'd be jumping with joy because it's an outright indication that the American government does not trust its own people!

Is the average American so gullible as to believe the propaganda channeled from the Kremlin to the United States through Russian newspapers? Granted. . . . that some of our foreign-born residents could still be influenced by the Communist line. . . . But an American born resident who would tack his future to a Red Star, and forsake his own Nation might just as well read his full of Ivestia, Pravda and any other Russian publications.

BEHNS TO ME that a person who can be swayed by propaganda will never be of lasting good or support to any nation. . . . I am fully confident that the fellow next door, the one who lives a block away and another who lives across the street will not fall for the Communist line in any way, shape or form as long as he knows that HE is the GOVERNMENT. Let him come to the realization that he is mis-trusted and underrated by his own leaders and he'll object just as I am doing now.

What little Red propaganda that has ever reached my desk I've looked upon with a critical eye. It has had a cheap atmosphere about it and there was little or no air of professionalism in its get-up. It was laughed at and treated as a curiosity until it finally reached a wastebasket.

How do you think the average American would look upon a publication that his own government would take the trouble to burn before it reaches his eyes? Would he be apt to laugh at the publication or would he be tempted to secure a copy and study it carefully?

YOU KNOW AS well as I that the commies are trying all methods to win this land from us. If they have convinced our own government that its people are to be mis-

Read this advice, oh gentle friend,

Ignore it at your sorrow:
Today's the day to get it done,
Nothing has happened tomorrow.

So, Erin go braugh.

Bill Brase, who may or may not be celebrating St. Patrick's Day today, has something else in the way of a celebration, he says. Out of a dozen eggs he purchased from grocer Archie Ness last week, eight turned out to have double yolks. For my money that's no bargain, because I usually leave the yolks away.

What do you think of these new rhythm and blues records? It's my personal opinion that they are filthy. Such suggestive songs were strictly taboo around home when I was a teen-ager and I don't think I was raised to be a prude, either.

Front Porch Philosopher

By MILDRED HUNT
Herald Staff Writer

Matusow, self-tyled liar, had his hour in the spotlight at Washington.

He claims to have lied about those whom he had labeled as Communists before an Un-American Activities Committee some time ago. He not only claims to have lied but is taking it upon himself to say that all others who so testified, also lied.

What some people will do for publicity! . . . These limelight seekers are usually in the minority but somehow find a way to get wide publicity, thereby crowding out more deserving individuals who should be in their place.

This undeserving attention and the fairness by which he will be treated by our federal courts is a prime example of how the strong protects the weak.

trusted. I must admit they have won a victory. We can do something about it. We can elect men with guts enough to trust the people they're leading. We can call for a renewal of faith in ourselves and in the good Lord who gave us this green land of ours. Let all other nations drift into the bottomless sink-hole of Godless Communism. We'll continue to rise and prosper for as long as we keep our heads about us.

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