

# EDITORIALS

## The Long, Long Look

In a statement made in New York Monday, Benjamin F. Fairless, president of the American Iron and Steel Institute and former head of U. S. Steel Corp., made references to the national steel picture for 1956 and the need for greatly expanded steel production facilities to meet the demands of the nation for steel.

Fairless also made some pointed remarks about the difficulty of obtaining sufficient capital to make those expansions under the present tax structure of the federal government.

"Over the years, the profits of steel companies have been below the average for other leading industries," he said. "And because permissible depreciation allowances under the tax laws are inadequate to meet rising construction costs, steel companies are constantly being forced to use profit just to keep their present plants intact. This reduces the amount available from profits to help pay for expansion."

The remarks of this recognized authority on the national steel problems have a very potent local application, the HERALD believes.

For nearly a decade, there have been plans, discussions, and rumors about expansion of the Torrance works of U. S. Steel. The final outcome always seems to be a lack of appropriations for the company for the expansion.

In 1948, the local company then known officially as Columbia Steel Co., announced plans to enter into a huge expansion program. They even had many of the top U. S. Steel officials here for an announcement ceremony. But the money never came through.

Since that time the plant, which is "blessed" with some of the most antiquated steel-making equipment still in operation, has shut down departments, laid off men, and generally reduced operations at a time when demands for steel have been increasing.

The huge Alcoa plant, acquired by U. S. Steel to be turned into steel rolling mills, was later acquired by the government through condemnation (which pays no taxes) and is now occupied by Douglas Aircraft as its Torrance plant.

Reports have been circulating openly for the past year that a wire mill is planned here, that other expansions are planned at the local industrial plant—but the appropriations are lagging. What is true here is true in every industry across the nation.

We should like to raise our small voice to protest the confiscatory tax structures of this nation which is keeping hundreds (perhaps thousands) of potential employees off the payroll in Torrance—taxes which are draining off funds at such a rate from the top that, cities like Torrance are seriously threatened with economic strangulation because no money is left for normal expansion of its industrial economy.

It is time that some of the tax and spend boys in Washington took a long, long look at the future. Like everything else, there is a point of diminishing returns on taxation.

## The Road You Built

It is the road back for thousands of your friends and neighbors. It is the road back to health and usefulness. It is paved with dimes you gave in former years. Again you are asked to extend this road and to keep it sturdy. This is the March of Dimes.

Expectant eyes and hopeful hearts are waiting within the shadows, waiting to cast aside their crutches and walk along this road you built into a healthful future. Brave youngsters wracked by the crippling pain of polio, courageous people patiently waiting in iron lungs... They have faith in you. They know that you will not fail them.

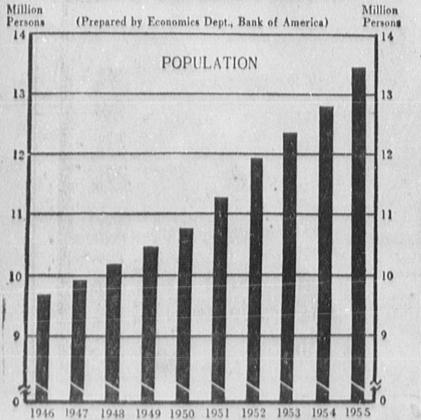
In spite of tremendous progress, polio still exists. It struck more than 30,000 victims last year. And there are those for whom the vaccines came too late.

This is the time when the dimes you will never miss are more important than all the gold bars in Fort Knox. Get out those dimes. Lay them on the line. Each one will help to pave that road back for the girl next door or the boy across the street.

"Friend, can you spare a dime?"

Of course you can. Many dimes. For this is March of Dimes time, and we cannot break faith with those who trust us.

## LEVELS OF CALIFORNIA'S GROWTH



THEY STAYED RIGHT HERE. Contrary to nearly all predictions, California's war-time population did not leave the state during the post-war years. Building on the 1941-1945 growth California has experienced a population increase averaging 475,000 persons annually in the decade since the war.

## I Hear You Knockin'



## Glazed Glances

By BARNEY GLAZER

Motion picture exhibitors are arguing advantages of Cinemascope over small screen. I agree with these gentlemen. When you're seated behind a tall man with wide ears, you can now see one-half of the screen instead of one-quarter.

Then there's even a bigger screen which is creating quite a fuss. Recently, I went to see Cinerama but I was so disappointed I wished I had brought my television set along. My tickets were on top of it.

One of my friends suffered a severe heart attack. Try as I might, I couldn't find time to visit him. Seemed like I was always busy. The way I figured it out was that I was too busy building up to a heart attack of my own.

An old school buddy of mine, now turned rancher, introduced me to his daughter on his orange grove and boasted: "This young lady is the apple of my eye."

Notice to all my employees: If you folks have a day off because of smog sickness, virus bugs, cigarette coughs, birthday hangers, pomaine tummies, labor pains, and grandfather interments, please make your requests at least three days before you leave for Las Vegas.

There's a six-year-old lad on our block who reacts to the jingle-jangles of the motor-borne ice cream cargo in a highly excited fashion. He runs into his bedroom with the speed of a machine gun burst, grabs the object of his affections, shakes it wildly but hopefully, and then gets that awful empty feeling in the pit of his piggy bank.

Unfortunately, I'm just like anyone else. I have certain so-called friends who are up and away the minute they learn I'm down and out.

That new wrist watch with its built-in alarm is certainly a handy and practical item for a public speaker to remind him when to stop talking. Provided, of course, that these

watches are being worn by the audience.

Preocious youngster to his boy friend: "Sure I know how to read. Only thing I can't read are the words."

What's all this big no-nothing fuss about a television remote control so that you can tune in all the channels without once getting up from your easy chair? Why I've had my own remote control for years. I just yell over to my wife who is lying down on the sofa. I tell her what channel I want, and she changes to my favorite program without any fuss whatsoever, outside of an unexplained dirty look.

That bartender who kept stealing from the till thought he had a good thing. But his heartless pilfering finally caused the bar owner to go broke and the bartender suddenly realized what he had done. He had made himself lose his job!

I heard it and I loved it on the Ralph Edwards "This Is Your Life" Tver. A little boy in Indiana threatened his schoolmates: "If you don't do as I say, I'm gonna tell Santa Claus!" and the other lad snorted: "I don't care. I'm going to move to Philadelphia."

It just dawned on me, after due reflection, why there are so many housewives who are studying to become attorneys. I guess they prefer to take up the law rather than lay it down.

Exactly at 11:30 a.m. every working day for 11 straight years, the operator in a small town was asked for the exact time by a man with a respectful, kind and serious voice. Finally, the operator could control her curiosity no longer so she asked the man why he asked for the time so regularly. He explained: "I'm the parts boss at the Jones Auto Parts Co. It's my job to blow the moon whistle so I call you every day for the exact time." That's when he learned that the phone operator was setting her clock every day by his whistle.

Today, I phoned 16 men be-

Heard from a boyhood friend who had been trying his hand at farming—said he had finally solved the farm problem. He sold out and got a job in a furniture store in town.

There's one thing about a bad temper, Suzi Klutz says: You can't get rid of it by losing it.

The salesman were put down as the most optimistic crowd in the world this week by a fellow we know. A card slipped under the wipers on this little tale's windshield Tuesday had comments for each tire and the spare which had been inspected and all were marked off as being "badly worn and dangerous." What disturbed our friend slightly was the fact that he had just shelled out about 100 scooties for a new set of spanking new tubeless tires for his car over the week end.

"A child is a creature that stands about midway between adult and the TV screen." —Jerry Vale.

"The difference between law and custom is that it takes a lot of nerve to violate a custom." —Paul Larmer.

## The Freelancer

Tom Rische, whose "Freelancer" column has appeared on this page twice a week for more than a year, has been named editor of the HERALD's companion paper, the Highland Park News-Herald. His column is being continued on that newspaper and will be carried here from time to time when he touches on subjects which are not strictly local to northeast Los Angeles.—Editor.

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

**HORIZONTAL**

- Sharp metallic noise
- Impresario
- Moldiness
- Stripes fences
- Prefix
- Man's name
- Triple
- Twilight
- Italian river
- Gastropod
- Turbid decree
- Claw
- Revel (Obs.)
- Roman
- Landmark
- Pleaser sariand
- Pronoun
- Cyat
- Female relative
- Charge
- Registered nurse
- Charge
- More acid
- Small cask
- Sodas
- Por
- Color
- Room
- Distinction
- Characteristic
- Natural force
- Plunder
- Eccentric wheel
- Soft drink
- Adult males
- Meat
- Atmosphere
- Makes ready
- Ship's opening
- Neatly
- Make amends
- Autic country
- Railway (Abbr.)
- Part of mouth
- Her
- Species of tree
- Oreek letter
- Boasting
- Youthful age
- Perforated pattern
- Deceptively
- VERTICAL
- Crucian
- Century plant
- Turn to the right
- Bone
- His highness
- Color
- Cereal grain
- Bleached
- Bird
- Like
- Interior
- Consultation
- Stemlock alkaloid

**THIS WEEK'S ANSWERS**

Atlas Features Syndicate

- Cry out (Obs.)
- Notion
- Puzzle
- Have
- Possessive pronoun
- Stature
- City name (Abbr.)
- Pitch
- Sweet substance
- Tree
- Plants in general
- Vegetable
- French article
- Sped
- Refuge
- Book
- Given
- Slit
- Church seat
- Pirate
- Horse race
- Thrown
- Tree head
- Toe
- Prefix
- Girl's name (Abbr.)
- Burn
- Also
- Heart
- Ill
- Amputation
- Moccasin
- Lone fish
- King (Abbr.)
- Canal name (Abbr.)
- South latitude (Abbr.)

## The SQUIRREL CAGE

By REID BUNDY

What's this we hear about the American Legion club-rooms being turned into a court chamber at Monday's Kiwanis Club meeting? The way it came to us, Les King stood accused of stealing a horse, a felony in California. In this case it was even worse — it was White Horse from no less than the Chief of Police himself, "Pop" Haslam. So a court session was in order. Barrister John McCall was hastily installed as judge and a biased jury composed of Bill Laster, Paul Loranger, Dean Sears, Jack Barington, a r.d. Chuck Ragsdale sworn in. Bud Mewborn handled the prosecution while Don Hitchcock doubled in brass for the defense — both as counsel and co-defendant. After lengthy testimony, some of it allegedly given by "bought" witnesses, King and Hitchcock were let off the hook by a "hung jury."

Or, at least, that's the way we heard it.

One thing these new license plates have done, they've killed the old, old game of highway poker. Can't make much of a hand out of such plates as HUK 385 and KZY 294.

Those new \$300 FINE signs dotting the landscape around Torrance should go a long way toward discouraging some of the more timid litter-bugs.

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**Fight Polio Epidemics!**

Join the **MARCH OF DIMES**

January 3 to 31

## YOUR MARCH OF DIMES MONEY



## JOIN THE MARCH OF DIMES

That big slice of the dime represents the proportion of March of Dimes funds spent in 1955 on aid to polio patients. An estimated \$26,500,000 will be required in 1956 to ensure that 68,000 patients needing assistance at the turn of the year are not left down and that thousands more destined to get polio will be assured help toward recovery.

## THE MAIL BOX

The Torrance Herald welcomes expressions from its readers which can be published on this page. The editors retain the right to edit the copy for matters of libel and good taste. Letters should be kept brief and must be signed. The writer's name will be withheld if requested. Opinions expressed in letters here published represent those of the writer and not necessarily those of The Torrance Herald.

**A New Assignment**  
Editor, Torrance Herald:  
Anent the attached: (clipping telling of need for larger quarters for Department of Motor Vehicles).  
Why not give the All Star Team (Woolley, Drak, Blount, et al) a new assignment?  
First quarter: Land prices are going out of sight. Acquire more acreage at the Civic Center (to Emerald St). We will need it — any left over, city can dispose of at great profit.  
Second quarter: Go after Superior Court — roll with the momentum and have the land to back up the campaign.  
Third quarter: Give land here for Motor Vehicle office also State Employment office. Oh Boy! What a Civic Center.  
Fourth quarter: Celebration — such a project when activated with all the new and necessary approaches would indeed be announcing to the County: "What has Los Angeles Got That We Haven't Got?"  
TED FRENGER

**A Note From a Fan**  
Editor, Torrance Herald:  
I read your paper all the time, and have been reading it for years. I like to read about folks around here.  
Your writer, Mildred Hunt, writes good pieces. I read about the family marrying each other. That's good to read about — my friends read it too. Your pictures are wonderful and the brides are the best — so pretty to start out.  
I'm coming in to tell Mildred Hunt a story some day. I'll bet she writes it too.  
MRS. FAY RICHARDS  
22142 Denker Ave.

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## The Sacramento Report

By CHARLES E. CHAPPEL, Assemblyman, 46th District  
Students in a nearby high school recently asked, "What kinds of positions do members of the California State Legislature hold outside their official work?"  
Relying mostly on my memory, in the Assembly there are 19 active lawyers; five men who make real estate their primary business; six who are principally insurance men; 10 who list themselves as farmers or ranchers; two accountants; and one motion picture actor.  
Since there are 80 seats in the Assembly, that leaves 37, but a few seats are vacant awaiting special elections. Most of the 37 are owners of small businesses, although two are listed as engineers.  
In my own case, I make my living primarily by writing books on firearms, aviation, criminal investigation, electronics, and now I am writing a book on atomic energy.

## Class Opens Here Today

A mid-winter course for expectant parents will be inaugurated today at the Torrance Health Center, according to Dr. B. A. Kogan, district health officer.  
The classes will meet every Thursday at 1 p.m. at the center, 2300 W. Carson St., with Mrs. Kristine deQueiroz, public health nurse-instructor, in charge. In addition to demonstration on formula preparation and baby technique, Mrs. deQueiroz will have shown the latest fashions and equipment for babies.  
"Human Growth," a film showing the development of the human organism from mating through pregnancy and birth, then from infancy through childhood and adolescence to the adult form, has been booked for the first class today.  
There is no registration or other fee as the course is a tax-subsidized educational service of the Los Angeles County Health Department, Dr. Kogan emphasized.

**THINGS TO TALK ABOUT**  
By FRANKLIN J. MEINE  
Editor, American Peoples Encyclopedia

"The rate of serious crimes in this country was the highest in history in 1954 and the police kept up. Criminal captures and convictions also increased."

LONG AS SHORT AS ONE MILE PER HOUR, A MECHANICAL WALKER CAN BE USED TO REPLACE THE MACK ANIMAL IN THE ARMY.

THE UNITED STATES CONSUMED MORE STEEL IN 1954 (ABOUT 73 MILLION NET TONS) THAN IT PRODUCED, ABOUT 67 MILLION TONS.