

EDITORIALS

Newspaper Week

This is National Newspaper Week, and if we tend to boast a little just now perhaps we may be indulged. For the newspaper, which regularly devotes itself to bring news and the interpretation of news to your homes, has a message of its own. We believe that message worthy of some attention.

The American newspaper occupies a unique place in the world. Its freedom to print is guaranteed by the Constitution. It has been considered from the beginnings of the Republic and from even before that — an essential instrument in the lives of the American people.

Its basic purpose has been and always will be the same: To tell the happenings of the day. Here the function is of particular importance in regards to the happenings of government, which is but an instrument of the people's will.

Its next and almost inseparable function is to try to place the facts concerning these happenings in perspective — to give them meaning in the light of other events, past and present.

It has other important purposes — to serve as a medium for advertising, to entertain and amuse, to serve as a public forum.

You may, and undoubtedly do, on occasion become discouraged with your newspaper or even become angry with it. Yet it is an indispensable item for intelligent living, and in more cases than is generally realized it is the most constructive and most educational item in a family's existence.

Where newspapers are free from government restriction, as they are in the United States, you are free to select the reading matter of your choice. You are privileged to have a voice of protest. You are favored by having news of importance about you, personally, collected, verified and presented in readable and understandable form delivered to your home on a regular schedule.

The modern newspaper is a swift and an accurate purveyor of important factual data and a medium of considered, moderate and enlightened opinion.

The newspapers of America set aside this week, therefore, to call attention to the services they perform. But more than that they set it aside to remind themselves and their readers of the obligation they owe the American public.

It is their constant hope that the reading public will continue to trust the integrity of their services. It is their constant effort to maintain the standards which have made this nation, more than all others, a nation of newspaper readers.

National Newspaper Week, therefore, is not an occasion for self-praise by newspapers nearly so much as it is an occasion for self-appraisal. It is a time for newspapers over the land to re-dedicate themselves to the trust placed in them by the vast intelligent, progressive and enlightened American public.

THE FREELANCER by Tom Rische

Wrecking Parties

There's a destructive urge in all of us.

Otherwise why would there be such crowds of people at fires and accidents? Why do people take such delight in smashing up things at carnivals? Why do people throw things when they get mad?

By the same token, kids like to break things, just for the pure fun of seeing them break. It may be kinda hard on mom's dishes, but Junior soon learns better—that is, in most cases.

Torrance has been shocked on several occasions recently with cases of senseless vandalism at schools, churches, and homes. The most recent instance occurred last week end in a west Torrance home when youthful vandals sailed through a house — pouring foods, lotions, glue, shoe polish, and anything else at hand all over the house.

That's a question which outraged adults immediately ask. What particular devil gets into a child to make him so wantonly destructive for no apparent reason? After mulling the problem over for a few seconds, they conclude that the younger generation is going to the dogs.

This, of course, is not the answer to the problem, nor does it present a ready solution, except to let the dogs have the modern generation. Psychologists might or might not agree with me, but it seems to me that the answer is that children like to break things.

Kids who break into a home may not even be acquainted with the people who live there. Children who smash up a school or church may or may not be mad at the people who run them. They just want to let loose and break things. It's human. It isn't very nice; but it's human.

Adults, too, if they would just admit it, also like to break things, but by the time they grow up, they learn about property values and the rights of others. Most adults are not even aware that such a desire exists and gaze on in horror at the damage wrought by youthful vandals.

You, don't agree? Don't most people get a thrill out of watching bar-room fights on TV or in the movies, in which the chairs and tables are smashed to smithereens and the clincher is tossing a bottle through a huge mirror? Remember the scene in the movie, "Giant," in which cabinet after cabinet of bottles of liquor topples to the floor in a huge shower of glass? Did you get a thrill out of that? I did.

That, of course, doesn't present an answer to the question of what to do about juvenile vandalism. Maybe somebody ought to set up a juvenile center filled with old furniture where youngsters with the inclination could have a smashing good "wrecking party" and might make them feel better.

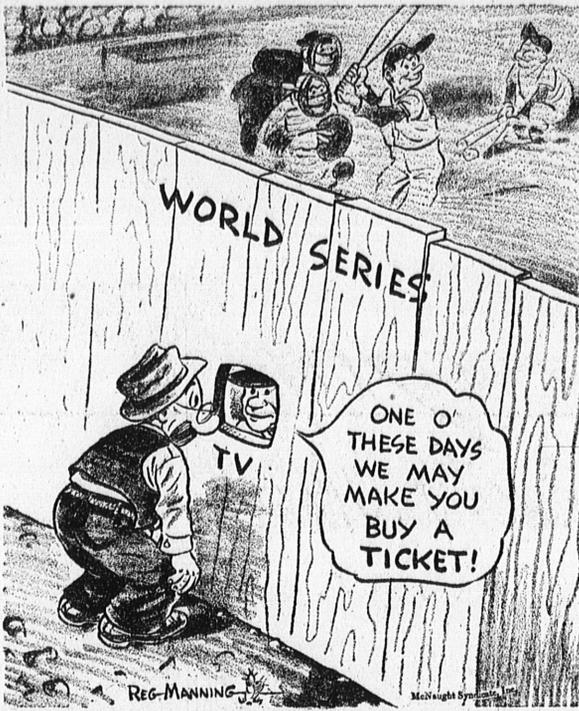
That may sound a little far-fetched, but why wouldn't it work? The kids, and maybe a few adults, could get something out of their systems. At the same time, there could be somebody around to help channel the kids' energies into useful paths once they had hacked away on the furniture. It might be interesting to see who would come to such a center.

Psychologists can offer many explanations for destructive behavior, but it actually defies reason, just as much as human behavior defies a really rational explanation.

The behavior of a machine can be predicted; a human being is a lot harder to regulate.

Kids are just little human beings, and ever less predictable.

Knothole



AFTER HOURS By John Morley

The Story of Formosa's Riots

Editor's Note: This is the inside story of the infamous "Reynolds Case" in Formosa, which led to the rioting and destruction of the U. S. embassy . . . and created much irreparable damage to the good relations between the United States and the Republic of China. It is the result of exhaustive on-the-spot investigations by veteran correspondent John Morley in Formosa.

PART I—BACKGROUND OF REYNOLDS CASE

Taipei, Taiwan (Formosa) — Our only purpose in reviewing this tragic case at this time is to serve the cause of justice, which in our opinion on the basis of facts gathered here, was not entirely served. It is to lay all the facts before the American people and the U.S. government, which were not entirely revealed by U.S. official sources in Formosa.

It is to show the background of this unfortunate attack upon the U.S. embassy and personnel that followed the Reynolds trial — and to prove that no Communist organized effort led to the attack, but that it was a spontaneous explosion of the Chinese people who felt insulted, snubbed and imposed upon by what appeared to them to be flagrant acts of injustice in the handling of the killing of a Chinese citizen.

While we are not defending the rioting in any way, for whatever the cause, we are presenting the facts so that the American people can judge how much of the blame for the riot and destruction of U.S. property should be laid upon the Chinese people alone.

We believe that this review will serve the cause of justice and stimulate both Americans and Chinese who will read it to unemotionally weigh and consider all the facts and their own responsibility for whatever actions took place during this unfortunate event. In this way, we believe, the present strained relations between our two nations might be considerably relaxed.

It's 2 a.m. as I write this story in my room at the Grand Hotel, Taipei, having just returned from a long exclusive interview with the widow of Liu Tze-Jan, who was killed by U.S. Army Sergeant Robert Reynolds last March, for allegedly peeking at his wife while she was towel-drying herself after a bath. This is the incident which sparked the destruction of the U.S. embassy in Formosa and the international repercussions which followed.

From what we learned from Mrs. Liu (who did not testify in the court-martial,

from old Chinese friends in Formosa like able attorney Kenneth Fu; China news editor, Jimmy Wei; Bob Brown of United Press; veteran reporter Spencer Mousseau of Associated Press; Gertrude Su of Central Daily News; Lionel of Reuters; and dozens of others on the spot, we are convinced that the case was flagrantly mishandled by MAAG (Military Assistance Advisory Group) in Formosa and they must share a part of the responsibility for the spontaneous attack upon the U.S. embassy and personnel.

Our investigation included several trips to the shooting scene where we took photos of the bathroom window ledge and other details — and interviews with American and Chinese who were eyewitnesses to the riots. We also discussed the case with officials of the Chinese government, including Madame Chiang Kai-shek, Vice President Chen Cheng, foreign Minister George Yeh, also U.S. Ambassador Karl Rankin . . . as well as officers of MAAG and other Americans in Taipei.

Our investigation revealed that the Chinese people on Formosa, and especially the widow, Mrs. Liu Tze-Jan, were imposed upon and insulted by the manner in which MAAG handled the case from the beginning to the court-martial. Also that Chinese authorities were negligent and derelict in their responsibility to maintain order.

Here are the facts, some of them never revealed before in the U.S., or to the Chinese people in Formosa:

To refresh our readers on this case, it was about midnight March 20, 1957, that U.S. Army Sergeant Robert Reynolds and his wife returned home from a party,

when she decided to take a shower. Soon after (Reynolds testified in the court-martial) he heard her scream that a man was peeking through the bathroom window, whereupon he grabbed his pistol and ran out the back door to "frighten" the intruder.

Reynolds claims the intruder, Liu Tze-Jan (who was employed nearby) advanced toward him carrying a big stick, as though to attack, whereupon he shot Liu. Reynolds testified that Liu fell to the ground wounded, but arose and again advanced toward him, when he shot for the second time. He then ran into the house and called the police. The police found Liu several thousand yards away from the scene of the crime in a park, dead. Reynolds' claim that he shot in self-defense brought his acquittal.

The court-martial was, of course, handled by U.S. authorities, who brought both prosecutor and defense attorneys from Okinawa to handle the trial. The jury was made up entirely of army personnel, which was also proper under our laws and treaty agreements with the Republic of China. But in the background of public opinion the fact remained that this whole procedure was contrary to Chinese law and Chinese interpretation of justice. It is the same opposition created by U.S. public opinion when an American is tried under the laws of a foreign nation, as the Girard case in Japan. But what truly inflamed the Chinese people was the indifference of MAAG authorities to the crime and their reluctance to act decisively to justify public clamor for justice in the case.

"Miscarriage of Justice in Formosa—Part II" will appear in the next issue of "After Hours."

YOUR PROBLEMS by Ann Landers

Cinderella Learns A Lesson

Dear Ann: Please print this letter. It's too late for me but others who read it may profit by my experience.

I was the oldest and least attractive of five daughters. I pressed their dresses when they went out on dates. I passed up my Easter outfits so they could have more. After all, they went places, I didn't. They called me "big-hearted" when in reality I was just empty-headed and hungry for their praise.

They all married nice fellows. I stayed home with Mama and Papa because they were getting on in years and "needed me."

Two years ago I developed giant hives and asthma. A doctor told me these were "nervous disorders" and I should get away from home. My sisters said this was "impossible" because my parents needed me more than ever in their declining years.

Like a fool, I listened to them. Next month is my 40th birthday and if I died tomorrow it would be all right with me. My family says I've been a heroine, sacrificing my life for others. I think I've been a prize slave. Any comment?—Nada Mas.

Life CAN begin at 40. You've acquired some wisdom and insight into your situation—now use it! Tell your family you intend to live a little. Don't ask for their approval.

You've sacrificed long enough and carried a load that should have been split five ways. Now move out and

get yourself a job. Tell your sisters you've put in your 40 years and the next 40 is on them. And I hope you have the happiest birthday ever.

Dear Ann: The man I love holds college degrees a yard long. He's brilliant and wonderful. We went shopping yesterday and I was horrified to find that he picks up things in stores and "forgets" to pay for them.

At first I thought I was imagining things but I searched his pockets when he removed his coat and found an odd assortment of small, inexpensive objects. Most of the items he couldn't possibly use.

I haven't the nerve to discuss this with him. But I know he reads your column and if you'd print the problem he may take the hint. Please—C.L.

"The man you love" is probably a kleptomaniac. This is an illness and college degrees won't help him. He needs professional help. Urge him to get it.

If you noticed he was walking with a limp you'd mention it, wouldn't you? Why be bashful about a limp in the other extremity? He may be beautifully educated, but he's sick.

Dear Ann: I have a rugged problem. I've locked myself in my room and have tried to come to a decision but have failed. I just turned 17 and am engaged to be married. My fiancé is stationed in Ger-

many and we plan on a January wedding when he gets out. He's been saving money and my hope-chest is complete.

I moved to a new city three months ago and met a perfectly grand guy. He knows about my engagement but is urging me to break it off and marry him. He even offered to write the "Dear John" and explain everything. My head is whirling.

Mom and Pop won't advise me. They say it's my life. Please give me some help. I'm desperate and mixed-up.—Jeannie.

If you're having such a difficult time deciding between these two, could it be that neither one is right for you? Seventeen is pretty young. Why are you so determined that it should be one or the other? The very fact that you could become seriously interested in a brand new guy when your wedding was only three months off, indicates something is wrong. Forget about marriage for at least a year. No matter which boy you chose, you'd probably feel that you'd make a mistake inside of six months.

Confidentially: P.E.P.; A high school girl of 15 should be permitted to go to school affairs with boys. If your grandparents would speak to your teacher about this, it might help.

(Ann Landers will be happy to help you with your problems. Send them to her in care of the HERALD and enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope. (C) 1957, Field Enterprises, Inc.

AEC Testing Bomb Shelters

With the ever-increasing potential of atomic weapons in mind, there has been much public concern over the feasibility of building shelters that would afford a realistic measure of protection, and at the same time fall within a reasonable price range. Now comes an encouraging report from the Federal Civil Defense Administration on progress in this direction.

"Operation Plumb-bob" is the name of the continuing program by the FCDA in cooperation with the Atomic Energy Commission, to test the effectiveness of various types of shelters. Out in the Nevada desert, for eons

scorched by the sun and now often subjected to searing, man-made blasts as hot as the sun itself, there is a modern, artificial "ghost town." It is here that the tests are in progress.

"Survival Town," as it is called, has a population of zero. Yet it is equipped with the latest type underground parking garages without cars, huge doors leading to nowhere, and futuristic domes emerging from a landscape almost as barren as that of one of the planets to which we may one day travel as one of the more favorable results of the harnessing of nuclear energy. This weird community is dedicated to its own destruction as a test site for atomic blast effects on various shelter-type structures.

Recent atomic explosions have hammered away at underground home shelters and large urban shelters, new dome-type shelters being considered because they are easily built and cost relatively little, a small, blast-resistant "school" building, various

types of doors and valves to close shelter openings against a nuclear blast wave, and even a complete bank vault.

One of the most encouraging facets of the preliminary report on these tests is that a home shelter of reinforced concrete withstood a blast pressure of some 65 pounds per square inch, with only superficial damage to the exhaust and air intake pipes. The average house can withstand no more than a pressure of about one pound per square inch. The shelter, which could accommodate about six persons, was covered with 5½ feet of earth for near-complete protection against initial radiation in blast areas. When radiological monitors entered the area after the blast, they found the steel plate entrance door undamaged and easily opened with normal pressure.

These and similar experiments are expected to develop specifications for shelters that would provide the maximum protection at the lowest possible cost.



If the way to a man's heart is through his stomach, that explains why America has so many stout-hearted men.

—Imogene Fey.

LAW IN ACTION

Rights for Heirs

A good way to say who gets your property when you die is to set your wishes out in a will.

When you leave no will (or die "intestate"), the state of California divides your property according to a detailed formula. In short, if you do not write a will, the state, in effect, has written one for you. It may please you, and again it may not. In any event it does not take into account the special circumstances and needs of your family or friends.

The "law of intestate succession," as it is called, is rather complicated; there is one set of rules for real estate, another for personal property, and still others for community property and separate property, and for the many combinations of surviving relatives. Each such situation needs careful study to distribute the property according to the law.

For example, here is how the state would divide up the community property of man and wife, if you do not make a will:

If your husband or wife survives he or she receives your share of the property.

The law divides separate property between the surviving spouse and the offspring — half to the spouse and half to the child, if there is only

one child. If there is more than one child, the spouse receives a third, and the other two-thirds are divided among the children.

And, of course, if there is no husband or wife, or children, or immediate family, the law awards the estate to the next of kin, when there is no will directing otherwise. Finally, if there is no one at all to receive the property it "escheats" — the state of California becomes the heir.

Note: California lawyers offer this column for you to know about our laws.

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