

EDITORIALS

Where Are the Issues

A number of observers on the local political scene have been asking pointedly about issues in the current campaign. Chief question: Where are the issues?

The voters are looking for sound, forthright planks on which to base their decisions next week. And there ARE issues.

How do the candidates, if elected, propose to solve the problem of supplying library services to Torrance after this year. Cancellation of the contract with the county by which library services were provided at a cost of less than six cents of the city's tax rate puts the problem squarely up to the new city council—will the city bond itself and set up its own library system, join the county library system at a tax rate of 12 cents, or seek another solution?

What about drainage of the low spots in the city? Some progress has been made by city staffs in preparing plans for drains to be included on a bond proposal next fall, but the candidates have been strangely silent on the problems of drains for the most part.

One issue which has been injected into the campaign by Mayor Albert Isen is the matter of post office addresses in Torrance. Although the matter should have been the subject of official concern a long time ago—as the HERALD has tried to bring about repeatedly—it is an issue which could arouse a spark of interest in many parts of the city.

How about the parks and recreation program? What about police protection? What about an over-all master plan of zoning for the city? What about major streets into the city's new shopping center, such as Carson St. and Calle Mayor? What about sewers, street lights, and off-street parking?

The list is long and should not be buried in the generalities of the candidates on pledges of "loyalty, honesty, and sincerity," which the voters expect when a man seeks public office.

The HERALD is concerned with the apparent apathy of many voters, and further concerned with the candidates themselves who prefer to talk in generalities and leave the specific issues in doubt.

Now is the time to ask some questions—the polls will be open a week from Tuesday for the city's 35,570 voters.

FROM OUR MAILBOX by Our Readers

The Heart Fund

Editor, Torrance Herald
This is a personal note of appreciation to you and your staff for service to the Community Heart Program.

The fight against cardiovascular disease cannot be won in the laboratory alone but requires the attention of the public. Your news pages have contributed a great service by informing residents about the heart disease problem.

Your paper has also introduced the Heart Fund volunteers to the community, and we feel that this interest in the Community Heart Program is reflected in the increased public support of the Heart Assn. in your area.

For the board of directors of the Los Angeles County

Heart Assn., and the Heart Fund volunteers—thank you, Mitchell D. Covell, M.D., President

The Waleria Lake

Looks like we are meant to have a new added attraction in Torrance, and what could be more natural—The Waleria Lake. I do hope it could be a permanent one. Must admit it does add to the town's distinction both day and night. It's especially most beautiful in the moonlight. How about moonlight rides? Anybody for a concession? Please!

Pictures of the lake are most unusual—people are seen taking ten grand view shots from upper Hawthorne Ave. and they also stop along the roadside.

Could these be tourists? A READER

Unemployment Facts

"Earnings," in relation to unemployment insurance, refers to money earned in a given week—regardless of whether the earnings were paid during that week or later.

Money earned in a given week may or may not bar the payment of unemployment insurance, but if unemployment insurance is claimed for that week, the earnings must be reported.

A claimant may earn up to \$3.99 without deduction from his weekly benefit amount. However, he must report any earnings, no matter how small. Failure to report even \$1 in earnings during a week for which unemployment insurance is claimed is a misstatement.

For amounts of \$4 or more earned, the claimant is allowed \$3 which is not deducted from his benefit amount. For example, if his weekly benefit amount were \$40 and he had earned \$25 during the week for which he claimed insurance, the amount deducted from \$40 would be \$22 (rather than \$25), and the amount of his insurance check would be \$18. Odd amounts over the \$3 are disregarded; that is, if he had earned \$25.55, the 55 cents would be dropped before subtracting the \$3.

Readers of this column may obtain a pamphlet on unemployment insurance by writing a card or letter to the Department of Employment, 1628 Cravens Ave.

Can Spring Be Far Behind?



YOUR PROBLEMS by Ann Landers

Her Friends Are Like Vultures

Dear Ann: Why do "friends" react to rumors of a marriage break-up like a pack of vultures descending on a carcass? I speak strictly from experience. This is the way it happened to me.

The moment the word was out that my husband and I were separated:

1. People who "meant well" kept each of us supplied with fresh suspicions and horrid opinions, all voluntary.

2. "Friends" offered to buy household items (at ridiculously low prices) "to help me out."

3. Several acquaintances applied for my husband's job, assuming "of course" he'd move right out of the city."

4. Husbands of my "dearest friends" offered to provide the romance that would be missing from my life. I'd like to sound a warning to couples struggling with marital problems. While the boat is rocking, beware of friends who may land you on the rocks for selfish reasons. You may wind up throwing rocks at yourself for having had rocks in your head. —BEACHED

understand his job. He claims a helpful wife is supposed to guess automatically where her husband is.

He's a good man, a devoted father, and a hard-worker. But do you think it's unreasonable to expect a call so that I don't prepare dinner for the garbage can?—MRS. B.R.D.

It's easier for him to call than for you to "guess automatically" where he is.

Could it be he doesn't phone because you blow your top when he DOES call to say he won't be home?

Gather the grocery bills and show him what percentage goes in the garbage can. One steak costs many times as much as a call. More im-

portant than the economics, however, is consideration for your feelings. Lay it on the line.

CONFIDENTIALLY: Will the gentleman who signed himself "CHOO-CHOO TWAIN (no relation to Mark)" please send me his correct name and address so I can return the short stories? I found the stories both good and original. The ones that were good were not original, however, and the ones that were original were not good.

(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) 1958, Field Enterprises, Inc.

Rx FOR GOOD HEALTH

Whoopers Increase

The 150 per cent rise in the amount of reported cases of whooping cough in Los Angeles County over last year has local Public Health Officers more than a little concerned.

Their concern is justified because whooping cough is not, as many people believe, just another one of those "harmless childhood diseases." With its secondary complications, it accounts for more deaths in infants under one year of age than measles, mumps, chicken pox, scarlet fever, German measles and poliomyelitis combined!

Fortunately, whooping cough is a disease for which specific immunizing agents are available. Up to 95% of cases can be prevented by the administration of the special vaccine which is readily available for everyone. And yet, many parents, either through lack of concern or misguided opposition to vaccination, fail to have their youngsters protected.

Whooping cough is a highly contagious, germ-caused disease which is spread from person to person by sneezing and exhalation. The patient is especially contagious during the early stages of the disease, even before the typical "whoop" is noted.

Usually the disease lasts for several weeks. The first noticeable stage of the disease has symptoms much like those of a mild cold, characterized particularly by a dry cough, especially at night. A slight fever usually is noted at this point.

The fever then rises slightly for another week or so, the cough dragging along until it develops the characteristic sound. At this time, the child's face may become congested and bluish from the violent coughing, he may vomit, and the coughing may cause hemorrhages in his eyes. The cough is an attempt to dislodge a thick,

tenacious mucus in the throat which doesn't come up easily. As many as 20 or 30 of these coughing spells may occur in an hour, leaving the child extremely weak.

This is the most serious stage of the disease and it is then when complications may occur. These can be quite serious. Most common is earache. Bronchopneumonia can develop because of the increased sensitivity of the bronchial tubes. Cerebral sclerosis, injury to the brain, may result from severe spasms of coughing. Convulsions may occur from inability to breathe for many seconds, even minutes. Nose, throat or ear hemorrhages may occur, and heart dilatation may develop during a spell resulting in sudden death.

During the third stage, or convalescent period, the disease gradually subsides, with lessening fever and reduction in coughing. The condition may flare up again, however, if any sort of cold is acquired during this time. It is possible, then, that the child may apparently be getting repeated cases of whooping cough for several months or even a year.

Science and medicine can prevent whooping cough. But only if children are inoculated with preventive serum. Responsibility for whooping cough rests squarely with the parents.

(Presented as a public service by the Southwest Branch of the Los Angeles County Medical Assn.)



Silly Season Is Here Again

Items from the "Isn't politics interesting?" department: The youth of Torrance is emphasized by the Council race where the average age of the candidates is 39. Ten of the 15 candidates are in their 30's; three are in their 40's; and two are in their 50's. In this respect, Torrance is tied with Hermosa Beach in average age of candidates. El Segundo's average age is 50 and Hermosa Beach's is 46.

Average age of the present Torrance Council is 45, and the average age of Torrance residents in general is 27.

The older candidates are campaigning on the "experience counts—let's be sound" plank, while the younger aspirants are harping on the "let's get some new blood" theme. Middle-aged politicians claim "old enough to have experience—young enough to have new ideas."

A quick survey of the political ads in the HERALD reveals that only one candidate mentioned any issues. Most claimed experience as their best asset. Most of them believed that honesty was another top qualification. Those who were endorsed by somebody proudly displayed their endorsements.

Several candidates are friends both of workers and businessmen. Several promised representation of everybody. Several also assured us of their responsibility. One

has integrity; another is friendly; and still another has loyalty.

One candidate even urged the voters to call him at home to check on his qualifications.

This is a novel twist, since most Torrance residents are probably acquainted with few, if any, of the candidates, personally. They have to "ask the man who knows one."

Chances are that none of the 15 candidates for the City Council will get a majority of the votes in the election.

Only one in the last three elections has a winner rolled up a clear majority. In 1952, Councilman Nickolas Draie cornered 51 per cent of the votes, in a seven-man race, while the other two winners got 48 and 42 per cent respectively.

Majorities fell even further in 1954 when there was another seven-man field. The winners got only 46 and 40 per cent of the total vote respectively.

A still lower figure was reported in an eight-man fight two years ago. The winners received 42, 37, and 31 per cent of the total vote.

This time, 15 people are running, and it is conceivable, if unlikely, that the winners could get only seven per cent of the vote. This, of course, would assume that all candidates got roughly the same amount of votes.

There are other interesting things to be learned in campaigns also. One candidate's literature gives a handy table of weights and measures while one office-seeker offers a schedule of the Dodger baseball team.

Another helpful aspirant gives out with a litterbag to be hung in the automobile. There are plenty who offer you nothing but their pictures.

The object of all of these people is to keep their names before the public so that they will be remembered when the voter marks his X.

Let's hope that the average voter isn't so confused that he doesn't vote at all. There are some 35,000 potential voters in Torrance. But in the last three elections, the percentage of those eligible to vote and did so, has been dropping.

In 1952, 47 per cent voted. In 1954, 37 per cent voted. In 1956, 38 per cent voted.

Democracy depends on people voting. It isn't very well served by the people who stay at home and complain about the results.

Politics has its silly side—with usually sensible men and women loudly praising mother, honesty, and God, and denouncing sin, graft, and corruption.

The results are serious, however. Our way is still better than the Russian way.

THE SQUIRREL CAGE by Reid Bundy

If the Sack Fits, Wear It

Jim Sena's comment on the new "sack look" printed this week in the Torrance News Torch, Torrance High student newspaper:

"If the sack fits, wear it!"

If most of the high school co-eds were not still in the blouse and skirt era, we would imagine Jim might be pressed to defend himself against the onslaught of outraged females after publication of such a statement. However, without a further report on the matter, we're certain that most of the girls agree.

We have been queried about a statement in Thursday's editorial saying prohibition was adopted by one vote. It came about when William Jennings Bryan persuaded a Louisiana legislator to change his vote, thus breaking a tie

and assuring the ratification of the 18th amendment to the U. S. Constitution.

And that bit about King Charles I losing his head because of one vote came about this way, according to Assemblyman Charles Chapel, who has made a collection of such information. King Charles was being tried by a tribunal of 135 judges who were deliberating his fate. When the ballots were cast, 68 had voted for his execution—67 to grant him his life. He was beheaded because of the margin of one vote.

One more vote in half of the city's precincts would have changed the results of the city election here two years ago when Bob Jahn was elected by an official margin of 15 votes. An error of 36

votes was later discovered in his favor, but just one more vote each in half of the city's precincts would have brought his nearest opponent into the winners' circle.

Just eight years ago, Councilman Willlys Blount was named to the city council by a margin of seven votes that was finally raised to 17 in a recount.

One vote in each precinct would have carried the park and recreation bond issue last Oct. 29. If you favored it and didn't vote you know where to put the blame.

It all points up one thing—the one vote you cast in the April 8 city election is highly important just as your one vote is at any election. It may be the one that settles the issue.

Space Flavor Scheduled at Science Fair

North High's second annual Science Fair on April 14 will have a distinctly jet-propelled, space-age look, according to school officials.

More than 100 events, including films, lectures, and exhibits will be presented by Southern California industries and other organizations.

Displays Set Displays will include a Hoffman Electronics Corp. satellite; a Marquart Aircraft Co. telescope, rocket motor, and program, "How a Satellite Works;" U. S. Navy display of an aircraft carrier with missile launcher; Revell, Inc., Aviation, Rome Cable, Columbia-Geneva Steel, Bethlehem

Steel, George A. Bradford Co., and others.

The program will include information on such fields as diamond mining, plastics, helicopters, weather equipment, steel, synthetic rubber, movies, and microwaves.

Local Firms Local firms participating include Dow Chemical, Felker Manufacturing, Douglas Aircraft, Shell Oil, Southern California Gas Co., Union Carbide, General Telephone, Pacific Telephone, Duschak's Helicopters, Longren Aircraft, General Petroleum, North American

Aviation, Rome Cable, Columbia-Geneva Steel, Bethlehem

Throughout the day, students will view the displays and in the evening, they will be open for public inspection.

"It is not the intent of the program to recruit thousands of scientists, but rather to call the attention of students to this important area, hoping to capture the imagination and creative interest of a potential scientist who might not have given serious thought or consideration to a career in science," Principal Dale Harter said.

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NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION AFFILIATE MEMBER

STAR GAZER

By CLAY R. POLLAN
Your Daily Activity Guide According to the Stars.
To develop message for Sunday, read words corresponding to numbers of your Zodiac birth sign.

ARIES MAR. 21-20	TAURUS APR. 21-20	GEMINI MAY 21-20	CANCER JUN. 21-20	LEO JUL. 21-20	VIRGO AUG. 21-20	LIBRA SEPT. 21-20	SCORPIO OCT. 21-20	SAGITTARIUS NOV. 21-20	CAPRICORN DEC. 21-20	AQUARIUS JAN. 21-20	PISCIS FEB. 21-20
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MANY STUDENTS TODAY ARE PROUD TO BE CONTRIBUTING TO THEIR COLLEGE EDUCATION—

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WORK? WHY SHOULD I?

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