

School Absentees Inform Landers Asks:

Landers, whose nationally read column appeared Monday and Thursday in the HERALD, today on the growing emphasis being given to education standards. Miss Landers toured Russia and her ideas on education here and behind the iron curtain are based on personal knowledge.

Aristotle was no square. The great Greek philosopher made some astute and prophetic statements. He said that a hundred years before Christ was born Aristotle had already meditated on the art of governing and had been convinced that the fate of empires depends on the education of youth.

What is the quality of the education we are giving to the youth of America and how well are they absorbing it? Are we preparing our teen-agers for world leadership? Will the products turned out by American high

schools and colleges be able to compete with their counterparts you know where?

Last summer I went to Russia. I learned enough of the language so I could communicate directly with the Russian people and not have to depend on Intourist interpreters who cast every crumb of information in the official mold.

I was particularly interested in Russian teen-agers. These youngsters are the pride and joy of the Soviet Union—and it has a right to be proud. Russian teen-agers are alert, dedicated and dead serious. They have disciplined minds, a healthy enthusiasm for learning and they seem to know precisely where they are heading.

Judging from available information, there is less juvenile delinquency in Russia than in the United States.

When I examined the high school curriculum in Moscow and Leningrad I found out part of the reason, at least. The Russian teen-ager is too busy to get into much mischief. The demands on his energy are so taxing there is little time left for horsing around.

The high school graduate in Russia has a math and science background equivalent to what is achieved in the third year of many American colleges. The Russian high school student is required to take German and one other language, either French or English. Many students take all three.

I chatted with the woman principal of a Russian high school and asked how they interest girls in the sciences (in Russia 70 per cent of the doctors are women). In America, I told her, it is unusual for girls to be so serious-minded.

"In America," she shot back, "your 14-year-old girls are already painting their faces and running after

boys. Your culture accelerates a premature interest in sex. Here a girl does not even think of boys until she is at least 16. By that time she has a fair degree of intellectual development. When boys become the center of a girl's life too early, the desire for academic achievement is destroyed."

Meanwhile, what is going on in OUR schools? As a guest speaker in dozens of high schools and colleges in over 25 states I've had an excellent opportunity to observe.

I'm not as pessimistic as Adm. Hyman Rickover, who has been conducting a campaign against what he terms "the froth and frills that pass for education in American schools." I do believe, however, that there is room for improvement.

I have talked to college students who "have vent

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BARBER SHOP 'BLUE LAW' SOUGHT

A Penny for your Thoughts

"What is your opinion of modern art?"

Answering were:
 Evelyn Warren, 20814 Anrita Ave., Dept. Store clerk:
 "I don't think of modern art. To me, it's just a lot of lines that don't mean a thing. It doesn't do a thing for me. I like the old fashioned type of paintings and art; something that has a definite picture to it."

Mrs. Cotha Simms, 1411 W. 190th St. Garden a, housewife:
 "I think modern art is all right if it's accepted as modern art but you shouldn't try to compare it with the more conventional type of art. People look at a lot of this modern art and their mind wanders onto other things because it has no definite subject matter. For me, it holds nothing, as I like to know right away what I am looking at."

Mary E. Grace, 2518 Lofty View, Drive, housewife:
 "I don't like the so-called modern art and for myself I would not want any of it. I don't think it's art. If that is all it takes, then even I could be an artist for I'm sure I could do as well. I'll take a puddle of water, a few trees, and a shack off somewhere in the background in preference to that."

Mrs. Richard Loebel, 2638 Brian, housewife:
 "I prefer the old-fashioned type of art that I can get something out of. For one thing, I don't understand the modern works. If I did, maybe I'd get more out of it. The old style art is far more restful to me; something like Grandma Moses, that is part of everyday life as we know it. Modern art is anything but restful, for I feel it

Schools Open Classrooms to 27,000 Pupils

Preparing for the return of nearly 27,000 youngsters to 34 Torrance Schools Wednesday, Torrance's teachers Monday heard:

1. Superintendent J.H. Hull tell them that schools must seek new horizons, educating children according to "individual differences," and teaching them to ask "why and how," not merely "who and what."

2. Hull report that Torrance schools will not have enough money to operate in 1961-62 unless voters okay an Oct. 11 override tax.

3. Mayor Albert Isen call Torrance's schools the "greatest in the state" and urge approval of the upcoming tax proposal to "meet the needs of our growing town."

4. Chamber of Commerce Secretary Richard Fitzgerald tell them that "one of the major reasons many industries come to Torrance is that employees' children can attend your highly-rated schools."

5. School Board Member Clinton Cooke officially welcome the 1000 teachers back to school.

6. District administrators, in a 50-voice chorus, welcome teachers by singing "Getting to Know You," "When You Were Sweet 16," and "We Believe."



SEEING DOUBLE . . . Mrs. Alberta McBride, first grade teacher at Sepulveda School, helps Kathryn and Susan Adams get settled on their first day. The six-year-old twins are the daughters of Mr. and Mrs. John Adams, of 4722 Jacques St. Susan, who smiles at it all, is on the right. (Herald Photo)

Council Asks For Ruling On Legality

If the city council adopts a "blue sky" law against barber shops being open on Sunday, it will be against the vigorous opposition of at least two members of the city council, it was indicated here Tuesday night. Voicing strong disapproval of attempts of local barbers to force all shops to close on Sunday by enactment of a city ordinance were Councilmen Willys Blount and George Bradford.

"When we start getting into telling people when they can open their business, we are going too far," Bradford said.

"IT SMELLS of creeping socialism," he added.

An opinion from City Attorney Stanley Remelmeyer was asked by a majority of the council as it backed the request offered by Mayor Albert Isen.

Remelmeyer was asked to determine if such a law would be constitutional after 58 local barbers petitioned for the closing law on the basis that it was necessary for the preservation of health and welfare of local residents.

NAT MONDATI, leading the move, said health matters are involved because state inspectors do not work on Sundays.

"While we're at it, let's check on real estate offices, stores, and filling stations," Councilman Blount suggested.

Barber Al Pelucci, operator of a barber shop in the Del Amo Center, spoke against the ordinance proposal, saying his shop and others were just as well kept on Sunday as any other day. State inspectors come around rarely, he said, indicating that his shops were checked on an average of once each seven to eleven months.

Hawthorne Files on Golf Course

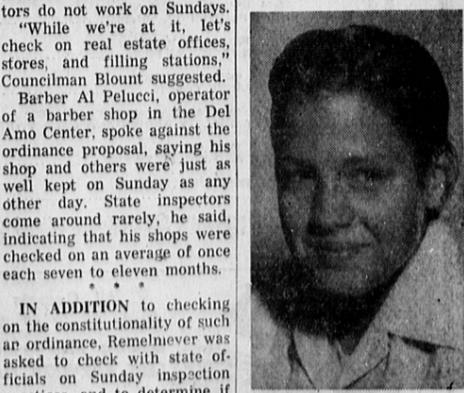
A move by the city of Hawthorne to annex the Western Ave. Golf Course at Western Ave. and 120th St. was blasted by County Supervisors at their Tuesday meeting.

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn, saying he considered the golf courses in the same category as regional parks introduced a motion to fight the annexation attempt.

Hawthorne filed maps and legal descriptions with the county boundary commission Monday to annex the 133 acre recreation center.

Protests of the supervisors over annexation of Alondra Park to the city of Lawndale recently were ignored by city officials who instituted an "instant annexation" proceeding for the park. The matter is in court this week.

Superior Judge Ellsworth Meyer took the Lawndale case under submission Tuesday following a brief trial.



RECOVERING . . . Terry Nardiello, who has been hospitalized in Bakersfield since Aug. 13, when he was gravely injured in an auto-bus crash, is well on the road to recovery and now would like to hear from his Torrance friends, the H R-ALD was told yesterday. Terry was one of five persons in an auto involved in the crash and the only survivor. His brother, Sammy, 10, was killed along with an aunt and two . . . Friends may write him at the Greater Bakersfield Memorial Hospital in Bakersfield, Calif. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Nardiello, 922-A Sartori Ave.



BANKERS WELCOMED . . . Mr. and Mrs. Sam Levy (center), pioneer downtown merchants, welcome James Weigel (left), manager of the new Security First National Bank at El Prado and Cravens, and Lloyd Austin, president of the bank, during a preview showing of the bank yesterday. An open house has been scheduled tomorrow for the general public. (Herald Photo)

Celebration To Mark New Bank Opening

Flipo the Clown, refreshments, balloons, samples of the bank's merchandise and a Treasure Chest of transistor radios and cash prizes will mark open house tomorrow for Security First National Bank's new branch in downtown Torrance, James J. Weigel, manager, announced.

New contemporary quarters at 1347 El Prado will house the branch. Security's 248th in Southern California.

The opening day festivities will begin at 9:45 a.m. with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. The open house will continue to 9 p.m.

"Keys and invitations have

THE TEACHERS returned to their classrooms Monday to prepare for the youngsters' return on Wednesday. On Tuesday, they heard a talk on individual differences by Dr. Theodore Clymer, noted University of Minnesota educator and author.

Prefacing his remarks, Dr. Hull noted that an override tax election will be coming up on Oct. 11 and that financing of next year's school budget would be impossible without passage of the issue.

"I VIEW MY duty as the superintendent of schools as one of helping the community to solve its education problems," he told the group. "If you and I together can help the community with its solution of these problems, we will have accomplished our mission.

"We help parents develop good citizens rather than accept the point of view that we do the entire job for them. Society would be irresponsible and so would parents if they permitted us to do the entire job. We in turn would be irresponsible if we thought we could do the entire job, simply because we are not qualified, nor do we have the time."

HE SAID that the school district should make every effort

THE COUNCIL also, at Blount's suggestion, asked for

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