

# Torrance Herald

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## A Lion's Share of Aid

A record of community services which deserves emulation has been compiled during the past year by the Downtown Torrance Lions Club according to a report issued last week by Abe Robinson, past president of the organization.

Commenting as he was presenting a check for \$500 to the Torrance chapter of the City of Hope, Robinson said the local club had contributed \$1,500 to provide glasses and eye care to needy children of Torrance; had contributed \$800 to the Torrance Dental Health Assn. to assist in that group's program of caring for the dental needs of Torrance school children; had donated \$1,000 to the Torrance YMCA, and set aside another \$1,000 for scholarships for Torrance high school students, and had contributed \$900 to the Junior Blind program.

Such contributions from the business and professional men who make up the Downtown Torrance Lions Club go a long way in helping individuals problems face which might otherwise be overwhelming.

## A Commendable Action

Commendations of the community are due to the leaders and members of Boy Scout Troop 723 whose prompt action last week probably saved the life of a fellow Boy Scout from Saugus after a mountain accident.

The "Be Prepared" training of the Boy Scouts of America came in good stead as members of the troop came upon the scene within moments after an 11-year-old member of a Mint Canyon troop had tumbled over a 30-foot embankment and landed face down in a stream of water.

While Nap A. Bilodeau, institutional representative of the local troop rushed to the side of the injured boy, taking him out of the water, other members of the Torrance unit constructed a litter, brought the injured lad up the side of the embankment to the roadway, and saw that he was brought out for immediate medical care.

Such prompt action and discipline under pressure is ingrained in serious Boy Scouts. It is training which can be of great benefit to the individual Scouts and to their community, and the leaders of Troop 723 have every reason to be proud of their accomplishments.

## Quote

"Things would be better if all our statesmen were on a peacemaker basis." — Ray Winans, West Springfield (Mass.) Record.

"A merchant friend advises that while business isn't what it should be, it's less worse." — Robert O. Gauger, Whitehall (Wis.) Times.

"We approve of the policy of making foreign visitors feel at home, but this dance the teenagers are doing for the benefit of any African tribal dancers watching is going too far." — Vera Ward Tibbetts, Parkville (Mo.) Platte County Gazette.

"Keller Alexander has been having trouble with his responsive reading down at our church. He's usually back in the still waters, when the rest of the congregation has already reached the green pastures." — Charlie Crawford, Lawrenceburg (Tenn.) Democrat-Union.

"I don't know why everybody's criticizing our foreign policy. We're still getting along with Bermuda." — Bob Orben, Bakersfield (Calif.) Weekly Blatt.

"It's still easier to keep up with the Jones than with the bills." — Don Pauschert, Pana (Ill.) News-Palladium.

## Out of the Past

From the Pages of the HERALD

### 40 Years Ago

Here's just what the boys and girls of this city have been waiting for — bicycle races in which they may take part and win prizes. Starting promptly at 2 p. m., numerous entrants from the Torrance-Lomita area will compete in events ranging from a "slow" race of 50 yards up to one-half-mile tests. All races will be conducted under the rules

of the National Cycle Assn.

Important developments are scheduled for the oil fields within the city limits of Torrance within the next few days as Chanslor-Canfield has two wells that are making fine showings this week. Cementing off has been started in two wells and operations in surrounding fields are showing oil in quantities.

### 30 Years Ago

The Torrance Rotary club is being represented this week at the Seventeenth Annual Conference of the Second District Rotary International in San Francisco by President-elect R. R. Smith, Secretary and Mrs. Harvel Guttenfelder, Dr. George P. Shidler, and George Peckham.

A half-million dollars worth of new equipment is to be installed in the Torrance plant of the Columbia Steel Co. for the manufacture of steel to be used in the Long Beach plant of the Ford Motor Co.

### 20 Years Ago

Possibility that all lights may have to be dimmed out 15 miles inland from Oregon to the Mexican border loomed today as Naval, OGD and other officials continued preparations for the coast line blackout that now extends from Santa Maria river to the Oregon line.

A fine new modern ambulance will soon be delivered here and turned over to the city of Torrance by the Kiwanis club, directors of the service organization announced this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard J. Austin motored to Lone Pine this week and flew their plane to Boulder City where it will be used for the duration as a government trainer.

## Now Is Not A Minute Too Soon



James Dorais

## New Economic Education Proposal Pleases Many

Recently Secretary of Commerce Luther Hodges raised the question in a national magazine: "Are we a nation of economic illiterates?"

The burden of his argument was that while a knowledge of basic economics is of the utmost importance to members of a free society if they are to make the kind of political decisions that will preserve freedom, too few of our high school and even college graduates today have had even a cursory exposure to the subject.

The Secretary's article reflected a growing interest in the problem of economic education. Some of the voices that have been raised in support of greater stress on economic subject matter in the schools have argued against indoctrination, holding that the various systems competing for preference in the world today should be given "equal time," so to speak. Others fear that such total objectivity, divorced from reverence to traditional Amer-

ican values, would be as dangerous to freedom as teaching the alleged virtues of Communism without rebuttal.

To those who hold the latter view, a policy statement on the subject recently issued by the National Education Assn. will be enormously encouraging.

Pointing out that the teaching of economics has been "consigned to a sort of no-man's land," the NEA report urges that the schools should provide courses "designed to give an understanding of the American economy: How it operates, both in theory and in practice; how to evaluate its performance; how it compares with other economic systems; and what are its problems and possibilities."

The report forthrightly takes the position that economic principles "presuppose a set of values that we try to attain, and in the light of which we evaluate a situation as desirable or undesirable."

Most Americans, the NEA concludes, are agreed on

these values as best for a free society:

"We place high value upon freedom of enterprise, believing that each individual should be free to enter any line of endeavor for which he is qualified.

"We believe in freedom of choice, which involves such choices as spending or saving income.

"We believe in freedom of contract... We believe in the private ownership of property, including almost all personal property and most of the means of production.

"Finally, we believe in the free market economy, and in profit as a motivating force. More than any other economy of the world, we have relied upon free people, subject to only minor controls and regulations, to promote the general welfare."

If the NEA, with its pervasive influence, succeeds in improving the teaching of economics in the schools within that framework, a few years hence we will no longer be a nation of economic illiterates.

ROYCE BRIER

## Nostalgic Trip Through An Old Folks' Hideaway

English writers are supposed to outclass us in murder mysteries, and their real murders are markedly superior, running to mass effects. Ours unhappily are savage forays by insane gunmen, which would fair gag a London housewife looking for her weekend jollies in the penny press.

So the writer came upon a nostalgic news bit of another time in Connecticut, and passes it on as an antidote for nuclear tests and such.

In 1916 a gentleman, name of F. R. Andrews, pingued up \$1,000 for life care in a reputable institution (est. 1907) known as the Archer Home for Elderly and Indigent Persons.

Mr. Andrews took sick in no time at all, and his sister was called, but he was dead when she reached his bedside.

Finding some curious papers a year later, the sister had his body exhumed, and it contained enough arsenic to kill a horse, or at least a pony. The proprietor was a Mrs.

Archer-Gilligan, and officers poking about discovered Mr. Archer, first husband, and Mr. Gilligan, second, had died suddenly in recent years.

They learned that, 1911-1916, 48 persons had died at the home, and here was a curiosity: a large share were \$1,000-for-life contract patients, dying shortly after admission, while monthly patients were at the pinocle table daily, with nothing worse than a touch of sciatia.

They decided Mrs. Archer-Gilligan was only interested in one grand, and had built a tidy sum by not having to care for these trusting souls.

The dispatch is a little spare in details of the investigation, but it must have been a toxicologist's dream. So they arrested Mrs. Archer-Gilligan, the attractive widow of 44, and tried her for the murder of Mr. Andrews in the first degree. She was convicted, and sentenced to hang. Then she got a new trial, and in due time pleaded to second degree, and was set free. She was soon declared

## A Bookman's Notebook

# 'The Recognitions' Gains Measure of Recognition

William Hogan

Ever hear of a novel called "The Recognitions," by William Gaddis? Chances are you haven't. I had not until it was issued the other day as a whopping 400,000 word, \$2.75 paperback by Meridian Books. The work of a totally unknown angry young New Englander, it appeared originally in 1955. As a \$7.50 first novel it died aborning.

According to a hard core of partisans, "The Recognitions" is one of the most important works since Joyce's "Ulysses." I learned long ago never to argue with a hard core of partisans of anything. In this case I shall take their word for it, and leave the decision to future literary historians.

News of "The Recognitions" broke out not long ago when a full-page personal advertisement appeared in The Village Voice, a Greenwich Village weekly. This was signed by one Jack Green, No. 1 fan of William Gaddis, who hailed the new paperback edition and berated the Nation's book reviewers who failed to recognize the "greatness" of the work when it appeared seven years ago.

Green's ad noted that a toy newspaper he publishes, called Newspress, further documents the shabby treatment the book received back in 1955. I have a copy of Newspress, and Green really gives it to the critics. "Fire the bastards!" he cries—and refers to The New Yorker's man as well as the minions of the daily press. If ever an author had a pal and unsolicited press agent, it is William Gaddis, now 39, and in business, if a little late.

Since its inauspicious debut in the marketplace, "The Recognitions" has had a strong underground readership. In a Saturday Review column, Jerome Beatty mentioned that although only a few hard-bound copies exist, Gaddis fan clubs are thriving and members meet to talk about the book's characters and plots.

Jack Green, the amateur publicist, observes that only two of 55 original reviews he saw were "adequate." The rest were "amateurish and incompetent." In all cases they failed to recognize the "greatness" of the book.

It's a tough one to describe. You can't do it briefly any more than you can say that "Finnegan's Wake" is a cycle of history made up of nightmare fantasies and half-conscious dreams. Gaddis wrote in a variety of styles, from a kind of neo-Eighteenth Century romanticism to hard-as-flint sexy modern. "The Recognitions" seems to be a bold experiment in form and style. It is a very, very long,

scathing, grim, often satiric study of the charlatanism of our age, as much as anything. One thing is certain: You will have to bring as much energy, time, patience and dedication to it as you would to the toughest kind of Joyce. Is Gaddis as good as Jack Green says he is, or is that just another nine-dollar bill? Your own answer is there, at \$2.75 per copy, which is reasonable enough for 400,000 words. (The loaf of bread and jug of wine that you'll probably need along with it are extra, of course.)

Notes on the Margin  
... Richard H. Rovere, Washington correspondent for The New Yorker, is the author of "The American Establishment and Other Reports, Opinions and Speculations" which Harcourt, Brace has just published. Rovere defines The Establishment as "those people in finance, business and professions... who hold the principal measure of power and influence in this country, irrespective of what administration occupies the White House."

## Around the World With



# DELAPLANE

"What documents do you need to drive in Europe? And do you save money buying a car and how do you ship it home?"

Not all countries, but some, require an International Driving License—\$2—and two passport pictures at an AAA office.

The old carnet de passage, that involved documents at each border, is no longer needed, thank goodness. Whether you rent or drive, the place where you get the car should give you the right papers—the most important is liability insurance good in any country.

Shipment home and import duty is usually handled by the seller. British Motor Corporation, for instance, is handling all of it on the car I bought. It runs from \$200 to \$300 shipping with U. S. Customs charging you \$100 to \$200.

You still do better on a lot of cars than if you bought at home. However, on the Austin 850 I bought, I could do \$135 better in the U. S. when you figure shipping and so on. But on the Austin-Healey, you do about \$500 better in England.

On a Ford and Fiat you don't gain anything. You don't lose much either. You do very well on a Jaguar, Mercedes, Renault, Volkswagen, Triumph. The first two are a saving of about \$600.

You should consider the gas mileage. Gasoline runs up to 90 cents a gallon—though in France and Italy you can buy cut-rate tourist coupons through the auto clubs. So I figure the \$135 difference on my Austin 850 is recovered by its low gas consumption. And the fact I like it better than a bigger, hard-to-park car.

... a hotel in London that has TV. We have to keep the children quiet. Nearly all London hotels have TV available at small rentals or free. Nobody seems to buy TV sets. They all rent. You'll find the yellow section of the phone book full of rental ads—about \$1 a week. Only two channels though and only part of the day.

... anything special we might need on the road in Europe? I find one of these travel kits with two Thermos bottles is a great help. You're always having a problem finding water and you can fill the other one with coffee.

How do you have a geisha party in Japan? What does it cost?

It will cost you about \$30 per person. You have to reserve room and geishas at a chai-dai—a tea house. (There is no such thing as a "geisha house.")

You'll need to be introduced properly. I think the desk at the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo could handle this for you. You might ask for Cho-ya in the Alaska district. Fashionable, wonderful and expensive. And worth it.

What was the name of that enormous night club and dance hall in Mexico City?

You must mean "Waikiki"—where they had the sign: "Don't throw cigarette butts on the floor. The Senioritas are dancing barefoot." The Federal Governor, "Mr. Flowers and Fountains," closed that down. Too slummy for the Reforma. But any taxi driver can find you a half dozen like it off the boulevard. Rosa or Mil y Nua Noches.

## Morning Report:

I wish the Air Force all the best in its plan to screen out the emotionally unreliable people who are handling atomic weapons. It's a sound idea, but I don't think any body should get any notion that it will do much good.

For one thing, like all unpleasant military programs it will no doubt start with privates. And atomic weapons may be outdated before they start removing four-star generals. In fact, I feel the world will be a lot grayer before they even reach colonels.

But, worst of all, the screening should begin with statesmen. I have a list of them all ready for the psychiatrists.

Abe Mellinkoff

## LIFE'S LIKE THAT

By FRED NEHER



"They make a great team in the garden... she digs, and Homer plants!"