

Torrance Herald

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Spending for Progress

Whether the facts support Governor Brown's claim that California already is the nation's largest state, we are growing fast, and so is the problem of keeping our economy apace with the population. Any evidence, then, that indicates we are anticipating these problems, is warmly welcome.

Pacific Telephone has just come through with quite a chunk of such evidence. It is filled with dollar signs and optimism. The firm has announced an all-time record expansion and improvement program costing \$412 million in 1963. According to PT president C. O. Lindeman, that is 11 per cent more than was spent in 1962, which also was a record year.

This invigorating shot in California's economy arm will affect all parts of the state—1200 communities in all. It will involve new installations and additions to central office equipment, and the buildings, new networks extending phone users communications horizons. As a sample of how the phone company expands to meet the state's expanding needs, it added 423,000 phones in 1962, bringing the total in service to more than seven million.

The operations of Pacific Telephone and the state's other great utilities and industries do more than just supply the people with services and materials they need. They also contribute mightily to local, state and federal governments. PT, for instance paid \$119 million in state and local taxes in 1962. Its federal assessments brought the total to a whopping \$259 million, or \$38 per telephone.

Even if we aren't the biggest yet, we're getting there; and with industry putting money where it counts most, it looks like a Happy New Year for California.

Opinions of Others

Excluding taxes, the price of a gallon of gasoline is less than a third as much as the price of a gallon of distilled water (75 cents), less than one-ninth as much as the price of a gallon of ginger ale (\$1.83), and less than one-tenth as much as the price of a gallon of beer (about \$2, excluding taxes).—*Altoona (Pa. Mirror)*.

Feel sorry for our top men in the nation and in business for the many decisions they must make? A recent study of the U. S. Bureau of Public Roads (shows) that a motorist in typical city traffic must make a decision and take some action in an average of three times a minute. And many of these are life-saving decisions.—*Versailles (Ohio) Policy*.

Roman tax collectors nicked Vice Chairman Giovanni Angelli of Italy's big Fiat auto works a mere \$92,000 in income tax on his salary of \$638,000. If Fiat and Signor Angelli were in Detroit, his take-home pay would have been \$462,000 less—or about 13 cents per earned dollar.—*Hartford (Ky. News)*.

The U. S. income tax will be 50 years old next Feb. 25. Does anyone want to sing "Happy Birthday" to celebrate the joyous occasion? When it was born in 1913, few people foresaw how the tax would grow. It started with a nibble of one to six per cent, now it gobbles 20 to 91 per cent. The result has been to eat up savings and capital and stunt the growth of the national economy.—*Duluth (Minn.) Publicity*.

Chamber President Says

1962 Was 'Boom Year' in Torrance

Has 1962 been a good year? For Torrance, it has been a "boom year," according to Martin M. Denn, president of the Chamber of Commerce. Torrance's phenomenal growth in population, industry, commerce, home and apartment building, civic improvements and all the other things that go to make up a great city continues at an undiminished rate. We expect the year 1963 to be even better," Denn said. Most significant, according

to Denn, is the total value of new building permits in the city which will top \$38 million for the year. Less than half of this was for single family residences with the bulk going into apartments, commercial and industrial construction.

Everything points to an even better construction year in 1963, Denn believes. He said construction permits totaling nearly \$10 million would probably be issued

shortly after the start of the new year.

Among projected construction in the city in the new year will be multi-storied office and professional buildings, the Chamber president said.

Plans are already under way for a zoning variance to permit a six-story medical building and "this will be followed by high rise office buildings," Denn predicted in his year-end report.

Development of the Marble property at Crenshaw and Sepulveda over the next three years will result in \$30 million worth of new homes and apartment buildings and a population growth of some 8,000 residents, he pointed

Looking back over 1962, President Denn listed as a highly important action during the year the joint interest of the city government and the Chamber of Commerce in community planning.

"The city is to be commended for hiring a highly competent municipal planner and the continued development of the city planning office," he said.

"This group, working with our Chamber committees, has been extremely effective in resolving several of the growth problems of Torrance," Denn said.

The Chamber of Commerce will continue to work on community planning problems during 1963, Denn promised. Scheduled for

study during coming months are the master plan for the south Torrance oil fields, downtown Torrance and adjacent areas, the municipal airport master plan, and the revision of zoning ordinances.

Denn reported that the Chamber's industrial development committee had been working on an economic base study of the city's unused acres of industrial land, and he expects an early completion of this survey.

"This base study will enable the Torrance Chamber of Commerce to pursue new industry and at the same time encourage existing industries to expand," he said. He said the Chamber would publish a brochure to serve as an inventory of the undeveloped land to present to selected industries.

Commercial growth also continues on the upswing with the Chamber assisting in the groundbreaking and opening of scores of new stores and commercial establishments.

"Probably one of the most significant factors in our growth pattern is the large number of banking institutions now located here," Denn said.

Completion of a bank now under construction at Crenshaw Boulevard and Pacific Coast Highway will bring the Torrance total to 10 banks and 5 savings and loan associations.

"This adds up to one for

Coming To MY New Year's Party?



ROYCE BRIER

Foreign Service Wives To Get Some Schooling

Wives of men about to go on foreign service are due for a little schooling on their images, as we like to say, and the curriculum doesn't look like a soft touch. Most such wives are primarily concerned with servants and how to educate the kids, but this isn't anything like that.

The government that thinks of Everything has devised something its calls Overseas Assignment, to be operated by the Foreign Service Institute. There will be lectures by the hep, and if a wife gets C minus for the course instead of an A, it won't hurt her husband's career. That's what the notice says.

The chief subjects to be taken up (outside the cocktail conventions, and not mentioning the dubious plumbing of the host country) are: American education, art, literature, architecture, and the role of women.

Taking the last first, the role of women in America seems to be in some dispute. That is, the subject is big,

and in view of the arguments you can get into homeside, a little complex.

Doubtless American women like their role in a protean way, and after seeing the lady street sweepers of eastern Europe, not to mention veiled ladies in many a quaint land, will like it better.

The role of American women has changed remarkably in the past century, we trust for the better, but that is not something to talk about to your new-found friends in, say, Afghanistan, where woman's role has not changed in a thousand years. Indeed, the last thing they want to see abroad is some American woman with positive ideas on woman's role. The late Eleanor Roosevelt could get away with it, but she had a way with her not given to the average service wife, nor even a brilliant one.

Education is another subject in some dispute, and it is of vital interest to American women, particularly

mothers who wonder when the schools will outbid the comic books. But our dispute is not applicable abroad.

It is hard to see how a service wife can be effectively indoctrinated in art and architecture. Comrade Khrushchev doesn't like abstract art, which he says appears to be done with a donkey's tail. Many Americans are confused, thus to find the Comrade in their camp, but he is only one part of a disagreement of our century. If one remembers, there is some architecture in Chartres Cathedral and the Parthenon, yet their beauty cannot be incorporated with our feeling about structure and ornament.

The love of literature, alas, is an affair of years, and can hardly be inculcated by a lecture.

One cannot say good will result from attendance at Overseas Assignment. One can only suggest common sense and grace may serve a service wife better.

A Bookman's Notebook

'Old Days' on Alaska's Frontier Lived Again

William Hogan

Any period before the air age—say the 1930s—were the old days in Alaska. They were the days of paddle wheel steamers on the rivers; horse-drawn stages and living as primitive, and often exciting, as any region on the American continent. It is of these "old days" that Margaret E. Murie writes in a stirring account of life on the Alaskan frontier, "Two in the Far North."

Mrs. Murie was 9 years old in 1911, when she made the journey with her mother to the gold fields of Fairbanks. They continued on, by way of Yukon, to the Arctic Circle. Her reminiscences of grand adventure in this wilderness are as wide as all outdoors.

Among other things, Mrs. Murie was the first woman graduate of the University of Alaska. Almost immediately she married a young biologist, Olaus J. Murie, of the U. S. Fish and Wild Life Service, and embarked on an Arctic honeymoon among the animals Olaus was studying. This admirable, unpretentious book of reminiscences carries the atmosphere of a lovely grandmother's stories of her younger days, although few American grandmothers have lived through such stories—rivers of ice, for example, in that the author calls "this tremendous, mysterious, fiendish region" of the Yukon.

While there is much homey recollection of everyday life, of ham and eggs, fried potatoes and dried-peach pie, there are also vivid accounts in this record of trips into the wilderness of Koyukuk river valley, during a bird-banding expedition; or along the Old Crow river, in which the Muries took an 8-month-old son. And animals, animals.

This is fine Alaska yarn. Most of the experiences are unique, and they continue up to 1956, a scientific camping trip in the Brooks Range. Altogether, this is the most agreeable adventure story I have run across in a long time—excellent fireside reading, if you're thinking of a gift. The illustrations by Olaus J. Murie, who in recent years has been director of the Wilderness Society, con-

tribute a great deal to the spirit of a distinguished personal history.

Aphorism. 1—A short, concise statement of a principle. 2—A maxim adage.

A personal selection of more than 3,000 of these has been assembled by W. H. Auden and Louis Kronenberger as "The Viking Book of Aphorisms" (Viking; \$6.50). Taking more than a few pages at a time becomes as wearying as trying to consume a Bennett Cerf joke book at a single setting. Out of thousands: "Make me chaste and con-

tinent, but not just yet.—Bernard Shaw.

"Practical politics consists of ignoring fact.—Henry Adams.

"For example" is not proof.—Yiddish proverb. "To tell about a drunken muzhik's beating his wife is incomparably harder than to compose a whole tract on the "woman question."—Turgeniev.

"How much more flattering to see a critic turn disparaging from malice and spite than lenient from cliquishness.—Andre Gide.

Two in the Far North. By Margaret E. Murie. Knopf; 438 pp.; illus.; \$5.95.

Around the World With



DELAPLANE

"We want to stay one night in El Paso and go over the Mexican border for dinner. Can you advise us what to eat, such as specialties? Can we bring anything back? What's a good buy?"

Easier to take a taxi over to Juarez than to drive. No papers needed and no crossing problems.

Specialties are the usual Mexican dinners—chiles rellenos, enchiladas, mole poblano (the turkey with very hot sauce). You might try quail or venison which is usually on the menu because Mexico does not have as strict game laws as Texas.

You can bring back \$100 worth of things you buy, even if you're only over a few minutes.

There used to be a 24-hour rule. If you were over less than 24 hours, you could only bring back \$10 worth of things. Now you get \$100 duty-free, once every month.

Juarez has a very good selection from all over Mexico. Best buys, I think are Taxco silver, serapes—the best ones are from Texmelucan and Oaxaca—boots, bits, bridles, braided leather riatas. All kinds of horse gear. Suede jackets. If you buy Mexican rum (about \$1 a bottle) or tequila (80 cents a bottle), you pay a small Texas tax as you come back.

"Where do you stay in New York City? We like something quiet. . ."

So do I. That's why I stay at the small but very good Hotel Stanhope, Fifth Avenue at 81st Street. Very well-furnished, good-sized rooms. Very good personal service. Nice small cocktail bar and an excellent restaurant. About \$16 a day and 75 cents taxi ride and five minutes to midtown. (People who work in midtown Manhattan think you're staying in the wilderness. But I like it.)

"... something in London less expensive than the big hotels like the Savoy?"

The Green Park just off Piccadilly. Or the Washington on Curzon Street, about a block away. The old and very English Brown's Hotel in the same area. About \$8 to \$10.

Quote

He who has one for the road has Highway Patrol as a chaser.—Clayton Hess, California Highway Patrol.

More lives have been saved by antibiotics in the past two decades than have, in the aggregate, been lost in all the wars of history.—Aldous Huxley on Santa Barbara visit.

You can get out of that place with a spoon or a string—but how do you get in?—Herb Caen, San Francisco columnist quoting newsman who was refused permission to visit Alcatraz.

I'll get another pad. I used to live in a coffin. You don't know how good the dead have it until you've tried a coffin like that.—James D. Shrum on eviction from houseboat by health officers.

The kids nowadays want to be specialists on the field or intellectuals off it.—Monk Moscrop, ex-stanford grid star.

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"Could we go to one of the Swiss resorts without reservations and pick up a hotel room?"

I wouldn't do that. Ski resorts are going into the "high season." But you could get the airline to make you a reservation. Or the Swiss National Tourist Office could line things up for you. Main office is New York. Branch offices in San Francisco and other major cities.

"If we went to Majorca on a shoestring, what can we get by for? We are a young couple. . ."

You can probably get a room with meals for two for \$5. Maybe even less if you shop around. This is off-season. This is still a cheap island even though it does get a lot of tourists. Another of the Balearic islands even cheaper is Ibiza.

"Could you suggest a two-weeks winter resort for fun, even though we don't ski?"

Why don't you try Reno? You are within an hour of the ski resorts. Go out for dinner. Catch the midnight floor shows in town. You can have it both ways without being tied to skis. If you need a lot of information on costs, etc., write Walter Ramage at the Mapes Hotel, Reno Nev. He knows the area better than anyone I know.

Stan Delaplaine finds it impossible to answer all of his travel mail.

For his intimate tips on Japan, Italy, England, France, Russia, Hawaii, Mexico, Ireland, and Spain (10 cents each), send coins and stamped, self-addressed, large envelope to the Torrance HERALD, Box RR, Torrance, Calif.

Morning Report:

The next time they give out medals for heroism, they shouldn't forget Defense Secretary Robert McNamara. He has fought for two years to cut down the number of assistant secretaries. And he is right back where he started from—with 15.

He lopped off two last year but two more came back under different titles. And meanwhile the assistants have infiltrated his right wing by increasing the number of deputy assistants from 11 to 16.

The only way McNamara can win is by a complete and immediate disarmament program in the Pentagon—with on-the-spot-inspection in every office where there's a rug on the floor.

Abe Mellinkoff

LIFE'S LIKE THAT By FRED NEHER



"I didn't know you were interested in sports, Mr. Hardy."