

# Torrance Herald

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## School Board Candidates

Two incumbents, seeking reelection, and six other men and women have declared themselves candidates for the Board of Education of the Torrance Unified School District at the election to be held Tuesday, April 16.

April 16 is a very important date in the Torrance calendar, not only because the voters will select two board members from the list of eight candidates, but, will also pass judgment on the all-important \$8 million bond issue so urgently needed to maintain this city's fine and expanding school system.

Interest shown by these men and women, who have presented themselves for this important public service, is a healthy sign of their vital concern in education at the primary and high school levels. As the campaign for election progresses, this newspaper sincerely hopes, they will declare themselves favorably for the vitally needed bond issue as an indication of their sincere awareness of the needs of the Torrance Unified system.

Dr. Kurt D. Shery and William G. Boswell are seeking reelection to the board. The other candidates are Mrs. Pauline (Polly) Watts, longtime Torrance resident and one of the most respected and articulate women of the city; George Brewster, president of the Junior Chamber of Commerce; L. Milton Isbell, well-known Torrance business man; Joseph Platt, long active in Knights of Columbus affairs and a member of the City's Youth Welfare Commission; Mrs. K. Maureen Heaton, another well known Torrance woman and a regular observer at school board meetings, and Dr. John McClure, a physician residing in the Hollywood Riviera section of Torrance.

The HERALD views the candidacies of women for school board membership as particularly encouraging. Competent women often are more acutely aware of the importance of education because of their propinquity to the children during their formative years in the school system.

We suggest and recommend to the citizens of the community whether or not they have children in the schools, that they make an effort to learn all they can during the ensuing five weeks about these eight candidates and their platforms. The schools are not only the most important institution of this community but they are the largest beneficiaries of the real estate tax dollar. How they are operated should be of vital concern to every citizen who has a sense of responsibility to present and future generations of Americans.

## Jetliner, Drug Parallel

A commentary issued by one of the country's leading pharmaceutical companies draws an interesting parallel. Its aptness is found in the fact that, should certain legislative proposals be adopted, the drug industry would be heavily hampered in its research, testing and exploration activities—all of which are vital to progress in this all-important field.

In 1954, the first commercial jetliner, the British Comet, exploded in midair. It was a stunning tragedy, for the Comet had been considered the ultimate in safety and reliability as well as in performance. Luckily, the wreckage was recoverable. The most exhaustive test program ever carried out on a civilian airliner followed. The source of the disaster—"fatigue failure" in metal—was found and corrected.

Now for the parallel. The terrible discovery that the drug thalidomide was linked to the birth of deformed babies has been a major element in leading to the handcuff type of legislative proposals. But thalidomide—which, incidentally, was produced and placed in general use abroad—had been thoroughly tested. It was considered safe and effective. Nothing in its history had suggested the grim possibility of deformed births.

The point is, as the commentary puts it, "No one could have foreseen the Comet or thalidomide disasters. But the Comet disaster did not hold back the Jet Age, and it would be a real tragedy to allow our experience with thalidomide to impede drug research." Every form of progress carries risks—total security is possible only in an escape-proof prison. We must, of course, have reasonable laws governing the production and use of drugs. But they must not be the kind of laws that slam shut the door on the future.

## Encouraging Delinquency

Many successful business and professional men and women can point to their first earnings as teenagers, sometimes in part-time employment, as the keystone for their progress upward in later years. Often the money earned in high school helped them into college and jobs during college enabled them to secure coveted degrees.

But now, most of this has been changed and one of the principal reasons is the minimum wage requirements and other restrictions placed on the ambitious boy or girl. These are well intended laws but too often they have placed a discouraging barrier directly in the path of those young people possessed of a will to make a success in the world today.

Many states have their own laws further hamstringing employers from hiring boys and girls on jobs which a generation ago were considered the most attractive to and most ably and effectively filled by the young.

Right now there are bills in the hopper at Sacramento that ask further and more complicated restrictions, compounding a situation that grows steadily worse. At the same time some socially conscious legislators are busy proposing and passing more laws to control juvenile delinquency with rarely a thought for one practical means of reducing the problem, namely: elimination of ridiculous laws restricting employment that would keep teenagers gainfully occupied and out of trouble.

## It Doesn't Taste Like Tomato Juice—



## ROYCE BRIER

# Perfidies of Middle East Make Assessment Hard

Some 2,000 years ago the Tigris-Euphrates region of Baghdad was the historical center of the world. Egypt had declined, and the Sumerians, Chaldeans, Babylonians and Assyrians successfully erected empires.

Historians agree the region was lush, and it was called the Fertile Crescent. Then the climate changed, and the rivers lacked the fertilizing powers of the Nile. The land burned out, leaving little but the petroleum we know today.

The 1001 Nights gave Baghdad a glamorous name, but it is one of the dreariest cities

of the Mideast in our time. The country, called Iraq, is mostly desert, but produces some grain and wool. The people are Arabs and Kurds, nomads who don't like each other.

Five years ago a shaky monarchy was destroyed, and a dictator-general named Kassem took over. He played with the Communists, hated Nasser of Egypt, but was primarily preoccupied with his own tyranny.

On the record, Kassem's violent overthrow and execution recently by a protege named Colonel Arif was an act of perfidy, curiously compared to Caesar sparing Brutus after Pharsalia, whereupon Brutus became his assassin.

But perfidy is so universal in these maniacal grasps for power in the Mideast that it is impossible for a Westerner to assess moral responsibility. Most of the countries are in a feudal state, and are incapable of self-government.

Notwithstanding, they are there, and won't soon go away, or cease to be problems to themselves and the free world. They are mostly of Arab stock, and as Arabs they have been exploited for centuries by the West. They are seeking some light in the

modern time, but in their quest they have little light of their own. It is therefore to the interest of the West to help them, if obstacles to help are not insurmountable.

The Arab unity which President Nasser preaches and hopes himself to bring off, is in principle good. The Arab peoples are homogeneous in culture, religion and interests. But they are abysmally split on method and leadership.

Every Arab country has pro-Nasser and anti-Nasser factions. Soviet influence has made little headway, and Communists are weak. Arif heads a triumphant pro-Nasser faction in Iraq. But this does not mean he will aid, let alone participate in, Nasser's hope of rebuilding the United Arab Republic, which, as you remember, recently subordinated Syria to Egypt, until anti-Nasserites revolted.

Arif has destroyed a despotism, and nobody feels very badly about it. He and his temporary ministers talk reason, but the prognosis for establishment of a reasonable, progressive, self-governing Iraq is not good. The deep-running poison of these situations has tended to replace a despotism with another despotism in a year or two, much as in Cuba.

## Quote

PECOS, TEXAS, INDEPENDENT: "We subscribe to the belief that freedom is a gift of God and not a political grant. We believe that freedom is consistent only with Christianity. We believe that our welfare shall depend on our own initiative and ability. We believe in maintaining a society in which the citizen has fullest individual freedom and the government's primary and paramount role is the protection of that freedom."

## A Bookman's Notebook

# Truman Capote Historic Literary Figure at 40

Already Truman Capote seems to be a historic figure in American letters. Actually, he is still short of 40—which, to the 24-year-old author of "Other Voices, Other Rooms" must have seemed the age of Methuselah. Since 1948 this onetime enfant terrible of modern writing has composed some of the glossiest and subtlest fiction and reportage of this period. This ranges from Gothic Southern romances to the best profile of an actor (Marlon Brando) that I have ever read.

And now, as if to seal Capote's reputation for generating electricity in prose—before John Updike or some even younger contender for honors in the sophomore literary sweepstakes takes over—Random House introduces "Selected Writings of Truman Capote." The very title tends to make Capote historic, like Henry James, or Virginia Woolf.

This is a representative and for the most part dazzling exhibition of Capote's virtuosity. It is introduced by Mark Schorer, who reminds us of the "mercurial talent" at

hand, and so it is. Borrowing an image from Capote's story, "A Tree of Night," Professor Schorer notes that the "wizard man," in one guise or another, is everywhere in these stories.

The wizard man certainly is. While at one time or another I have been less than won over by the frequent chichi atmosphere of Capote's virtuosity (notably in that darling of novellas, "Breakfast at Tiffany's") this collection is a beautiful example of a serious and beguiling writer at work. The Brando piece is here; so is Capote's report from Russia on the American "Porgy and Bess" company; so is a rare and penetrating report on his lodgings in Brooklyn Heights, plus others on New Orleans, Ischia and Spain.

Schorer notes Capote's multiplicity of interests; also his mood, style, and enormous gift of observation, all of which become more and more evident as one moves through the almost flawless non-fiction entries in this record.

Curiously enough, in these "Selected Writings" (selected

## William Hogan

by the author himself), I find myself less moved on rereading Capote's fiction, the area in which he established his reputation. The selection is excellent, and the virtuosity is evident—"A Diamond Guitar;" "House of Flowers;" "Breakfast at Tiffany's;" "A Tree of Night" and others.

This is a personal preference, of course. I feel more at home with Capote, the reporter-essayist, than with Capote the stylist-symbolist, or whatever you care to label the private world of horror and hilarity on which his reputation as an imaginative writer was built.

Be that as it may, the 17 entries in this omnibus offer a smorgasbord of sophisticated entertainment. The book also offers a capsule glimpse at a gifted, stylish—possibly bewitched—American writer at work.

Talk about virtuosity: his next will be a lengthy recreation of a murder in Kansas and its complications. Non-fiction, naturally, and I look forward to it with pleasure.

Selected Writings of Truman Capote. Random House; 460 pp.; \$5.95.

## AFTER HOURS By John Morley

# The Pros and the Cons Of the Common Market

Ever since the Brussels conference of the European Economic community... the common market... when France exercised her veto and barred Britain from membership, there has been considerable confusion about the common market itself and its influence on the U. S. economy.

In three successive columns I shall try to set forth the favorable and unfavorable aspects of the common market... and what it is likely to accomplish among the present original six members and those who will be added later on.

It appears inevitable that Britain will be admitted... and in all likelihood others of the present "European Free Trade association"... and "The Seven"... (United Kingdom, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Switzerland, Austria, Portugal will probably be admitted.

In addition, others will come in as associate members, like Greece, Turkey, Canada, Spain, Ireland, Iceland and the U.S., which now constitute the "Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development."

## Meaning of the Common Market

The European common market came into being on Jan. 1, 1958 with the Treaty of Rome. Its main purpose: to work for European unity... involving a good deal more than agreement on trade tariffs, which was the main purpose of its establishment.

Six countries joined economically in the common market... France, Federal Republic of Germany, Belgium, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands. This differs considerably from the "Seven" described above... in the integration process.

The "Seven" are a more fluid association... committed to a gradual reduction of internal tariffs, abolishing them on industrial products by 1966. Each of the "Seven" is permitted to make individual arrangements with the countries outside of the association.

On the other hand, members of the common market not only agreed to a gradual diminution (reduction, or abatement) of their internal tariffs and a common external tariff, but created a number of other arrangements in the form of institutions to further solidify the whole European community.

The six members of the common market are pledged to reduce their internal tariffs over a period of years on a percentage basis. This has already been accelerated to the point where by 1972, or before, all internal tariffs are expected to be completely abolished.

The common market provides much more than lower tariffs. It makes possible the free movement of labor, capital, services and eliminates all former economic barriers between these countries.

To put teeth into the agreements, the common market has set up a "Commission" which proposes and administers authority over day-to-day policies. A "Council of Ministers," which has full executive responsibility. An "assembly," with the power of a limited parliament.

And even "Court of Justice," which passes legal judgment on all issues under the treaty of Rome.

These bodies are so intimately representative of the population of the six member nations that it is in the light

of probability that a future United States of Europe could evolve.

Both President de Gaulle and Chancellor Adenauer are committed to achieve a greater political unity within the framework of the treaty.

This is the revolutionary aspect of the common market, leading to political and defense arrangements not included in the present agreements of the "Seven."

Dream of European Unity For generations the dream of European unity has been expressed by France's Briand, Britain's Churchill... and since World War II by France's Monet, Schuman, de Gaulle. It was mainly through the efforts of these last three that the Treaty of Rome was finally put through.

The common market members have a population of about 175 million. If present

affiliates, like Greece, were added... with Turkey about to be included on the same basis... and should the inclusion of the "Seven" be approved... the total membership of a unified European community would exceed 300 million people.

This will represent the most realistic threat to communism the free world has offered to date. It is the kind of weapon communism fears most.

The common market, although a threat to U.S. trade, could well become the instrument for the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe and eventually in the world as a serious threat to world peace.

In our next column we will discuss the impact of the common market on the U.S. economy.

## Our Man Hoppe

# 'Last Family' A New Album

—Art Hoppe

Personally, I think it's disgraceful, if not downright mean. I'm speaking, of course, of all these records and games poking fun at our President.

First it was "The First Family Record." Then it was "The Kennedys—The Game of Intra-Family Power Struggle." With a picture on the cover of all the Kennedys carved into Mt. Rushmore. Which is a large mountain.

And now it's "New Frontier-Ola," a Monopoly-like game which says it gives you "more money for your money than any other game its size." The idea being the first player to divest himself of all his holdings wins. Which is a very unkind plot.

So with everybody buying all these records and games needing our President and his family it's obvious somebody's feelings are going to get hurt. You ask whose? Our Vice President's, that's whose. Think how he must feel. Left out, that's how.

You know how sensitive he is to being left out. And if there's anything I can't stand, it's hurt feelings. But a group of us old-time fans of his have been doing our best for him. It's the least we can do.

First, we hired a mimic in hopes of cutting a best-selling album called, "The Forgotten Family." But that didn't pan out because nobody could remember what his voice sounded like.

But now we think we've got the whole thing licked. We've named a game after him. It consists of a pine-tarred board, 15 all-white tokens and one black token. This is called "Token Integration." Each player draws \$10 million in "Oil Money" (which, dollar for dollar, will buy as many people as real money). They then place their tokens on the square labeled "Texas" and roll each other to see who goes first. After everybody gets rolled, the player who emerges with the most Oil Money goes to "Congress."

This is called "Texas Politics." Thereafter, it's all beer and skittles. And the fun lies in drawing cards from the "Take a Card Pile." Like: "Take a free ride in the 1960 Campaign." Or "You have just received 10 million ballot pens. Go make a Good Will Tour of Outer Mongolia."

These are good cards. To be avoided at all costs, of course, is the dread black-bordered card which says: "Go to the Vice Presidency. Go directly to the Vice Presidency. Do not pass Go. Probably ever again." Once in the Vice Presidency you must sit for two terms with nothing to read but the rosy reports of Dr. Janet Travell. Which are pretty gloomy reading. If you're in the Vice Presidency.

So, if you feel as sorry as we for our poor, left out Vice President, take part in our campaign. Tell jokes about him in the locker room. Ridicule him at the breakfast table. Remember the old adage: "A Vice President doesn't care what they say about him because hardly anyone ever does."

And have faith. By Christmas we hope to have one of our new games in every American home, spelling out his name so it will once again be a household word. Yes sir, the title's right on the cover in big letters: "All the Way With L. B. Whatshisname!"

## Morning Report:

Mary Bunting is the president of Radcliffe College and she wants to start a study of the sex life of college students during the last 25 years. I know the results already.

All she will discover is what every undergraduate knows. But when the facts and figures are published, everybody who is old enough to have forgotten how it was in college will be shocked. The nation will have itself another scandal. With resounding demands that something be done.

We hear a lot these days about "creeping socialism." It seems to me an even greater menace could be galloping statistics.

Abe Mellinkoff

