

DEAR EDITOR...

THE CASE OF THE 45,000 MAPLE LEAVES
Walteria, California
December 18, 1953

The Editor
Torrance Press
Dear Sir:
I have been a reader of the Torrance Press for a long time and rise to remark that I believe everything I read. That is, until recently. As recent as Thursday, Dec. 17, in fact, when on page 25 you boldly go into print about 45,000 maple leaves covering an acre if spread out side by side.

You can check up on this by reading your paper of that date and page.
Not being of a doubting mind exactly, but having a maple tree of my own and nothing else to do at the moment, I decided to cover an acre with the leaves. This I soon found to be hard work. Hence the doubt.

Believe me, sir, I fell woefully short of having enough leaves. So short, that I decided that maybe the acre was either too big, or the leaves were too small.
Now I wonder who counts maple leaves, and why? (Could this be a pre-war boon-doggie that the public is just finding out about?)

Still trying hard to believe, I consulted a surveyor friend of mine who wrote down that an acre covers 43,560 square feet. I checked up on this and he is correct.

My Japanese nurseryman friend says that a maple leaf might cover 4 or 5 square inches, maybe six, also maybe, he thinks you meant to say castor bean or banana leaves. I asked another fellow how many square inches there might be in an acre and he says—how the heck would I know, I'm only a real-estate salesman.

Being of a trusting mind, as you already realize, if you have read this far, and feeling that while the acre was OK, and the leaves too small, I very optimistically allow twenty inches per leaf—there might somewhere be a maple tree with elephant ear leaves—and I come out 268,632 leaves too few. How about that?

I'm not a hot number at arithmetic, but something tells me I'm closer than you are. Now, I hope you will tell me where in Torrance, or, where in any-

Slow leaks in tires are frequently caused by defective tire valves or small objects such as phonograph needles or slivers of glass. The Automobile Club of Southern California suggests that when an abnormal air loss is observed in any tire, have the tire dismounted and carefully examined.

where is this 45,000 leaf maple tree, the leaves of which will cover even a so-called commercial acre.
As W. Shakespeare so aptly remarked—"This brother, I got a sec."
(Yes, I know why editors have waste-baskets.)
Very truly yours,
(signed) Edge Shaffer

(Editor's Note: Who said Mark Twain was dead?)

Women's Group Opposes Mine

Women for Good Government of San Pedro, representing hundreds of women leaders in the harbor city, have gone on record as strongly "opposing the granting of a permit to allow new open-pit mining on the Palos Verdes hills," it was announced here today by Mrs. Gilbert C. Van Camp, San Pedro civic leader and, corresponding secretary for the organization.
At the same time Mrs. Charles Francis Shute, president, Women for Good Government, states, "Women of San Pedro have joined with thousands of women in Wilmington, Lomita, Torrance, Walteria, Redondo, Palos Verdes, Rolling Hills, Portuguese Bend and other South Bay communities

in protesting the plan to start a new open-pit dicalite mine on Palos Verdes peninsula. We have urged the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to reject this permit because this proposed mine would without doubt be adverse to the health and welfare of our families.
"We are alarmed over the prospect of the children of our community being raised in an area where the dangers from dicalite dust would be ever present if this new mine is allowed to operate. We strongly support the view of our own physicians and the resolution of the Los Angeles County Medical Association attesting to the harmful effects from diatomaceous earth. We cannot afford to gamble with the welfare of an entire area for the sake of financial gain for a few. We have asked the Board of Supervisors to reject this permit when they vote on this important issue December 29."

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise; be thankful unto him, and bless his name. Psalms

Thanksgiving of the heart gives a fine freshness, a tingle, a tang to one's spirit that not only assures but increases victory.—S. D. Gordon.

THE HEART has reasons that reason does not understand.—Bossuet.

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