

Solon Urges University Put Campus in Torrance

(Following is the complete text of Assemblyman Charles E. Chapel's (R-Palos Verdes) statement of the possibility of establishing a new campus of the University of California in Torrance. Chapel released the statement from his Sacramento office.)

A few weeks ago I wrote to Clark Kerr, president of the University of California, at his Berkeley address. I sent the letter by certified mail, just to be certain he got it. When I did not receive a written reply, I thought that perhaps he was too busy suppressing riots on his Berkeley campus, but I did the man an injustice.

A few days later I received a telephone call in my Sacramento office from a gentleman on President Kerr's personal staff, telling me that he would see me in my office the next day at 9:30 a.m. He arrived on time and spent two hours with me going over my large-scale maps of the 46th Assembly District and the 68th Assembly District, represented by my good Democratic friend, Vincent Thomas.

We looked at all possible locations for a new branch of the University of California, assuming that it would be in a "high-rise" type building, something similar to the University of Pittsburgh, in Pittsburgh, Penn., which I visited when my brother was there as a Professor of Business Administration.

THE REASON for this type of building is that a smaller site is required, plus saving money on land and building maintenance. Of course, an ample parking lot is part of the plan because an automobile is a status symbol for college boys. Without a "car," the boys usually get better grades but fewer girls. However, the parking lot can be a mile from the building because a brisk walk in our California sunshine is good for both boys and girls, whether they are attending a new branch of the University of California or hiking on the beach.

There were no promises made, but it is my opinion that sooner or later there will be a new branch of the University of California in what is generally described as the South Bay area. Those of us who live in this beautiful coastal region take it for granted that "Bay" refers to Santa Monica Bay, but in Northern California there are several bays which are referred to as "South Bay." This I had to explain to our friend from Dr. Kerr's office, not that he is slow-witted, but to get him oriented.

I SHALL NOT reveal his name at this writing because I am afraid that if he is pestered at this point he may cool off on the whole idea. However, I shall give a few hints about him which may surprise you, thus:

- (1) He is not an egg-head.
- (2) He is not only a great educator but also he has good common sense.
- (3) He is personally enthusiastic about having a "new campus" in the South Bay area.
- (4) All he knows about the City of Torrance is that it has been called an "All-Am-

erica City" and that an exhaustive study of maps leads him to believe that the new branch of the University can be located in the City of Torrance if the high-rise or "sky-scaper" concept is not abandoned.

(5) He said that if communities would only learn to stop fighting one another it would be easier to move forward toward making the old

dream of a "South Bay College" a reality. This is very important because the purpose of a college or a branch of the University is to educate young men and women. The true purpose is not to help the Governor get re-elected, satisfy civic pride, or enrich land speculators.

(6) There definitely is a provision in the Budget of the University of California for

research, development and selection of a new site for a new branch (campus) in Los Angeles County. So far, one city in the northeastern part of the County has tried to get the new branch located there.

PERSONALLY, I believe if one good site at a reasonable cost can be selected and if all of us get behind the site and avoid bickering there is

a reasonable hope that construction can be started within five years. However, this is merely my personal conclusion based upon hours of work. Others may have conclusions which are equally valid but if our conclusions vary too much there never will be a new branch of the University in or near the South Bay area.

This subject is of interest to me because I introduced the first bill relating to South Bay State College many years ago and I have spent more time on this project than any other individual. Any constructive suggestions or questions should be mailed to me at either Room 4001, State Capitol, Sacramento 14, Calif., or Post Office Box 327, Redondo Beach.

Army Pvt. Edwin B. Gage III, whose parents live at 100 Via Estrellita, Redondo Beach, completed advanced infantry training, plus a week of guerrilla warfare training March 26.

During the additional instruction he lived under simulated Viet Nam conditions for five days, fighting off night attacks and conducting raids on "enemy" villages.

The 21-year-old soldier entered the Army last September and completed basic training at Ft. Polk. He attended South High School.

Naval Aviation Cadet Alan J. Billings, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy W. Billings of 911 Kornblum Ave., recently qualified for carrier landings aboard the aircraft carrier USS Lexington, operating in the Gulf of Mexico, while undergoing flight training at Pensacola, Fla.

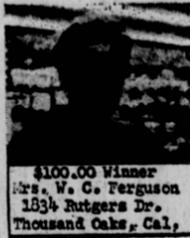
Seaman Ret. Richard N. Norman, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul H. Norman of 23337 Pennsylvania, is undergoing seven weeks of basic training at the Naval Training Center at San Diego.

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