

Press-Herald

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Hire a Veteran Week

Annual "Hire a Veteran Week" opens today under the sponsorship of the State Employment Service and the local veterans employment committees throughout the state.

The week, endorsed by proclamations from Governor Brown on a statewide basis, and locally by Mayor Albert Isen, is held to call attention to the numbers of experienced, qualified veterans who may be in need of employment. Charles Taylor is chairman of the local observance.

The Torrance office reported an active file of veteran applicants totaling 853 at the end of April, its manager, June Roper, said.

This year, upon passage of the Veterans Readjustment Act of 1966, approximately 350,000 new veterans from Viet Nam and cold war areas of the world have joined California veteran ranks.

"Notwithstanding the influx of these younger veterans, Mrs. Roper said, "the average age of today's veteran nationwide is 46 years, most veterans having had their experience in World War II."

Many of these veterans have increasing employment problems as they grow older, some as the result of displacement from long-time jobs due to technological advances and changes in the labor market.

But many of these veterans are at the peak of their productive years, and employers would be missing some good bets should they fail to tap this reservoir of stable, experienced workers when they have vacancies.

By law, veterans registered with the California State Employment Service enjoy priority of referral to jobs, and Mrs. Roper suggests that employers who list their openings with the Employment Service thus are assured that these qualified veterans are being made available to them.

OTHERS SAY

Watch Your Hide

Taxes have been described as the price we pay for civilization. By the looks of things, we may be getting too civilized for our own good.

The editor of the Belton, Tex., Journal and Democrat observes that: "More taxes seem to be coming. Something ought to give . . . and many of us hope the Great Society will be curtailed, while we are still alive to enjoy the society we already have. Some government economists look upon us taxpayers as sheep, figuring we can be sheared and sheared again. True, but you can skin a sheep only once."

If any of the voters are worrying about this, they might look in the mirror to find the cause of their concern. When we ask for federal handouts we get them for votes—but we pay for them in taxes, and then some. When we send a tax dollar to Washington, the "free lunch" we get back may be worth only fifty cents, with political overhead, carrying charges and infall oftaken out. If we want to give our wool for civilization, but keep our hides for ourselves, we can make our wishes known in the voting booth at every opportunity.—Industrial News Review.

Morning Report:

President Johnson's running correspondence with General de Gaulle is getting more and more bitter. But don't be alarmed. Evictions are always that way. We've had military bases in France for years and now the General wants us to get out.

He says he wants us out by April of next year. And we say it will take us two years. This is phony of course. If the Germans were running loose in France, as they have done three times in recent years, we could get out in 10 days.

Our insistence on two years is actually an extension of our new Drop Dead Foreign Policy. We figure we can get along with Red China after Mao passes along. And if we can keep our French bases for two years, who knows? De Gaulle is 75 years old.

Abe Mellinkoff

ONE ANSWER!



DISTRICT ATTORNEY REPORTS

Prospects Brighten for New Law to Control LSD

By EVELLE J. YOUNGER
District Attorney

Legislators from Los Angeles County are already feeling the pressure as some 350 community leaders clamor for stronger laws against crime, and the noise isn't going to fade away.

We think it will become increasingly loud.

The 350 represent what might be called the activists in the District Attorney's Advisory Council, a purely voluntary association of influential citizens all over the county. They are now setting up a legislative committee from which groups will be formed to work in every assembly district.

But something of this kind takes time. It will be weeks before the subcommittees will be ready for a real push. Meanwhile there is a special session of the Legislature going on in Sacramento right now, and activists, with work to be done, don't wait for formalities.

Members of the legislative committee began stepping up pressure on their assemblymen Wednesday. On Tuesday, at a dinner in Rodger Young Auditorium, they learned about the resistance we have been running into with the bill to control the dangerous drug, LSD.

For, astounding as it may seem, we found it all but impossible to get the measure out of the Assembly Criminal Procedure Committee.

Advisory Council members rose up at the dinner meeting and asked Chairman Dougherty of La Canada for names and addresses. Within a few hours we were hearing from local members of the assembly committee.

Suddenly the prospects for the LSD measure were substantially brighter.

Now I am much more hopeful that things will come out well when I go to Sacramento next Tuesday to try to get the bill onto the assembly floor.

This is an excellent example of what even a few people can do when they exert influence in the proper way and in the right places. It is also an indication of what can be expected in the future.

Next year there will be a full legislative session in Sacramento, and the District Attorney's office will have a broad and important program. It has been developed in consultation with the Advisory Council. Every measure in it has the council's overwhelming support.

It is, in a very real sense,

a community program. Still, not every assemblyman and senator will favor our bills. There are heavy pressures, many from sincere and well-meaning persons, to go easy with laws designed to control crime.

But with immense counter forces supporting our program, we have reason to be hopeful. For the 350 on the Advisory Council's legislative committee are leaders in their communities, respected members of influential organizations.

Once they are on a fully functioning basis, they will offer quantity as well as quality. Every one of them will be able to enlist dozens of others in the fight.

And they will. That's the way activists do things.

Sometimes two things happen at once, and it is natural to infer that one is a direct result of the other, but developments, in fact, may be more complicated. A good example is the recent U.S. Supreme Court decisions against obscenity and the disappearance of some very objectionable matter from local bookstalls.

The Supreme Court has, of course, been a factor. County law enforcement officials have moved with sharper vigor and heightened confidence. But it is obvious, after a little thought, that anything as spectacular as this cleansing of the bookstalls could not have come about simply because three cases were resolved in Washington.

Actually, it is the result of several years of patient and painstaking work by many agencies.

In our office this would have been true, for I have insisted we must never file cases simply because filing them would make us look good. A prosecutor who brings cases that he knows he cannot win is wasting tax money. The other way means more time in investigation and preparation, but it eventually means more convictions too.

Then, too, there are at least five agencies that are likely to be involved in any obscenity investigation here: the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the U.S. Post Office Inspectors, the Los Angeles Police Department, the Sheriff's office, and our own Bureau of Investigation. Sometimes other local police departments are brought in. It is always a job of teamwork.

In prosecution the same principle holds true. Often something is published in unincorporated territory, distributed in Los Angeles, and sold in other cities. So the District Attorney and

several city attorneys may file connected cases.

All that takes long planning and plenty of effort.

At this moment cases are awaiting trial covering more than 100 kinds of materials.

They range from paperbacks through advertising brochures. They include films and photographs. Several magazines are involved. And there is a strong movement toward many additional prosecutions.

The important thing, perhaps, is not how these things came about but that they did happen. But it is important to know also that, while the process would have been slower and less effective, the work was going on. Many of these cases would have developed in any event.

It is pleasant to note that Lynn D. Compton, a source of great strength as assistant district attorney, has a fresh laurel—a pin denoting he has been in the office 15 years.

WILLIAM HOGAN

B'nai B'rith Issues Its Report on Birch Society

Some conclusions from "Report on the John Birch Society," an important little paperback Benjamin R. Epstein, national director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, and Arnold Forster, the League's general counsel:

"The Society 'claims to be the only effective anti-Communist force in the Nation, but its leaders cannot tell a Republican from a Red and have forfeited all credentials and any claim whatsoever to anti-Communist expertise.'"

"It divides the Nation by charging those who oppose it—and those whom it opposes—with being Communist dupes at best and Communist agents at worst."

"Its aim is political influence and power. Its ultimate purpose is to stop the forward march of American development and to repeal, if it can, the last thirty years of American history."

"It sucks in, each year, increasing millions of dollars for its divisive activities."

HERB CAEN SAYS:

Initials Help Identify 'Black Market' Writer

Blacklist: "If you see 'Born Free,' the hit movie based on the best-selling book of the same title, you will see that the screenplay was written by one Gerald L. C. Copley—who happens to be a San Franciscan. The name, however, is a phony. Mr. 'Copley' is a one-time first rank Hollywood writer whose name may no longer appear on the screen because years ago—as a member of the 'Hollywood Ten'—he went to prison rather than cooperate with the House Un-American Activities Committee. He now lives here and goes to L.A. occasionally for black market screen jobs, for his talent, if not his name, is still in great demand. The clue to his identity lies in the initials of the pseudonym. Right. Lester Cole.

Onward: A gent walking behind two airline stewardess, overheard one say to the other, "Well, I never thought a giraffe could get an elephant pregnant, but now I know better"; although he trailed them for another 10 minutes, he never got another clue. Frustrating . . . Woman to a local bus driv-

er: "Where do I get the Masonic Ave. bus?" Driver: "Don't ask me, lady, I'm a Catholic." Proving again that there are no more straight men . . . Further proof, if needed: Dr. Leon Shook, graduate dean of the Monterey Institute of Foreign Studies, upon hearing about a married colleague who is playing around, "I'm afraid he's putting the tart before divorce" . . . Since I

San Francisco have a misanthropic aversion to best sellers, I've been avoiding Be! Kaufman's "Up the Down Staircase" ever since it came out—but you know how it is. Somebody shoves a book into your hands and you read it. So this is by way of apology to the author: "Staircase" is a minor work of art, and deserves its success.

Addendum: Miss Kaufman, whose book concerns life in a high school would undoubtedly appreciate the following—the accreditation committee report on Petaluma Junior High's health services program: "A school nurse is in attendance one day a week. In addition to

handling the normal traffic of ill students, she investigates home situations, various medical needs and is currently engaged in a sex education program with the vice principal."

Plush assignment: Herbert Gold, the novelist, is off soon to Montreux, Switzerland, to interview Vladimir Nobokov for a Satevpost piece . . . Comedian Jerry Lewis has bought 2,000 copies (at \$2.95) of Artist Bill Bates' portfolio, "Funny Men," even though Lewis isn't in it; the drawings are of W. C. Fields, Laurel & Hardy, Chaplin, Langdon, Harold Lloyd, and Buster Keaton . . . Among the backers of "The Rise and Fall of the Entire World as Seen Through the Eyes of Cole Porter," now playing here, is Jim Hamm, owner of the Villa Roma. A sentimental gesture. When he was a kid in N.Y., working for a florist, Jim had a daily chore: delivering to Porter two red carnations every morning, two white carnations every evening (and whatever happened to the delightful male custom of wearing boutonniere?).

ROYCE BRIER

Newspapers, Government Like Hatfields, McCoys

"What is truth?" asked Pilate, and Jesus did not answer. So the question has been uppermost in our culture for 2,000 years.

The world has never seen a communications system so complex and so widespread for getting at the truth our environment, yet the truth remains hard to achieve. For communication conveys untruth quite as readily as truth, and often the very complexity of things masks the truth.

Recently Spain initiated a new press law said to "lift" the censorship which has hedged Spanish newspapers for 27 years. The last analyses from Madrid say the new law only moderates, and does not lift censorship. Spanish editors must still use great caution in political comment which conceivably offends the ruling hierarchy.

Western newspapers have an extensive freedom to print what appear to be

realities, but it doesn't mean they always print the truth.

For reality and truth are often not the same. That is why you may frequently set forth a reality (subject to human error) only to be charged with deliberately promulgating a lie. Reality lives two lives, one of itself and one in the eye of the beholder. This is particularly the case in an expression

World Affairs of opinion on any subject whatsoever. So truth still eludes us, even though we have better facilities for reaching it than had any previous generation.

The First Amendment says the Congress may not abridge freedom of speech or of the press, but like all ideas considered basic in a free society, this one is not an absolute. It is taken for granted by sensible men

that any sovereign state, the United States included, will suspend constitutional protections when they threaten its survival. No constitution can rescind the first law of nature.

Thus a people engaged in a dangerous war are never told the truth about that war by those charged with managing it, and the realities about a war may be suppressed by one man and his agents.

We, as all free men, accept this as inevitable in wartime, but when it occurs in peacetime we become restless.

Yet it is certainly the nature of a government in peace or pseudo-peace to evade or distort in some measure truth or reality for reasons that seem valid for those engaged in government. The reasons may be sound or self-serving, but they are never absent. That is why veteran newspapermen who have long upheld press freedom, almost invariably alter their view of what is news, when they take public office.

Newspapermen, and the government group from Presidents or Prime Ministers down, have a destined conflict of interest. They may have a drink together, but their viewpoints can never be reconciled. They are Hatfields and McCoys, though fortunately manage to be amiable about it. This is an alienation Senator Franco in Madrid probably doesn't need to worry about at the moment.

Quote

The government spender is in the same position as the chain-smoker. He finds it very, very hard to give up the habit. It is fine to have these broad new social programs outlined in the budget if they can be financed without too great a burden on small income families, but I cannot believe that this can be done, or that it will be done without also endangering the security of our nation at war. — Congressman Charles Bennett, Florida.

