

# Press-Herald

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## Return Assessor Watson

Because the county assessor fixes the valuations upon which property tax levies are based, the position of the tax assessor and the office itself are of obvious importance to every taxpayer.

For four years, Philip E. Watson has been equal to the challenges of the office. He has been aggressive on the job—in the taxpayers' interest.

He has largely done what he said he would when he asked voters to put him in office in 1962:

- He reports that all property in Los Angeles County is now assessed at 25 per cent of market value.
- He vowed to end piecemeal reassessments and now says all property is reviewed annually and that assessments reflect current market value.
- He vowed to make it easier for the property owner to determine his assessment and to make appeals easier. He has inaugurated the system of notifying all property owners of assessment changes through open newspaper publication and has given taxpayers two months instead of two weeks to file appeals on their assessments.

At the same time, Watson has led the campaign to place a limit on property taxes at 2 per cent of market value; to establish a means of granting property tax relief to senior citizens on limited incomes; and to end what he calls unfair taxation on household furnishing and personal effects in homes.

Watson has amply shown his qualifications for reelection.

Watson also deserves the support of Los Angeles County taxpayers for the conduct of his office—the biggest in California—in such a way that no hint of scandal touched it despite seeming statewide assessment malpractices reported elsewhere.

If all of this weren't enough, one of Mr. Watson's principal opponents at the June 7 primary is Dorothy Healey, a Communist party official, who this week won approval to keep her name on the ballot. Los Angeles County certainly does not need a Communist party organizer holding this important public office.

An overwhelming vote for Mr. Watson is urged.

## The Hospital Bonds

Among the several important ballot measures to be included on the June 7 primary ballot will be Proposition A, a bond issue for \$12.3 million to finance construction of a major county hospital to serve the so-called Watts area.

While the amount of the bond issue is in the millions, the impact is spread countywide and the cost has been computed at less than a dollar a year to the average homeowner—one report puts the cost at about 40 cents a year.

The need for medical services in this area is great. We believe that no serious challenge to the need has been raised. It also is an excellent opportunity for the community to do something to help its own. Supervisor Kenneth Hahn, who has been sparkplugging the hospital bond issue, put it this way in a guest editorial written for this newspaper last month:

"Our government is spending millions of dollars in foreign aid to improve the health and living conditions of unfortunate persons around the world. Surely, we should take care of our own fellow citizens who live, work, and raise their children—not thousands of miles across the ocean—but in our own Los Angeles County."

In the vital area of public health, the community cannot afford the luxury of apathy. We urge strong support of the hospital bond measure with a YES vote for Proposition A.

## Sheriff Pitchess Needed

The quality of law enforcement is the only issue to be considered when selecting a major law enforcement officer.

Sheriff Peter Pitchess, who is seeking re-election has an impressive background and record in law enforcement: He received a degree in law from the University of Utah, served 12 years as a special agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, 5 years as under-sheriff and 8 years as sheriff of Los Angeles County, the office he seeks to retain at the June 7 polls.

Sheriff Pitchess has demonstrated many times throughout his law enforcement career that he is equal to the severe challenges of being sheriff of Los Angeles County.

Pitchess has won a solid position in the public's confidence, a position many men aspire to but few attain.

Los Angeles County needs Sheriff Pitchess and his election to a third term on June 7 is strongly urged.

## Morning Report:

I think Danny Kaye should get some kind of medal or at the very least be nominated to run for high office. After returning from entertaining the troops in Viet Nam, he declined to give an opinion on either world politics or grand strategy.

"I was there 14 days and I don't think that's enough time to get well informed," he told reporters.

This is a radical departure and if repeated often enough on TV could defeat 87 Congressmen, 18 Senators, and any number of Governors. Because until Mr. Kaye spoke, it has been assumed that a trip to the Berlin Wall made any ward heeler an expert on Russian Communism and a flight over Saigon did similar wonders on the Chinese brand.

Abe Mellinkoff

## Rose Petals Won't Bring Him, Boys



## STAN DELAPLANE

# 'Must See' Spots Listed For Hawaiian Vacations

HONOLULU — What you MUST see in Honolulu:

Polynesian Cultural Center: Tiny villages, built by the people themselves — Maoris, Fijians, Samoans, Tahitians, Hawaiians — all grouped around a lagoon with islands. A native dinner and a two-hour show of real native dancing. This is a not-for-profit enterprise. The Mormon Church handles it. The dinner is \$2.60. The show is \$4.20. Admission only, \$2.

Sea Life Park. You walk down below to see tropical fish around a reef. And, of course, the smarter-than-people porpoises. With transportation from your Waikiki hotel and back, \$2. (The Hawaiian bus driver sings, comments, and tells jokes I heard here 15 years ago. But for \$2 you can't get all that and Bob Hope, too.)

Hawaiian Wax Museum. Next to the International Market Place in Waikiki, 75 cents. Lifelike scenes of Hawaiian Kings. Captain Cook discovers the islands etc. Not as extensive as Mme. Tussaud's in London. But I'm kind of a nut on wax museums. (This one has no Chamber of Horrors. I'd like to write a new script for them.)

"Are there hotels with cooking facilities in Hawaii? How much, roughly, would they cost?"

Seem to be quite a number of smallish hotels with kitchenettes. (Which is certainly a way to keep costs down. I don't like to go out for breakfast either.) Hawaii Visitors Bureau, Honolulu, Hawaii, sends you a

list of all hotels, all islands. Lists special features such as kitchenettes, swimming pools etc.

The HVB lists the prices I don't have them offhand. But Foster Tower Hotel, overlooking the beach and Diamond Head, starts at \$18

## Travel

a day for a well-furnished studio apartment for two with kitchenette. Has a pool and Waikiki beach across the street.

"I was in Hawaii three years ago and am curious to know what the latest music is . . . are they recorded?"

Anything with Don Ho or Kivi Lee. 'Lahainauna' is very big on disc jockey programs. So is "The Hasegawa General Store" by Web Edwards of the "Hawaii Calls" radio-TV show. All on records, yes.

"We are teen-age girls. Our grandmother sent us a book, 'How To Do the Hula.' What music should we get for this?"

At the free hula lessons in the hotels here, they play one song particularly — "We're Going to a Hukilau." The hukilau is a net-fishing party. So you get hand motions of water, fish swimming and so on. There's a 45-speed recording.

"I cannot stand much heat and we are considering Hawaii. . . ."

Honolulu temperatures run an average 72 through January, February, March. Climb to 78 in July, August,

## Quote

Monstrous success as well as monstrous failure is a logical sequence of the concentration of power and command. — Karl Brandt, Stanford University Hoover Institute fellow.

We can have enough military strength to crash every nation on earth, but without moral strength we have nothing. — Mark Stephens, 17, Pacifica, Calif., student.

Too much of our tax money is preempted by the federal income tax. Our judiciary and administration are at least as competent as their counterparts 3,000 miles away. — Calif. State Senator George Miller Jr., Martinez, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee.

Many of us are in doubt. Should we follow President Johnson's dictate to stop spending money, or should

we follow the administration's spending example? — Shirley Benoit, Santa Barbara.

The U. S. has liberated France twice, at great cost in lives and money. . . . There is no gratitude for our benevolent giving. — Col. R. A. Ellsworth, Laguna Hills, Calif.

The Colonists fought a bitter war with England over excessive taxation. Colonial skeletons must be spinning in their graves. — Harrison L. Fox, San Francisco.

Activist students today want more authority not because they value it, but because they distrust it. They have no clear ideology, no clear program — or at least none has yet emerged. — Philip H. Rhineland, former dean, Stanford University.

## HERB CAEN SAYS:

# Willie's 512th Home Run Ends Long, Costly Vigil

Willie Mays' 512th homer was the end of a long vigil for the 18 cameramen who had crowded Candlestick's press box for days and nights — some at \$22.50 an hour — to record the historic blast. But why? Doesn't one Willie Mays home run swing look like another? . . . A night-spot owner who laid a \$750 bum cheek on that singing group called The Four Winds paid up right NOW when the leader's mama stalked into his office, eyes afire. Her name, Mrs. Thomas Lynch, wife of the Attorney General of Calif. . . . You never know where they'll strike next: A reader fed his coins into a cigarette machine and was rewarded with a pack of ciggies and a book of matches reading "If It's Safety You Want, Stop Smoking—American Cancer Society." With a groan, he threw them both away. . . . Since the cops are hip to LSD in sugar cubes, some of the even hipper pushers are putting it on the back of postage stamps and on the gummed edges of envelopes. Lick Your Way to Sweet Forgetfulness! . . . The news that the owner of Dr. Ross dog food company has left millions to the Birch Society and Dan Smoot has come as a great shock to some of our more liberal cocker spaniels.

yr-old-dghtr, as she fled. The Prince, who had never heard of Batman, thought she said "Bad Man" and was still undone two martinis later. . . . Merchant Prince Cyril Magnin presented LBJ with a gold-plated model of a cable car, and the Prez was delighted. "Ahm gonna send this doo-hickey rah down to the ranch," he declared, and that's better than sending

## San Francisco

it to Viet Nam, Ah spose. . . . Anaheim is a neat little town. It has Disneyland, a major league stadium (for the Angels), orange groves, Birch groves, and nice places to live. Except for the Angels' Jose Cardinal and Rudy May, who, at last reports, still hadn't found apartments because they have dark skins. . . . Princess Barbara Hutton and her Prince checked out of the Fairmont's Presidential Suite after eight expensive weeks (\$150 a day for the rooms alone) and headed for Paris, perhaps never to return.

Since this is Israel Bond season we must pass along the story about the big bank robbery in Tel Aviv: "The bandits got away with 16,000 Israeli pounds and 220 million in pledges."

Will the Stilt Chamberlain has a swimming pool at his new house—but he can't dive into it, unless he belly-flops. The deep end is 7'1", which happens to be Will's exact height. . . . Prince Michael of Greece to Barnaby

Conrad at Trader Vic's: "At last I've found you!" Translation: When the Prince's mother, Princess Franciose, died a few years ago, he found among her effects a portrait signed "Barnaby Conrad, Malaga, 1945." The Prince admired it so much that he wanted to meet the artist, "but," he smiled, "I wasted a lot of time trying to locate you in England. Barnaby sounds so English!"

Ladies, do you sometimes feel like a monkey on a string? Yves St. Laurent, the most influential French designer, is letting it be known that he'll lower hemlines one centimeter BELOW the knee in July—"to bring the elegance back to fashion." Translate that to mean the Mod look has hurt his biz.

Architect John Mac Fadyan of New York, making an airline reservation via phone here, was asked to spell his name, "M-a-c," he began, "F-a-d" and then, unable to resist, he finished "mo-u-e-l!" Sure enough, that's the way he was listed. . . . And on a United flight from N.Y. there were only seven passengers in first class, so the stewardess polled them on whether they wanted to see the movie. Result: 7-0 AGAINST (hooray!) . . . By the bye, if you still haven't seen "A Thousand Clowns" — I kept fighting it, too — do yourself a favor. A lovely film, and now I understand why Jason Robards didn't win an Academy Award as Best Actor. He's too good for an Oscar.

Bay City Beagle: Prince Michael of Greece (tall, dark, thin) walked into the Barnaby Conrads' home last week to be greeted by shrieks of terror. "Batman!" screamed the Conrads' two-

## ROYCE BRIER

# Getting Out of Viet Nam May Be Another Dunkirk

In case you are thinking about it, how do you disengage in a military operation?

At the beginning of his military career, General Grant did it, and almost lost his shirt. It was small-scale compared with your thinking of Viet Nam. He had 32,000 men in the lines at Shiloh, and the lines were sagging. The woods were so tangled it took three hours to fall back two miles. Grant lost 6,000 men, 2,200 by capture. He succeeded because the Confederate assault columns were also fought out.

Viet Nam is eight times as big in men, and there is unwieldy armor. Instead of six square miles it covers hundreds. It is a disengagement for embarkation by

sea. You must draw a stronger perimeter of protection in the Saigon and Da Nang areas, but this is politically temporary, because your are presumably withdrawing on invitation of a successor regime to Premier

## World Affairs

Ky's. It was this hypothesis which incited Senator Russell of Georgia to imagine an enforced withdrawal.

There are, now 255,000 men in Viet Nam, but by the Defense Secretary's weekly escalation there may be 300,000 or more by summer.

These men are dispersed over a large area; many lodged in small pockets, numbering perhaps hun-

dreds if you include jungle clearings for helicopter operation. All these pockets, excepting the larger bases, depend on helicopters and some jet air cover for habitability from day to day.

The pockets will have to be evacuated, partly by helicopter. Some installations are permanent, and must be abandoned to a hostile government. Sea transport will have to be doubled or tripled, to get the men and their armor and stores away. Some military experts estimate the perimeter staging area could not be evacuated in less than three months under the best conditions. Where will the men go? Home, eventually, but possibly in stages via Okinawa and Hawaii. The idea of Senator Javits, moving some of this army to Thailand, seems fanciful.

During withdrawal, it is unlikely the Viet Cong or the South Vietnamese either will sit idly by. For the Viet Cong it would be a great victory, and they would be less than human if they did not strike to make it complete.

As for the currently "loyal" Vietnamese, it would not be hard for the new regime, possibly Communist, to convince them the mighty but retreating Americans are fair game. We can perhaps count on vicious rear-guard actions to protect our disengaging forces against massive rioting and possible organized military action in the perimeter area.

As Richard Rovere suggests in a recent article in The New Yorker, Hanoi and Peking will hardly be satisfied with simple withdrawal — the object will be to inflict maximum punishment on the "imperialists." This disengagement would be as dismal and of about the same magnitude, as the Dunkirk disengagement — without the protection afforded by 20 miles of English Channel. Whom could we blame for this prodigious mess? Ourselves, for not warning Washington to avoid drifting into such dead-end warfare in Asia?

## WILLIAM HOGAN

# Medieval 'Jewish Popes' Ruled a Glittering Age

There is a hymn which is recited on the second day of the Jewish New Year, written by a Rabbi Shimeon, a famous teacher in the old Rhine city of Mayence, describing the story of the Jewish Pope. "Nobody should doubt its veracity, for it really happened. . . ."

Joachim Prinz, president of the American Jewish Congress and onetime Rabbi in the Jewish community of Berlin (1925-1937) has been engaged for some 30 years in researching the ancient story of a Jewish Pope, widely circulated in Europe during the Middle Ages.

His findings appear in a book, "Pope's From the Ghetto: A View of Medieval Christendom" (Horizon Press; \$6.50). Whatever controversy it may stir, the book is a rich, dramatic tapestry of medieval cardinals and kings, banking clans, Judeo-Christian relations that of that mighty age.

For the most part, such relations were relaxed and, as the author tells us, "Jewish merchants and Christian

customers often partook of one another's family celebrations."

The Eleventh Century, most dramatic of all, Christian centuries, saw two new families assuming leading roles on the stage of Roman history: The Pierleoni and the Frangipani. They were the 'nouveaux riches' of the

## Books

era, Prinz explains, the moneyed aristocracy. The Frangipani has been accepted by the nobility for several generations. But the Pierleoni had to wait years to acquire a family crest. When they did, the crest depicted a golden lion on a purple field, perhaps the Lion of Judah. For the Pierleoni, Prinz explains in this vivid and fascinating pageant, had come straight from the ghetto.

Pope Anaclet II (1130-1138), a member of this enormously influential Pierleoni banking family, "the Rothschilds of the Middle

Ages," was still a Jew to his contemporaries, although the family had been converted to Catholicism some generations previously. Anaclet is considered to be one of the most enlightened Popes of that era.

Prinz's research has revealed new evidence that two other Popes were also relatives of the Pierleoni—Gregory VI (1045-46), first of the medieval "reform popes," and his close relative Hildebrand, who succeeded to the Papal throne as Gregory VII (1073-85).

While the idea of "that Jew on the throne of Peter," as Anaclet was often attacked during his reign, is an interesting historical phenomenon, it is Prinz's erudite and often readable historical background that sweeps a reader along through these hectic and often glittering times. The work appears to be first-rate scholarship, and for the non-specialist it makes for historical "escape reading" on a grand scale.