

Press-Herald

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Courtroom Capers

Sidney T. Raycraft, a Southwest Area man, was brutally murdered May 2.

Ronald Clifford Harris, accused of participating in that murder, will spend the Christmas holidays at home with parents and friends.

Whether Harris is guilty or innocent is yet to be determined. In this society, only trial by his peers will determine his fate.

Yet, Superior Court Judge Allen S. Miller, without hearing one line of testimony and even before a jury was selected, allowed Harris to walk out of a Torrance courtroom on his own recognizance with no bail set. Judge Miller, last week, was disqualified from hearing the case.

Judge Miller's action in allowing a suspect in a murder case to walk out of his courtroom with only an order to return further points up police department criticism of the court's handling of criminal suspects.

Dedicated officers spend literally hundreds of hours tracking down suspects and then spend one hour in a courtroom watching the man be released on some technicality.

Needless to say, thousands of tax dollars are spent monthly in apprehending these wanted men.

Time and again, in recent years, cases have been cited in which a criminal is tried, convicted and sentenced only to have his trial be reopened a few months later and be set free on a technicality.

Police usually end up repeating the process of apprehending the same man for the same type of crime.

Communities all over the Southwest are conducting programs to cooperate with their respective police departments to help prevent crime.

Perhaps the courts—and their judges—could take a lesson.

Santa Is Honest, but . . .

The period between now and New Year's Day has been labeled "Danger Days" by District Attorney Evette J. Younger, and he points out that every resident should ask this question, "How close am I to committing or being the victim of a crime."

"Danger Days," says the district attorney, affect every person in the county—youngster and adult.

To make the holiday a happy occasion instead of a sad one, he suggests shoppers place their purchases in the trunk, lock their cars, hold purchases and purses tightly.

For merchants, Younger advises watching out for bad check artists. This can be done by requiring good identification, checking the endorsement carefully and asking that the check be endorsed in the merchant's presence.

Parents can help by keeping their children busy during Christmas vacation and to know where they are. Idle youngsters are prone to get in trouble when they have nothing to occupy their time.

Youngsters with their new holiday bikes should be encouraged to know safety rules and use them. In addition, every bicycle owner should have a strong lock to prevent theft.

All in all the district attorney offers sage advice for everyone and this newspaper endorses his "Danger Days" campaign.

Dear Doctor, Couldn't We Spank Just A Little?



WILLIAM HOGAN

'Amateur' Historian Tells Story of Japan's Defeat

"The Fall of Japan" (Dial) is a meticulously researched, dramatic account of a period from just before Hiroshima to the formal surrender aboard the Missouri in Tokyo Bay. This first book by a young Massachusetts historian, William Craig, is steadily building toward best-sellerdom.

It was published early in September to excellent reviews (General S.L.A. Marshall, the military historian, saw it as "virtually flawless.") It is a book in the Walter Lord-John Toland-Cornelius Ryan tradition rather than that of Samuel Eliot Morison, Robert Trumbull and others who have documented the end of the Japanese war in more traditional historical fashion.

Craig sees his book as an adventure story. "That's what history is all about," he said during a visit here recently. One of Craig's

prime achievements here is the element of suspense he generates as he investigates everything from the kamakazis, or suicide pilots, in the war's last moments, to the story of The Bomb.

Craig is a "history buff" and has been since 1941

Browsing Through the World of Books when, at the age of 13, he began a careful diary of the war based on daily reports in the Boston newspapers. He subsequently earned a master's degree at Columbia, but he suspects his book has roots in a graphic five-page account of the battle of Iwo Jima he wrote for his school paper, his first published work.

The research on "The Fall of Japan" took him from the National Archives in Washington, D.C., to Tokyo

where he interviewed scores of Japanese who participated in the events of those days. Most everyone was cooperative in helping him piece together this human version of that painful saga, even Mrs. Tojo who, over tea, spoke to him with "a voice that signed."

A Japanese edition of the book is in progress, no doubt with a change of title. "The Fall of Japan," Craig feels, would not go down well there. Several Japanese nations have read the book in English; all have found it to be "fair."

Craig feels that perhaps 30 years hence, if the world remains whole, an American historian might write a similar book on how people in Hanoi lived and acted as individuals during the 1960s. As a historian, Craig sees a great story in this very different kind of war. No, he does not expect to write it.

CAPITOL NEWSMAKERS

CHP Chief Says Patrol Trained to Handle Riots

By EDWIN S. CAPPS
Capitol News Service

SACRAMENTO — Harold W. Sullivan, commissioner of the California Highway Patrol, said there may be some philosophical differences of opinion on whether the patrolmen should be used in controlling demonstrations or riots.

But, as a practical matter, the patrol officers have to be trained in such work in their regular line of duty. "We don't know when and where they may have to be used," Sullivan said. "There may be an organized demonstration on a state highway or unincorporated area street, where we have jurisdiction."

"So the fact is there are 5,000 to 6,000 trained people who can be used in these special situations," he said. "It's a policy decision for the people to make."

The CHP has been criticized by Senator Randolph Collier, D-Yreka, chairman of the senate transportation committee and perhaps the most influential legislator on matters concerning highways and the highway patrol. Collier objected to use of the patrol at the anti-draft demonstration in Oakland on grounds the officers should be at their posts on the highway and that Californians always have resisted the idea of having a full-fledged state police force.

"Our primary responsibility is enforcing traffic regulations on the freeways and unincorporated streets," Sullivan said, "but we can't overlook the other. Criminals use highways and cars. Sullivan noted the CHP recently apprehended a Fort Jones bank robber, was instrumental in capturing a Susanville murder suspect and a Santa Barbara bank robber."

Sullivan was deputy chief of the Los Angeles police department and head of the traffic bureau before being appointed to his present post by Governor Ronald Reagan last December. He had been with the department since 1937 and a deputy chief since 1951.

The setting of speed limits is up to the legislature in general and the department of public works for specific sections of highways. Nevertheless, Sullivan has some pretty pointed ideas on speed limits.

"The most important part of safety on the highways, as far as speed limits are concerned, is the regularity of movement of the traffic," Sullivan said. "And the differential between the fastest cars and the slowest is the problem."

That is why Sullivan would be opposed to boosting the maximum speed limit in California to any higher than the present 70 miles per hour. The 70 mph speed limit is in effect only on some of the larger freeways, with most maximum speeds still at 65 mph.

Sullivan also is in favor of minimum speed limits being posted, as they are in many eastern states. So far this has been used only on a trial basis in California.

Sullivan said there is a certain amount of tolerance in enforcing speed limits and much of the traffic flows about five miles an hour above the limit. Thus a 75 mph limit would mean a lot of traffic moving at 80 miles an hour, providing quite a differential to vehicles traveling at only 50 or 60 mph.

The legislature has enacted several laws dealing with pokey drivers who stay in the inside or fast lane. Sullivan said the patrol now is enforcing this regulation.

"If a person is in the center lane and going 10 miles an hour slower than the flow of traffic, we now are citing them for traveling too slow in the fast lane," Sullivan said.

The commissioner believes the implied consent law for suspected drunk drivers is working successfully. The arrests of drunk drivers are increasing all the time.

"We believe the extension of the law to require the test under the implied consent provision has given more confidence to the officers making the arrests," Sullivan said. "This no doubt is part of the reason for the increased arrests for this offense."

Most drunk driving arrests are in the "on view" category, he said, where the driver's action is erratic or where some other tell-tale sign catches the attention of the patrolman. Two of the latter are drivers going much slower than the traffic or autos without headlights on at night.

Sullivan said it still is a bit early to tell but there seems to be some definite signs that the increased enforcement against drunk drivers is beginning to pay off. The improvements are in the area of the social drinkers who might be arrested occasionally, rather than the problem drinkers. And recent studies by the department of public health have shown a high percentage of drivers arrested for drunk driving have had other drinking or drug problems.

AFFAIRS OF STATE

It's No Snap Procedure To Qualify Third Party

By HENRY C. MacARTHUR
Capitol News Service

SACRAMENTO— Extended complications beset individuals who seek to establish a third party in California as the promoters of the American Independent Party supporting George Wallace of Mississippi for President of the United States are finding out.

The complications, of course, may be overcome with diligent effort but are such that unless that effort is put forth, and move to upset the two-party system is virtually doomed to failure.

According to Secretary of State Frank M. Jordan, there are two methods of qualifying a new party.

First, by affidavit of registration denoting party affiliation. There would have to be 66,059 new registrations, or one per cent of the total vote cast in a general election, as of January 2, 1968. County clerks report party affiliation figures to Jordan by January 21, and if they have 66,059 registrations for a new party, then that party is qualified to participate in the next primary election.

This first method does not involve the signing of a petition, but rather taking a

trip to the court house or other designated place for registration and changing parties.

The second method, by petition, is even more complicated. An actual petition for a new party requires 660,587 signatures, or 10 per cent of the total votes cast at the last general election.

News and Opinions
On Sacramento Beat

the petition to be filed with the secretary of state.

Jordan is keeping a running check on the proposed new Wallace party, and as of last Wednesday, clerks reported 15,149 registrations for the American Independent Party, and these were from the seven largest counties of California.

Jordan points out that if a new party does not qualify by either of the methods explained, then there is no way for it to have a presidential delegation on the primary ballot.

However, this not really necessary, in that to have the candidate's name put on the general election ballot, the secretary of state needs a letter from its state convention listing the names for president and vice-president and the names of 40

electors with their addresses.

And if a state convention cannot be established, it is believed the state can accept a letter from the national convention of a qualified party containing the necessary names.

Also, there is a means to get a candidate for president or any other office on the general election ballot as an independent nomination, which requires a minimum of five per cent sponsors of the total votes cast for the office in the last election. In the case of president, the signatures would amount to a minimum of 330,294, filed between Aug. 27 and Sept. 20 with the county clerk.

The only catch to this one is that none of the signatures of qualified voters may include anyone who has voted for that office for any party in the previous primary election.

Whether the Democrats and the Republicans complicated the procedures on purpose, of course is a matter of speculation.

But in any event, the election laws make it really rough for any group to go through the required rigamarole and put a third, or fourth party on the ballot.

HERB CAEN SAYS:

Turtleneck Sweater Ploy Saved By a Snooty Label

High Style: Burton Vaupen, the Young & Rubicam exec, got himself up in the latest with-it evening attire—a silk turtleneck shirt and dinner jacket—and set out with his date for a night at the opera. At Trader Vic's he was refused admittance till he unzipped the shirt and displayed the Neiman-Marcus label (for some reason, that impressed the Vickers and they let him in). During intermission at "La Boheme," a Hillsborough dowager fixed him with steely eye and sniffed: "I can only assume you're a very busy dentist who didn't have time to change." And afterwards, at L'Etoile, the maitre d'hotel said: "I'm sorry, we don't allow . . . oh, I beg your pardon. Come right in, Father!"

Glenn Dorenbusch, who, like the rest of us, fancies himself a gourmet, said to the waiter in a Fisherman's Wharf restaurant: "Great soup! Compliments to the chef, and I think I'll have another bowl." Waiter, after a quick trip to the kitchen: "Sorry, that was our last can . . . My favorite native wit, George Lemont, is never at a loss, and here's proof. I was walking down Sutter Street with two umbrellas (just repaired) on my arm, and ran into George, who thought for a moment and then said: 'I've got it. You have just done in Mary Poppins and her mother, right?'"

A tourist at Sally Stanford's Valhalla in Sausalito watched Mme. Sally bustling around the other night and finally asked Chace Webb: "Who's that?" "That," replied Chace, "is a former well-known mattress d'hotel." (You can't get a straight answer anywhere these days.)

Sen. Eugene McCarthy will be here in March for a round of speechmaking, to show he's not kidding about running for the Demonomi-

nation. He is convinced, say his braintrusts, that Bobby Kennedy will leap onto his bandwagon, in which case the theme song at the convention might be "Goodbye, Lyndon" (from "Bye-bye, Birdies").

A noted San Francisco dowager who gets her occasional kicks by driving through the Hashbury in her chauffeured limousine was stopped at a red light

Report From Our Man
In San Francisco

when a hippie poked his head inside and asked: "Rich, huh?" "Filthy, like you," she smirked. (Actually, she's a Lady Bountiful. Picks up stray young girls and pays their fares back home.)

Like a Fox: Frank Armbruster, the youngish owner of Products of the Behavioral Sciences in Palo Alto (he mfrs. teaching aids), has invented a game called "Instant Insanity"—and is in danger of becoming an instant millionaire. The game (five colored blocks that have to be arranged in a manner that seems impossible to me) has sold over 250,000 in the past year, but that's not what's about to put him on Easy Street. Parker Bros., the biggest mfrs. of games, has just bought "Instant Insanity" on a royalty deal and figures to sell 50,000 a week, at a buck a throw. Plus an extra two-bits if you want to write in for the solution, and I say it's worth a quarter to keep from going crackers.

These Foolish Things: Out in the Hashbury, we spotted a dilapidated truck with this painted on the sides: "Ashes Hauled, Basements Cleaned, Brain Surgery on Fridays" . . . Turkish water pipes (hubble-bubbles) are very big in the pot and hashish set. Which is why

wen you price one at Rodes across the Bay in Oakland, the salesgirl says coolly: "With one hose, it's \$7.95. If you want to take a couple of friends on the trip, it's \$11.95 for the three-hose model" (is Oakland getting away from the influence of Knowland?) . . . Sign on a dress in the window of a second-hand dress shoppe on Van Ness: "The two gals who wore me before each snared rich young men. Do not break the chain — buy me!" . . . Flash: Anita's Cuban Restaurant is on Castro St. Unflash.

Onward to New Lows: Talk about class! La Pantera, the family-style Italian restaurant on upper Grant Ave., bars ladies wearing pants suits. And all this time I thought Pantera MEANT pants. How little we know . . . Odd note from Insider's Newsletter: Troops going out on patrol in Vietnam are warned not to wear after-shave lotion, because the sharp-nosed Viet Cong can smell 'em coming . . .

Alan Grey Says . . .

- New York's commuting public . . .
- Is having serious doubts . . .
- About the Transit Authority . . .
- And change in subway routes . . .
- They still have minor problems . . .
- That seem to need correction . . .
- Like subways that are running . . .
- But in the wrong direction . . .
- I only feel compassion . . .
- For all the subway crews . . .
- Since New Yorkers are notorious . . .
- For the voicing of their views.

Opinions of Others

What is a hippy? Well, a couple of weeks ago a group of young people in Ontario discussed this and came up with the following: "There have always been hippies but by different names; they can range in age from teens to social security age; come from poor, average, and rich families; are usually pretty intelligent; are rebellious of their own society but lack the initiative to do anything to improve it; are searching for something meaningful in life but from the wrong source, such as drugs; and they're not a happy people." So hippies are not new but the publicity and glamour given them by the news and entertainment media is, that's all.—Ontario (Ore.) Argus-Observer.

The Air Force has demonstrated the use of plastic foam as a lining for fuel tanks in aircraft. The Federal Aviation Administration has acknowledged that the foam has far-reaching implications for use in preventing explosions aboard commercial and private aircraft. The development of this safety measure is but another step taken by the aviation industry to make flying the safest way to travel.—Brookings (S.D.) Register.

Morning Report:

I have just decided that what a man needs to be a Presidential candidate above anything is faith. No, not faith in the democratic process, or America, or faith in anything or anybody but just unadulterated faith in himself. How else can anyone account for Harold Stassen or George Romney?

As those with long memories will recall, Mr. Stassen has been running for the Presidency off and on since 1948. And he was the first Republican to admit in public that he is a candidate this year. Then one day last week, George Romney was not a candidate. And the next day, he allowed as how he was. His announcement was an amazing non-event. Nothing stirred except Mr. Romney.

The plain fact is that this year, the real GOP candidates don't have to say who they are. The voters know.

Abe Mellinkoff