Audiences Are Noisier 7-Year Study Reveals

AUSTIN, Tex. (U.P.)—Audiences are getting noisier every year, if the sound-recording machine of Dr. C. P. Boner is to be believed.

Dr. Boner has completed a seven-year research with his soundmeter in churches, gymnasiums, dance halls and restaurants. Large buildings with public address systems have been forced year by year to increase the volume of their systems to overcome crowd noise. Even the console organs in churches have been made louder to overcome the competition from the congregation.

Fire Forces All Square

SAN JOSE (U.P.)—The San Jose fire department is again enjoying the consciousness of the full stature of dignity. For years past, J. N. Hedberg has maintained a private fire department and at times has competed with the local department. Recently the official fire department got a call from Hedberg, fire having broke out in one of his most expensive pieces of apparatus.

ROUTES TO PALOMAR

Interest is increasing in Mt. Palomar, San Diego county, site of the world's largest telescope. Approach may be made via Elsinore and Temecula or via Oceanside and Pala to Rincon and Mt. Palomar. Visitors are admitted between 9 a. m. and 4 p. m. daily.

Parent Class to See Films April 19

Two educational films will be screened at the meeting of the Parent Education class, sponsored by the high school P.T.A., at the high school assembly hall next Wednesday morning, April 19, at 9 o'clock. The movies will be devoted to heredity and reproduction of mammals. Students in the high school science classes will attend.

Serenade by Telephone

CLEVELAND, O. (U.P.)—Patrons of a gypsy cafe here were startled when the whole orchestra crowded into and around a telephone booth and played into the mouthpiece. Reason: A gypsy orchestra leader in Akron, 35 miles away, was doing some courting and felt the need of genuine gypsy strains.

LOW BIDDERS

Basich Brothers, Torrance contracting firm, were scheduled to receive award of the contract this week for improving state highway No. 187 in Riverside county, following submission of their low bid at $17,742.

Michigan Birth Rate Rises

LANSING, Mich. (U.P.)—Michigan recorded its highest birth rate in eight years and second lowest death rate in history during 1938. The birth rate was 18.70 per 1,000 population. The death rate was 9.9.

Bone Setting Study Opens

BERKELEY (U.P.) — California's accident toll is showing such an increase that the medical school of the University of California has opened a new short course on the setting of fractures, open to medical students, physicians, surgeons and others interested.

The Herald—3 months, 50 cents.

SHOP TALK

by RAY BROOKS

SPRING IS HERE . . . or . . . TULIP TIME IN TORRANCE

Flat on his back for two weeks with the flu has been Harry "Friendly Credit" Abramson, prop. of the National Home Appliance Co. Now resting quietly in a Torrance hospital cot is Harry's wife & partner, Sabina, who tangled last week-end with that most dangerous of household appliances, the bath tub, came out a bad second with a sprained back. With both husband and wife down & out came their twelfth wedding anniversary Monday of this week. Dizzy & weak, Harry wiggled into a few clothes, hobbled around to the hospital to wish his wife a Happy Anniversary! What's that old saw about when it rains . . .

Amazed & nonplussed were Christy's customers one lunch last week when they eyed the menu, found that Menu Manipulator Beth Thayer had entered "Pork Roast of Beef" on the day's card . . . . Speaking of Christy's . . . . its prop. J. M. Christensen has one of the neatest and best cared for lawns & gardens in town . . . . Chris takes several hours off each day to putter about, spray the roses, fertilize the daisies . . . Hardest garden worker in Torrance, however is Gertie Ralston's father, Pop Richardson, 78, who retires promptly at 8:30 nightly, gets up by lamp light each a. m. to dig in good earth . . . . result: flowers & vegetables all over the place . . . .

New to Torrance but not to the variety store business is Paul Innis, now managing the Cornet 5-10-25c Store. Paul took over when former manager Williams left to go with W. T. Grant Stores in Santa Monica. Learning his trade in Kansas City, Innis, quiet spoken and unmarried, came to California only a few months ago, landed a job with Cornet right off, was sent back to Yuma, Arizona. From there he was transferred to the San Francisco bay region, then to Torrance. Thinking all the time he would visit the S. F. Fair, Innis suddenly got notice to move south, had to leave without a single peep at the Big Show. Shop Talk welcomes Paul to Torrance, wishes him success . . . . .

Struck dumb was Shop Talk this week when a whiskey salesman encountered in Ralph's new liquor store . . . (what was I doing there? . . . selling an ad, of course!) . . . . produced a galaxy of figures showing that the greatest domestic whiskey consumption in the U. S. was, of all places, Washington, D. C. Yearly swiggling there amounted to 3.10 gallons for every man, woman & child . . . So that's what they do in Washington! . . . and I bet it wasn't all for snake bites either, tho I've heard the place is full of snakes . . . add to 3.10 gallons all the imported whiskeys, gins, champagnes, and, man, you've got something! . . . California was fourth with a per capita consumption of 1.19 gallons . . . how many gallons do you drink a year? . . . would suggest that the city send out a man or men to dig the weeds & grass out of the cracks in the sidewalks . . . there's a tall bush growing in front of the Herald office that you can get lost behind . . . would suggest that the Boy Scouts, who have gratis use of the old library building on El Prado, should expend less energy on games and bugle blowing and more time on fixing up the lawn and shrubs around their meeting hall, once very smartly landscaped . . . . while we're suggesting, might as well bring up the matter of a boulevard stop at that tricky intersection, Cabrillo, Carson & Cravens . . . after watching cars scrape each other's fenders as they swish to & fro from seven different directions, seems that a boulevard stop sign would be right in order . . . .

Commercial notes: George Moore, Hardware, starts tomorrow a two weeks super sale of Sherwin-Williams paints at drastic reductions . . . seldom is this fine paint offered at discounts, so all needy buyers should take advantage . . . Daniels Cafe, Jack Murray in charge, has a sign up which reads "Foot-Long Hot Dogs, 10c . . . now what in the world is a "Foot-Long Hot Dog?" . . . (if you tell me it's a hot dog a foot long I'll Skaream!) . . . . Tom Lovelady (who by the by, only this week spurted out with a brand new Dodge truck!) now has for sale, of all things, Bat Guano, from the famed Carlsbad Caverns in New Mexico . . . seems, according to the instructions that these cute little animals, some two to five million of them, have been hard at work for centuries creating this supply of Bat Guano just so Mrs. Otto Glutz would have something to make her flowers grow! . . . .

Animals in Zoo Use Guile When Ill; Elephant With Cold Expects Toddy

MILWAUKEE, Wis. (U.P.)—Imagine an elephant with a "bad cod id da hed" and a monkey pining away with homesickness and you have an idea of the magnitude and complexity of a zoo keeper's health problems.

Director Ernest Untermann of Milwaukee's Washington park zoo says that the community of beasts, fowl and fish under his care is subject to many of the distressing aches and pains to which mankind is heir.

Although most of the animals are patient sufferers, many of them have learned tricks equivalent to human guile to gain for themselves the attention and treatment they find comforting, Untermann has observed.

Venice the elephant has learned to expect the comforting caress of warm blankets and stimulation of a pailful of whiskey straight when she contracts a severe cold. She had the sniffles this winter, but Untermann resisted the look of anticipation in her eyes and withheld the "tonic."

Some of the big apes have become fond of regular doses of cod liver oil. Newcomers to the monkey colony frequently become so homesick they refuse food and die. The dread white plague of tuberculosis exacts its toll among these animals as it does from human kind. Hardening of the arteries also afflicts them.

The heart diseases so deadly among human beings are common among the animals, as is blood poisoning resulting from bites and scratches.

A camel died of infantile paralysis, a reindeer and a wolf of jaundice. Paralysis also killed a swan, a peacock and a monkey.

A duodenal ulcer afflicted a capuchin monkey. Cerebral anemia killed a porcupine, pneumonia was fatal to a guinea baboon.

The zoo inhabitants are not even immune to the proclivity of children for swallowing all sorts of foreign objects. A young cormorant died after swallowing a piece of innertube.

Untermann has found vaccines useful in combating tuberculosis and intestinal flu among some of the animals. Other prophylactic measures include brushing the huge tusks of Yacob, the veteran hippopotamus with a broom.

Italy is the native country of 214 of the 261 popes.