

EDITORIALS

Social Security Prospects

Recent statements by President Dwight D. Eisenhower and key Republican leaders in Congress indicate chances are heavily in favor of an extension of Social Security coverage in the impending session of Congress. It is proposed that doctors, lawyers, farmers and many others, not now included in the Social Security program, be included hereafter.

Other changes are also being proposed, such as an increase in the \$25 minimum monthly benefit and liberalization of the restriction which limits those between 65 and 75 years of age from receiving payments if they make as much as \$75 monthly, or more, in employment covered by the system.

There is a good prospect that the controversy over the automatic increase in Social Security taxes will be hotly disputed in Congress. The rate jumps automatically from one and a half to two per cent of wages up to \$9600 annually Jan. 1. Some have suggested that this increase be deferred, and those in favor of this include the President.

Strong opposition to this proposal has come from Republican leaders on Capitol Hill, including Chairman Daniel A. Reed (R-N.Y.) of the House Ways and Means Committee.

Those who would defer the increase point out that in its sixteen years of operations, the Government has collected almost \$25,000,000,000. Interest earned on bonds has added more than \$2,000,000,000 to the Government fund. The Government has paid out so far in benefits only about \$8,000,000,000—or about a third of the money collected.

Whatever the outcome of the coming discussions, it seems obvious that Social Security coverage will be extended and payments increased by legislators of the last session of the Eighty-Third Congress. There is no doubt that the vast majority of American workers favor the Social Security program. If the present administration can therefore expand and improve the system, it will be a major step in President Eisenhower's effort to give the country a progressive Republican government.

Highway Solution Needed

In the past year a number of proposals have been made for toll roads and turnpikes, as the answer to crowded highway conditions confronting the nation. Several new toll roads have been opened and are apparently highly successful.

The consensus of opinion at the National Chamber of Commerce's National Conference on Highway Financing, however, was that toll roads are the solution on only about 8,000 miles of the most heavily-traveled roads in the country. For other roads, another solution will have to be found to current overcrowding.

The proper solution to the nation's overcrowded highways is going to be a painful one and probably lies in increasing state and federal expenditures. The proposal made by Connecticut's highway commissioner—that metropolitan areas look into the possibility of new taxes like payroll or sales taxes, to finance highway improvements—may be close to the solution, although such new taxes would constitute a highly irritating method of obtaining new funds. Probably the best solution is to be found in an increase in both state and federal expenditures, painful as that solution may be.

The number of automobiles and trucks using the highways is increasing far more rapidly than improvements to our highways, and experts predict that unless the states, aided by the federal government, act to provide for expected heavy increases in traffic in the next ten years, the current situation will become acute.

Increased federal aid can be provided through economies effected in the next few years, although the state may have to raise some taxes for their new revenue. Since the answer to this situation requires big money, relatively soon, the voter might as well face the facts and be prepared to shell out.

Objections were voiced to the proposal on the theory that the end of federal taxation might not always be followed by increased state taxes on gasoline, in which case there would actually be less revenue for highways in some areas than before.

U. M. T. Again an Issue

President Emory S. Land, of the Air Transport Association, recently said European countries are earning more dollars by catering to U.S. citizens than by any other method. He reported U.S. travelers spent approximately \$1,000,000,000 in foreign countries last year.

Land estimated that the average expenditure of a U.S. citizen traveling abroad is \$771. It is interesting to note that many foreign countries, especially those in Europe, have increased their take of dollars from U.S. tourists as a result of lower trans-ocean air fares.

The number of U.S. tourists traveling abroad, especially to Europe, has increased almost proportionally with steadily reduced fares to European capitals. Since a round-trip air fare to some European cities has been reduced to less than \$600, the traffic has increased appreciably.

Since U.S. travelers bring dollars with them and since foreign countries need dollars badly, there is a move afoot in some countries to subsidize carriers to Europe and other points as a means of earning more dollars.

This plan has been advanced before and is usually impractical because of international air rate agreements. The best solution in these circumstances is for foreign countries to earmark domestic funds for improving tourist attractions and accommodations.

The American traveler, it seems, is becoming the greatest rover in the history of civilization. In his travels he carries with him certain responsibilities, which, in the past, some have failed to recognize.

In view of the current international situation, it is in the interest of the U.S. traveler to become a goodwill ambassador, as well as a tourist.

While it is good to know that the economy of this country allows our citizens to spend over a billion dollars abroad each year it would be even more gratifying if U.S. travelers would accomplish something on the credit side of the ledger in the field of international understanding and foreign relations with friendships and better understanding. We suggest that to all the rovers.

School Enrollment Soars

The National Education Association reported recently public school enrollment in the current school year is up approximately 1,250,000 over last year. Total public school enrollment in the United States is now approximately 29,000,000.

The NEA report says the new first-grade crop is a record one, as the result of a bumper crop of babies in 1947. Many of these babies are the children of servicemen who returned home in 1946.

The NEA says the rapidly enlarging number of students are in need of 150,000 more teachers and approximately \$5,000,000,000 worth of new equipment. The report shows

that colleges are increasing their pace of teacher-training, although the rate is still not fast enough. While there are 38,000 more teachers on the job this year and expenditures are well up over last year, about 632,000 pupils must still attend double-session or other makeshift school arrangements.

As the Herald has pointed out before in this newspaper, the people of Torrance have a responsibility to provide the children of the area with the finest education obtainable. It is the best-investment local citizens can make toward the future of their community. Of all investments one can make, better schools and the financing of them bring more and larger dividends than any other type.

If You Want to Get Anywhere...



That Sneezing's ARD, Not Flu, Health Officer Says

By ROY O. GILBERT, M.D., L. A. County Health Officer

It might be difficult to convince a number of people that they really haven't had influenza during the last several weeks, or perhaps right now, for that matter.

They may have certainly felt like they had it, but according to laboratory tests made by the California State Health Department, only one case has been confirmed from 149 specimens examined so far.

There is no question, however, that a great number of people in this area have coughed, sneezed, ached, and dragged themselves about during recent weeks with what might just as well have been the flu but which, for the lack of a more specific diagnosis, is known in medical circles as ARD, meaning acute respiratory disease.

Of the many respiratory diseases which could be called acute, especially by the person who is suffering from one of them, perhaps the most prevalent one is primary atypical pneumonia (sometimes called virus pneumonia) which, in the absence of laboratory diagnosis, is many times thought to be influenza.

Since influenza is related to the same group of viral respiratory diseases which includes primary atypical pneumonia, the differential diagnosis is purely a technical procedure based on laboratory findings. The victims of either disease are equally uncomfortable, and the treatment are practically the same.

Primary atypical pneumonia, unlike lobar pneumonia, does not necessarily knock its victim off his feet and into a sick bed. Although it causes some congestion of the lungs, it is not nearly so severe in this respect as is lobar pneumonia.

Whether or not primary atypical pneumonia is a new disease is a question which cannot be answered. Extensive reports concerning the malady first appeared between 1930 and 1940, and during World War II it occurred commonly especially among the armed forces. However, improved diagnostic measures of late years may be responsible for uncovering a form of pneumonia which could be as old as some of the other forms of the disease.

The first symptoms of primary atypical pneumonia are weakness or fatigue. Within a few days the victim almost invariably develops a cough which may be accompanied by fever, headache, and chills.

On the average, fever to some extent is present for about ten days, but the patient usually feels "worn out" for several days after his temperature has returned to normal.

Fortunately, there are seldom any complications to this form of pneumonia, and those which have been reported have rarely been of much significance. Unfortunately, however, there is no proved method of preventing the disease, although the isolation of the patient is thought to be helpful.

The treatment of primary atypical pneumonia is no more effective than is the treatment for the common cold or influenza. None of the sulfa drugs, even in large doses, appears to help, nor has penicillin been found to be of any benefit. No treatment more effective than bed rest and avoidance of exposure throughout the course of the disease has as yet been found.

So, whether you really had the flu or not appears to be only a matter of technical laboratory proof which wouldn't make you feel any better or any worse anyway. Besides, common usage has made the word, flu, an all-inclusive term for respiratory diseases in general, so maybe you had the flu after all.



According to City Ordinance No. 308, it is unlawful for anyone to park any motor vehicle on either side of Watson St. between Manuel Ave. and Carson St., or upon either side of Carson St. between the southwest property line of Manuel Ave. and the east property line of Cota Ave., in the City of Torrance—during school hours.

IN TIMES GONE BY

From the Files of the Torrance Herald

FIVE YEARS AGO

January 1949
The Annual Support Campaign of the YMCA was scheduled to start on Jan. 12, according to plans announced by YMCA Secretary Milton Isbell. Seventeen hundred feet of new water line for Harbor General Hospital was being installed by Hood Construction Co.

Four Torrance workers were painfully burned when an oil well near 190th and Beryl Sts. exploded. Injured were Paul T. Smith, Garth Worden, Fred Eyrand, and Russell Jackson.

City Clerk A. H. Bartlett was being hailed as a champion meeting attendee. He had just completed eight consecutive years of attending City Council meetings without a miss.

Claire Johnson slammed out a four-run homer as the Torrance Police baseball team beat the Los Angeles Senators 7-4. Harry Theodosius was the winning pitcher.

More than 200 persons attended a Christmas party sponsored by Women of the Moose and the Loyal Order of Moose at the VFW Hall.

Mr. and Mrs. Lyle J. O'Hara and children returned from a holiday trip to Sioux Falls and Pierre, S. D.

F. A. Applegate, director of Adult Education at the high school, announced that a number of free day classes were being opened for adults. The day classes would be held at the Recreation Center, Sonoma and Greenwood.

protect them against a reduction in salary or change of assignment.

Torrance police opened the new year with a single notation scrawled across the "blotter." It read, "No Business."

Torrance Sons of Legion entertained the Compton squadron at the regular meeting in the American Legion clubhouse, Captain Dean Barkdull was in charge of the session which was devoted to the organization of a basketball league.

A committee representing the Waveria Civic Association met with the City Council finance committee to discuss plans to continue the Waveria playground and recreation center.

Promotion of home building was listed as the main item for the Torrance-Lomita Realty Board by its president, T. B. Hill.

TWENTY YEARS AGO

January, 1934
Pork and evaporated apples were being handed out to all CWA unemployed by the Red Cross at its headquarters on Thursday beginning at 10 a.m.

Hilum E. Reeve was installed as Great North Moose to preside over Legion (second degree) Moose in the area from Pasadena to Whittier and out to the coast line.

A total of 5.25 inches of rain fell during a week-end storm being considerable damage was done in neighboring cities. Torrance was priding itself as the "high and dry" city when no damage was reported in the downpour.

Bert S. Lanz, president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce and manager of the Columbia Steeple Co. welcomed members of the Harbor District Chambers of Commerce at a meeting here. W. B. Curtis, sales promotion manager for the General Petroleum Corp., was the principal speaker.

Principal Guy Mowry announced that a number of new courses were being offered by the Torrance Evening High School which had reopened following the holidays.

Mrs. Lena Omohundro was installed as Oracle of the Royal Neighbors. The Ever Ready drill team assisted with the installation ceremonies.

TEN YEARS AGO

January, 1944
An inbound Pacific Electric mail and express train carrying 400 sacks of mail crashed into the caboose of a freight train backing down the track near the Torrance Blvd. overpass, causing in the front end of the express train and starting a fire in the caboose. The mail, earmarked for Torrance, Lomita, Harbor City, and San Pedro, was not damaged.

The War Production Board denied rumors that the Aluminum Company of America plants here and in Vernon would be shut down. ALCOA plants in other parts of the nation were being shut down and gave rise to the rumors, WPA officials in Washington said.

Marine Art Woodcock finished training at Parris Island and was transferred to Quantico, Va., for officer training. Pfc. Harvey Abramson returned to Camp Campbell, Ky., following a 15-day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Abramson.

Jimmy Cagney in "Johnny Come Lately" was playing at the Grand Theater. National Supply Co., Dow Chemical Co., Doak Alerairat, and other industries were advertising for women to work in the local plants.

Curtailment of delivery of surplus gas to industrial customers in order to meet the heavy demand of essential civilian users and the most critical war operations as designated by the government was announced by officials of the Southern California Gas Co.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

January, 1929
The U. S. Refining Co. of Torrance received the city's contract for gasoline during the year. The company's bid specified a maximum of 16 1/2 cents a gallon.

A Torrance housewife told members of the Council that savage dogs were overrunning Torrance and that the dog had killed three of her goats. Two of them were eaten alive, she said.

Billie Dove was starring in "Adorations" at the Torrance Theater. "Lilac Time," starring Colleen Moore and Gary Cooper was scheduled as the next attraction.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvel Guttenfelder and Mr. and Mrs. Don Baxter spent New Year's in San Diego.

More than 200 persons attended the New Year's Eve party sponsored by the Scots Club of Lomita and Torrance at the IOOF Temple. The Amaranths served a chicken dinner at midnight.

Carl Hyde and Dr. J. S. Lancaster of the Chamber of Commerce told members of the Chamber that the city could probably obtain a County Health Center to serve the Harbor area if a site could be donated.

New Chevrolet coaches were being sold by the Torrance Motor Co. for \$995 (and no sales tax). If you wanted a convertible landau, you had to dig up \$725.

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO

January 1939
Many city officials including Attorney C. T. Rippey, member of the board of directors, planned to attend ceremonies marking the diversion of Colorado River water and its start on a 392-mile journey to Torrance and 12 other cities in the Metropolitan Water District.

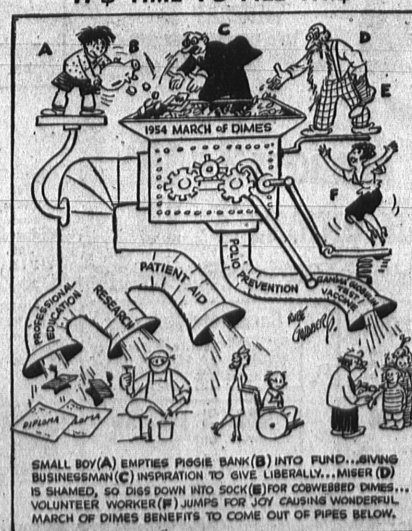
Teachers were informed through a court ruling that the California tenure law did not

IT'S A FACT

by JERRY CAHILL



IT'S TIME TO FILL THIS



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