

It's Bigger Than Flowers

During recent meetings of the city's Planning Commission, its members have been looking at flowers when we believe they should have been looking in store windows.

Under discussion by the Planning Commission recently has been the matter of variances in a two and one-half block section of Torrance Blvd., a small island of multiple residences in a retail commercial zone.

Statements of property owners in the area saying they would favor rezoning the two and one-half blocks for business was answered by Commission President Beverly Smith when he said the Commission had decided to hold the property to variances because they then had control of parking facilities and architectural design.

Property owners were told that setbacks were needed for landscaping to beautify the entrance to Torrance. The two and one-half blocks in question lie between Madrid Ave. and Crenshaw Bldgs., just about as far away from one of the city's entrances as you can get and stay in town.

As for parking, we'd be willing to take our chances if there was a possibility of attracting a large retail store here such as J. C. Penney Co., Sears and Roebuck, or a Broadway Department Store. None of these businesses are noted for being skimpy on parking facilities in their recent projects.

And as for the architecture such firms might employ, we feel that the Planning Commission as a whole, or its members as individuals need have no fear on that matter. The

land is too valuable now for anyone to consider building a lean-to.

It's not a folly to think that some of the larger stores mentioned above might be interested in Torrance in the very near future. Torrance is a "natural" for such firms with its growing population, and because it is the hub of a large shopping area.

As Torrance is getting to be a natural attraction for large retail outlets, so is Torrance Blvd. becoming the most logical place for the city's business district to expand. It is the city's widest street and it is accessible from every direction.

The opening of Crenshaw Blvd. Friday between Sepulveda and Lomita Bldgs. provides almost the last link between the Palos Verdes hills and downtown Torrance. In the planning stages for Palos Verdes are 9000 homes.

Crenshaw Blvd. offers fast-growing North Torrance a straight shot into Torrance Blvd. The opening of Arlington Ave. between 190th St. and 208th St. as planned would offer another easy access to the area.

Torrance Blvd. itself provides an ideal artery to carry traffic in from the Beach cities. The repaving of Sepulveda will give the city's own beach area residents a much better access to the downtown section.

We believe the time is not far off when Torrance will be a city of 100,000 or more, and the surrounding trade area may approach half a million persons. These people will be looking for a place to shop—we hope they can find it right in Torrance.

It's going to take some planning, however.

'Y' Fund Drive Under Way

A YMCA fund drive opened in Torrance on Jan. 25 and is now in full swing, with a goal of \$15,000.

\$12,500 of the money is to be used for Torrance YMCA youth programs and the other \$2,500 will be spent for Camp Round Meadow, where 'Y' youth goes in the summertime. The youth program of the local 'Y' serve more than 1155 youngsters, ages 8-18.

As of Friday, \$2372.50 had been collected in the drive, which is expected to last until Feb. 28.

In looking—editorially—at the 'Y' fund drive, several adages come to mind, i.e.:

1. "Youth is the greatest asset of the

nation."

2. "Money spent on citizenship is good business."

3. "The making of men calls for the best equipment and the highest skill that money can buy."

But all of these statements pale before the simple truths laid down by the one upon whose teachings the YMCA was founded; the one who said: "Suffer the little children to come unto Me, for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven."

When taken in this light, giving to build the nation's youth is not a charity, but a duty.

Accounting of Firings Asked

Ever since Attorney General Herbert Brownell made his announcement in a speech, that 2200 government employees had been released by the new administration on security grounds, the subject has been causing some concern both in the administration and among all recently-discharged employees.

Brownell's speech was not, of course, the only reference made to the 2200 discharged employees. Postmaster General Arthur Summerfield, in a speech shortly afterwards, made this statement:

"Almost 2200 people who were security risks are no longer using our tax money. I am here to tell you that we are not hiring any new ones. Somehow I do not feel too amiably inclined toward people who make treason their preoccupation."

Such statements as these have caused

Torrance Pipe Dream

Our good neighbor, the City of Torrance, proposed that Rolling Hills annex itself to the City of Torrance. In other words, one of the worst smog producing cities for its size in California, completely industrialized, dreams a pipe dream to absorb probably the most exclusive residential area in America.

It is preposterous to say the least, to have the city fathers of an industrial city tell the esthetically minded and highly cultured people of Rolling Hills what to do. . . . Just how simple can anyone be????—Palos Verdes News.

President Eisenhower and the White House staff real concern recently, partly because they think such words as treason pretty strong when used in connection with the 2200—most of whom were released for other than treasonable activity—and partly because they think such a boast bad politics.

Blown-up claims do more harm for the administration than good and no one is better aware of this than the President himself. That is why he had Summerfield informed his use of the word treason was unfortunate, in reference to the 2200 government employees removed from office.

But whether the administration should give a breakdown on the number of security risks discharged, and why they were discharged, is another question. Democrats are demanding this but there are several good reasons why publication of such a list might not be advisable.

Latest to demand the figures was former President Harry Truman who asked for an accounting of the subversives kicked out of government in a speech he made Friday night. Truman said the Administration owed it to the rest of the Federal employees to detail the reasons for the dismissal of the 2200 from government service.

The best solution to the boasting over security firings is the use of conservative language, accurate figures and less sensational talk.

If We Could Only Be Sure



THE SQUIRREL CAGE

BY REID BUNDY

For some folks, Christmas comes only once a year. Around our house, however, we figure it is a year-long observance. We just get through paying the bills for one Christmas and they start coming in for the next.

Speaking of Christmas, do you realize that there are only 280 more shopping days until Christmas?? Better get a move on if you're going to beat the crowds.

The news out of Long Beach last week tells a story which may have a familiar ring to some. A motorist in a new auto was arrested for speeding 105 miles an hour. "I was trying to beat my wife home," he told police. "She's been out of town."

While racing to fires, accidents, and cut-back parties to get pictures and news stories, I often flip on the auto radio to hear a few snatches of the latest juke-box tune. It seemed to me, however, that the first thing I always heard over the "music station" to which I keep the radio dialed was a commercial. So . . . I started keeping a tab on the matter. I have now logged a hundred radio "turn-ons" and here is the result:

- Commercials 63
- Station Break 11
- Interviews 3
- Public Service Ad 4
- News Broadcast 6

The other 13 times? Why, music, of course. After all, it was a "music station."

County Road Commissioner Sam Kennedy showed up at the scene of the ribbon-cutting ceremony for new Crenshaw Blvd. Friday morning and proved to all the officials and newsmen there that this wasn't the first such affair he had attended. Kennedy dragged a small fishing tackle-type box out of the car which was labeled "Road Opening Equipment." Inside he had several lengths of pink ribbon and the largest pair of shears we've seen in some time.

A late observation: The Korean truce would have been received with more jubilation, we feel, if the signing meant the end of something important like gasoline rationing, not just a shooting war.

In line with modernizing the American language to meet the times, it has been suggested that some hep-cat sit down and rewrite the Declaration of Independence, starting out with: "We dig these truths to be real frantie."

The announcement recently that the moon is covered with two inches of dust has caused us to cancel our reservation for the first trip. Hey fever, you know.

Congress Told of Security Improvements During Year

Senators and Congressmen who have listened to the testimony of the chiefs of staff since Congress opened last month are encouraged by what they have been told. In brief, the security of the country is established on a firmer basis today than it was when Congress adjourned in the late summer of 1953, if the testimony is accurate.

Military circles are reported to be high in their estimates of the value of Spanish bases, although there is a difference of opinion among lawmakers on this score. But the main development which has changed the picture in the last year is the progress made in the rearmament effort.

The armed power of the United States is reported to have caught up with that of Soviet Russia in recent months and some Congressmen even go so far as to say now that the U. S. air power is far more formidable than Communist air power.

A member of one of the two Congressional Armed Services committees said recently U. S. aircraft production is now equal to the Russian rate. This statement might be viewed with considerable skepticism by those who have accepted production figures attributed to Russia, but the committee member insists USSR plane production totals have been over-estimated.

Even aside from the comparison in fighter plane production (the U. S. unquestionably holds the edge in inter-continental bombers), the rearmament program is gratifying from other angles. In the atomic weapons field, this country is said to be producing hydrogen weapons at an increasing rate, and to be adding to its numerical lead over Russia in the atomic weapons race daily.

In summary, from an unprepared and weak nation three and a half years ago, this country has now become the most powerful military machine anywhere in the world. The U. S. Government, as a result, can speak from a standpoint of strength and not weakness. In international conferences and in negotiations with Russia, it is a refreshing change of position which Congress, the military and the State Department are enjoying considerably.

THE MAIL BOX

Need for Churches

The Torrance Herald: I noticed yesterday (Jan. 31) on your editorial page a very fine article concerning the need for more churches. I want to say how much we appreciate the comment, and also your fine cooperation with our church during the months. Especially you gave the Bishop's Company when they came to our city last month. JOHN L. TAYLOR

Bad Crossing

Editor, When is the city going to do something about the intersection of Hawthorne Ave. and Torrance Blvd? On my way home from work I have to pass through the intersection to get to Walters and it is getting rougher all the time to get through. When the five o'clock traffic stacks up there, it is almost impossible to get through. Couldn't the city put overhead traffic lights in like they have in town?? I'm sure it will save some lives. JIM

\$1100 SPENT BY LOCAL SERVICE CLUB FOR KIDS

A final accounting of the 1953 Kiwanis Club Kids Day celebration here last September was released this week by officials of the local service club.

Previous statements by club officials stated that no local funds went into the National Kids Day Foundation, under fire recently by Congressional probes. The club's official statement on receipts and expenditures bears out those statements.

The official balance sheet follows:

KIWANIS KIDS DAY September 26, 1953	
Income	
Ticket Receipts	\$1963.64
Donations	124.00
Total Income	\$2087.64
Expenses	
Novelties and food	\$155.43
Howard Jewelers, prize	30.00
Automatic Printing	260.22
Torrance General Insurance	57.00
Torrance Press, advertising, etc.	228.30
Torrance Herald, advertising, etc.	(donated)
Total Expenses	731.55
Profit on Kids Day	\$1356.09
KIDS DAY FUND	
Balance, September 23, 1953	\$ 460.45
Net Profit on Kids Day activities	1856.09
Total	\$1816.57
Disbursements:	
Torrance Recreation Dept., buses	\$841.65
Torrance Dental Health Assn.	300.00
Total	\$1141.65
Balance, Jan. 11, 1954	\$ 674.92

THEY SAY

Dr. Paul Witt, Northwestern University: "Educators used to live longer than the general run of the population but now this extra longevity seems to be disappearing."

Dr. Henry F. Dickenson, Lincoln Memorial University: "Children spend more than 20 hours a week looking at TV in big cities like Chicago, and teachers and parents should work together to make the most of it."

Ernest T. Weir, chairman, National Steel Corporation: "There is only one device, one mechanism through which we can make the move toward peace. It is the conference table—negotiation."

Paul Mazur, business executive: "The success of our competitive enterprise will depend to an important degree upon how rapidly we build our standards of material well-being."

Thomas E. Dewey, Governor, New York State: "The very possession of liberty imposes the necessity for discipline, which respects the liberty of others, in their person, in their property and in their intellectual attainment."

Eisenhower Tries His Hand At Capitol Hill Politics

President Dwight D. Eisenhower has jumped into the Congressional wars with a bang. His more active entry into the legislative field was marked by his personal and strong-willed intervention in the fight over the Bricker Constitutional amendment.

The President and Senator Bricker (R-Ohio) differed on the results that amendment would achieve. The Chief Executive said it would hamstring the government, the executive branch at least in dealing with foreign powers and conducting our affairs with friendly nations.

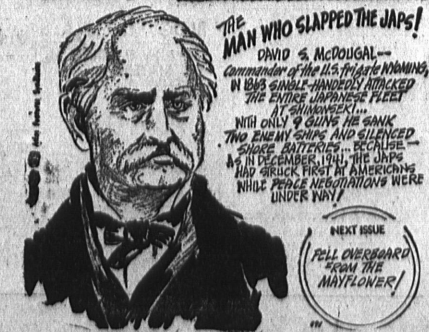
Bricker said the President had been misinformed. Neither would back down. Bricker's belief that he was right, and that the amendment was needed, influenced him to carry his fight to a showdown. When the President couldn't water the proposal down, he came out swinging.

It was an example of the new Eisenhower attitude on legislative problems, and Capitol Hill may be seeing a lot of presidential intervention in coming days. The President was reported early in January to be determined to take an active role in pushing his legislative program.

Now that Senator Taft is gone, there seems to be no one on the Hill who can wield the diverse elements of the party into a unified force. So the President is having a hand at it himself.

That he entered the stage just at the moment when the pro-Eisenhower Republicans and non-Eisenhower Republicans were coming to a showdown clash is significant. The President evidently felt he had enough Democratic support in the Senate to win the battle, although when this session met Bricker had enough promises to carry his proposed amendment through to passage.

IT'S A FACT by JERRY CAHILL



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