

Why Choose Torrance?

When the writer told a friend of long standing, a man well known in the business life of Los Angeles, he had purchased the Torrance Herald, this man asked: "Why did you choose Torrance?"

The answer should be easy for anyone who has surveyed or considered the vast growth of this territory since the World War and easier, still, for people who have had a part in this growth.

Rapid growth always is an attraction to one planning to make investments; but, it is not always the criterion in assessing the worth of a community. Character of the development is important and so is the quality of the institutions that create the well rounded community.

Building and census statistics all place Torrance in the very vanguard of Southern California communities. Predictions made by farsighted community leaders have come true and, in some instances, have exceeded the wild-est dreams of the promoters. Certainly the old residents must view in never-ending amazement the development that has taken place all around them.

But everybody knows Torrance has population and is destined to have many thousands more in the next few years. What else has it?

Investigation showed us that it has a fine, well-managed school system that has and will continue to meet the exigencies imposed by this fantastic growth. The city has been well managed and the result is reflected in the comparatively low tax rates and quality of municipal services.

Torrance has churches with ever-expanding memberships and the church voice has made itself heard in the spiritual and cultural life of the community. There are numerous organizations of a civic, patriotic, and cultural nature that are making this a better place in which to live, work, and play. Magnificent industrial plants, managed by individuals who are rightly interested in the welfare of Torrance, provide employment for thousands.

Last, and by no means least, Torrance enjoys climate second to none in Los Angeles County. This, we found, is an asset that has been taken for granted or overlooked by many. Certainly it has not been exploited to the fullest; yet, it is an asset that should be the factor in establishing the permanency of thousands who have built their first homes in Torrance.

Of course, everything isn't perfect. There are current problems and there will be new problems in the years to come. These problems can be solved by a community working together with individuals subordinating their selfish interests to the welfare of the whole.

Torrance is on the threshold of coming into its own. The kind of leadership it has during the next few years may determine whether it is to be just another congested metropolitan area or the kind of a community it has an opportunity and a right to become. Individual residents who evidence pride in Torrance now will find their pride justified and will reap the rewards during the next decade.



AFTER HOURS

By JOHN MORLEY

"After Hours," as most of our readers know, is syndicated in the United States and abroad. We are informed by all our publishers that it is popularly read. It is published in English abroad, as in Tokyo's "Nippon Times," and in foreign languages, like the Hong Kong "Chi Yin Daily News," which prints it in Chinese, and Berlin's "Der Tagespiegel," which prints it in German. We hear from readers abroad whose interests are obviously different from our readers in California, Texas, Colorado, Wyoming, etc. And we hear from readers in the U.S. whose reactions differ from the folks in Tokyo, Hong Kong, or Berlin. We sincerely appreciate our readers' comments and opinions, whether in agreement or disagreement with our own.

After a lecture in Kansas recently, I met a German who told us he read our column in Berlin. In another lecture in Houston, Texas, the other day, a man and his wife came up and told me they read our column regularly in their paper in Canon City, Colorado. The interesting thing about meeting these folks from Berlin and Canon City is that both raised similar questions. They both said: "... often cannot tell where you stand on the issues you discuss in 'After Hours'... we would like to know what you personally believe, even though we may disagree." The man from Colorado asked, "... do you believe in wire-tapping as it's being proposed by the F.B.I. ... do you approve McCarthy's methods?"

Abuses are possible in wire-tapping, but the rewards are far greater than the hazards.

We believe in Congressional investigations, because prevailing security enforcement agencies are not empowered by present laws to go as far as a committee of Congress in exposing subversives. If the majority of the people don't want Congressional investigations, they can change the present laws and give more power to the F.B.I. and to other government agencies.

We believe in the "methods" of Officer Glancy, when he gets tough with a crook in a dark alley, who might shoot or stab him. We will defend the F.B.I. agent Smith, who in the performance of his duty indulges in "unorthodox" methods in securing information which may prevent a crime against one citizen, or against 100,000 citizens... and we will defend the right of Senator McCarthy to insist that those summoned by a Congressional Committee be required to tell all they know. We see little difference between the "criminal" who hides behind the "criminal" hiding in an alley, and the "criminal" who hides behind the 5th Amendment to avoid exposure. The people of Wisconsin elected McCarthy and they can reject him. The Senate appointed him as Chairman of his Committee and they can remove him. The "McCarthy issue" boils down to this: Is the Communist conspiracy serious enough to warrant such aggressive probing? This reporter believes it is.

RESPONSIBILITY OF A COLUMNIST

This is about the third time in 23 years as a columnist that we have availed ourselves the luxury of a strictly personal opinion. This entire column will be just that. It is our belief that the main responsibility of a reporter-columnist is to REPORT. It is not to provide "final answers" or pull predictions from a "private crystal ball." It is not to emphasize personal opinions. Our job is to travel to the hot-spots of the world constantly and report what we see and what world leaders SAY TO US... drawing upon our experiences for sober, unemotional evaluation of FACTS. This applies also to significant news about men and events in Washington, New York, or Pasadena.

WE BELIEVE IN THESE THINGS: Yes, we believe in wire-tapping, or in the "tap-on-the-shoulder" if it relieves our Nation of another Soviet spy or saboteur, or disloyal American.

CATCHING SUBVERSIVES DIRTY BUSINESS

On a plane recently I overheard a loud conversation between two women passengers in front of me. They were discussing the TV coverage of the McCarthy-Army hearings. One of the ladies expressed her displeasure of McCarthy by proclaiming "he makes me sick." In what sounded like an attempt of the other lady to change the subject, she asked her companion if she liked chicken. "Of course I do," she replied, "but why do you ask?" "I just wanted to know if you intentionally kill and clean the chicken," the second lady inquired. "Of course not," the first lady retorted, "I wouldn't think of tackling such a dirty job." That's just the point," her companion remarked. "You like the results, but not the dirty work. Somebody has to do it. In this case it appears to me that people like McCarthy are killing and dressing some of our chickens."

For Vincent Thomas

Irrespective of party allegiance it would seem to be ingratitude on the part of the people to forget at this time an assembly representative who has not only made a good record in office but one who can count among his many achievements direct and valuable assistance to Torrance. We refer to Vincent Thomas.

His position as minority leader in the lower house at Sacramento stamps him as a leader within his own party. That he has the respect of representatives on the other side indicates the respect in which he is held. Consequently, he has been able to do things in a big way for the people who have repeatedly elected him to office.

Only recently the people were given an example of his efforts in their behalf when he successfully pushed through a bill enabling the City of Torrance to increase its leasing power on Torrance Municipal Airport and other city-owned lands. Under his expert leadership,

assisted by City Attorney James Hall, the bill came out of committee with a "do pass" recommendation. It went to the senate without a single objection and was passed and signed by Gov. Goodwin Knight. The bill will make possible great commercial and industrial development of the airport.

Mr. Thomas was primarily responsible for obtaining the Torrance office of the Department of Motor Vehicles which was opened shortly after the first of the year. He has been instrumental in much of the State highway work completed or underway, particularly the channeling of Pacific Coast Highway through Torrance. He has other projects in mind for Torrance including a new office for the State Employment Service.

These are a few of the many projects vital to the growth and progress of Torrance in which Vincent Thomas has had an important part. Certainly he should be given the opportunity to carry on his many good works.

College Faculty Salaries

The drift of the country's "best minds" from campus to commerce is a problem with which the Council for Financial Aid to Education is now attempting to deal. In a recent survey the Council discovered that top-ranking professors in American colleges earn an average beginning salary of \$5,054.

The Council also found that the median of the highest salaries paid in the largest private colleges studied in a survey was \$6,000. Moreover, investigation shows that salary increases for college faculty members have not kept pace with the rise in living costs in the last ten or fifteen years.

An example of this is best stated by the report of the Council on conditions at a large Eastern university. In 1940 the average salary in the liberal arts and engineering schools was \$4,000. In the next twelve years living costs rose ninety per cent. Salary increases accounted for a fifty-five per cent raise.

The result is that the average professor in these departments at this university received in 1952 the equivalent of a \$3,063 1940 salary. After income tax, it amounted to a \$2,700 salary.

Those who are wondering why the best minds in the country are drifting from the campus to commerce will need to spend little

time over this example to see why the drift is in progress.

The Council for Financial Aid to Education, Inc., a non-profit, non-fund-raising organization, was formed by leading business men in an effort to encourage business and industry to come to the aid of private colleges. Many businesses have responded generously to suggestions of the Council and we urge every business or industry that can afford it to do its part in the strengthening of these colleges.

Cooperation at Work

Monday afternoon's destructive fire in the Torrance business district pointed up the practical application of the spirit of cooperation existing between California communities. The Torrance fire department acted quickly and effectively and enjoyed the active and staidly support of four units from Redondo Beach. Other departments stood ready when the flames threatened structures other than the premises of the Pacific Waste Products Company.

The Torrance community is grateful for such assistance and we are sure stands ready to reciprocate when a similar emergency threaten our good neighbors.

Church Activity

Editor, Torrance Herald:

During the recent political campaign in our City of Torrance a great deal was said regarding the "meddling in politics" by the Torrance Ministerial Association because they supported two candidates whom they felt deserved their support. The criticism boiled down to this: "As citizens, clergymen may express themselves on anything they please. But in speaking for Protestant, Catholic, or Jewish Churches they ought not to intrude in politics or take sides on political questions—that is, if they expect to retain the confidence of their congregations." In effect it is to say to clergymen that they are to stay in their own field—religion—and not become involved in the unmarriageable precincts of present day politics.

Let it be said that Christians believe that Christ is Lord involves us in the further belief that He ought to be acknowledged as Ruler of all life. We claim that He is the Lord of life—the same life which politics are earthly expressions. We do not believe that questions of honesty and dishonesty are really separable from politics, for politicians are either honest or dishonest. Either way, they are mixing politics with religion, and when they do that—and they cannot avoid doing it—the Church claims the right to criticize their actions in terms of moral values.

I personally believe that were the Church to confine its efforts to "religion" it would be faithless to its Lord. God is the God of history, and He is so concerned with what happens here that He sent judges and prophets and even invaded history Himself in the person of Jesus of Nazareth. We should remember that Jesus preached the Kingdom of God in a context so filled with political implications that he was put to death by political men.

These, then, are the basic concerns of the Church in the political area: 1. There may be some political parties, for example, the communist and fascist parties, whose programs so contradict Christian doctrine and Christian morals that the Church is forced to declare that the support of such bodies is incompatible with the fundamental Christian loyalties.

2. The Church must lay down basic principles of Christian truth and morals which determine the ultimate goals at which all political policy must aim.

3. The Church may and sometimes must criticize the means which politicians and political parties propose or resort to, for a good purpose sometimes

A 'Black Day'

Editor, Torrance Herald:

I was at a loss to understand the small notice on page one of Thursday's paper advising the parents of Torrance that their children were expected to attend the school classes on Monday.

Living in a section of Torrance comprised mostly of veterans I found my friends and neighbors as dumbfounded as myself at this gross disregard to Memorial Day.

My first reaction was to try to contact some of our city governing parties, but after talking to a couple of Councilmen and the mayor's wife, I found that the decision had been made by our school board (Here I wish to thank Mayor Drake for his odd hour call of 7:45 a.m.)

Thursday night, as a final attempt to rectify this error, I wired Governor Knight and received the following reply: "REURTEL MAY 30 RATHER THAN MAY 31 IS MEMORIAL DAY. THE GOVERNOR TODAY ISSUED FOLLOWING STATEMENT ON SUBJECT: 'MONDAY, MAY 31 IS A LEGAL HOLIDAY IN CALIFORNIA UNDER SECTION 6701 OF THE GOVERNMENT CODE WHICH PROVIDES THAT WHEN MAY 30, AMONG OTHER DESIGNATED DAYS FALLS ON A SUNDAY THE MONDAY FOLLOWING IS A HOLIDAY. THE EDUCATION CODE DOES NOT REQUIRE SCHOOL TO BE DISMISSED ON THE MONDAY FOLLOWING MEMORIAL DAYS; BUT I AM ADVISED BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE THAT IT IS WITHIN THE DISCRETION OF EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT TO DETERMINE WHETHER SUCH A HOLIDAY IS TO BE OBSERVED.' NEWTON STEARNS PRESS SECRETARY."

I called our superintendent of schools Dr. Hull and was advised that the schedule was prepared almost a month in advance and in error, the Memorial Day date had not been noted and therefore a "minor mistake" had been made and it would be necessary for our children to attend school on Monday. This to me will make Monday, May 31, 1954, a "Black Day for Torrance."

Worthy Cause

Editor, Torrance Herald:

The results of the recent campaign on behalf of the stricken "Chuckie" was so spontaneous and generous that words fail me in efforts to express my personal appreciation and that of my fellow officers for the support of this deserving and worthy cause.

We were asked, also, to convey the grateful appreciation of the parents of the unfortunate victim, "Chuckie," to any who in any manner helped to lighten the burden of the long and expensive illness of their loved one that they were forced to endure before his death this week.

Knowing that you have helped is your reward. To all of you for your generous help and prayers go the thanks of the family and the department.

SGT JOHN MAESTRI Torrance Police Department

Dislikes Beck

Editor, Torrance Herald:

Several years I have enjoyed your paper and hail its contribution to the improvement of Torrance, but ever since you capitulated to the "editorial page convention" I have wondered at the company you appear to like.

Mr. Beck (It's Your Country, Sunday) may not speak for your owner but if he does they should down him if they read his subhuman drivel and understand his spirit of arch-reaction. The column of your May 23 issue is such an attack as Col. McCormick of the Chicago Tribune might inspire in his heels, and you should be ashamed to publish such) aid and comfort to McCarthy and undermining of confidence in our great president.

JOE LUKES

Democrats Backed

Editor, Torrance Herald:

The Torrance Democrats, Incorporated, officially announce that they have endorsed all of the Democratic candidates as they were endorsed by the California Democratic Council at their convention held in Fresno, Calif., in February.

Some registered Democrats may be confused by the article published last Sunday which stated Torrance Democrats were endorsing a Republican candidate for governor. The club wishes to make its position clear.

BLANCHE RIGGIO Pub. chairman Torrance Democrats, Inc.

CRISWELL PREDICTS

Criswell will answer your questions if you will write him in care of the Torrance Herald, signing your full name and address. Only initials will appear in the column which will appear in the edition which you specify. There is no charge for this service. Write and Criswell today!

YOUR HEADLINES OF THE FUTURE

South African revolt grows despite foreign intervention... Huge tidal waves sweep South American shores causing much damage and loss of life... New method found of growing rice which will revolutionize our modern concept of Asia and her food problem... Spain signs new trade treaties with Atlantic Pact Nations... Thousands see fireball on east coast of Florida... Texas demands new federal aid in highway construction... Engineers perfect low cost cooling plant for office and home use... New spy ring uncovered working in shadow of Capitol Dome... Germany exports new drug which controls unnatural growth of any tissue... New political scandal brews in Canada wheat...

WHEAT PROBLEMS DO

The MEDICAL WORLD will be shocked and stunned by a new and fatal disease which will come from South East Asia which will almost reach epidemic proportions where the blood quickly turns to water and the patient usually dies within three days... The late ADOLPH HITLER and his wife EVA BRAUN will have their last few days on earth dramatized for Broadway production this fall, and this will start a cycle of plays, movies and books about the former paper hanger who became the most destructive force in history... WINSTON CHURCHILL will face his bitterest fight in the House of Lords over his new foreign policy for Asia and South Africa... JOE LOUIS, the former champion, will enter the tourist business on a most ambitious scale this summer which will prove most successful... GLADYS GOODING...

the favorite organist of all sports fans, will soon have her own television program and will relive her adventures as Madison Square Garden with the great and the near-great!

MAMIE EISENHOWER will refuse to wear clothes imported from France but will give our American stylists and manuf.urers a very big boost when this is to be made public next month... SENATOR FRANK BARRETT (Wyoming) will make political history with his new plan for the reclamation of wastelands and the praticalization of the cattle industry in 1958... DIAN MANNERS and JOHANN CLARK will hit the jackpot with their new musical satire "Tin Pan Alley"...

A famed JURIST will end his life via sleeping pills!

Mrs. Verne O.—The thing this man has done in your home are shocking. My wife means tell this man to leave your home for his habits are intolerable.

Edward O.K.—You are truly master of your own conviction and that is where you made the error. There are always people who can furnish us with additional information and you ignored your friend at the bank and the city official who tried to tell you that this was not a wise move. Now you must pay the penalty.

Mrs. Clarice 49—Do not return to either of these men. Certainly they are most anxious to have you back and are vying for your affections, but the first one was a drunkard and the second one ran around with other women. Neither made you happy. Spurn them for you deserve someone much better.

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