

AFTER HOURS

By JOHN MORLEY

GRASS ROOTS . . . U. S. A. Seattle, Washington

Texas Outlaws Communists It is now a felony to be a Communist in the State of Texas, carrying with it a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison and a \$20,000 fine. The law applies to any person knowingly or willfully committing any act to overthrow the government by force, or even advocating, or in any way assisting in such an act. It appears to be the most drastic law of its kind adopted by any State, plugging every possible loophole existing in the past. Opponents of such laws hold that it is unconstitutional on at least two counts: 1. By infringing upon the federal legislative domain. 2. By providing for search and seizure in violation of State and Federal Constitutions. Both Attorney General Herbert Brownell and F.B.I. Director J. Edgar Hoover oppose such legislation on constitutional grounds, because they believe it would hamper investigation and control measures by federal agencies, and the fear that it would drive the Reds underground. It may be a long time before the law is tested in the courts, although Texas could bring suit for a declaratory judgment on the act's constitutionality, without waiting for a Communist to be prosecuted. Whether it is or not, the theory of the sponsors of this law is that the drastic penalties will prove a deterrent to subversives.

G-gas At the \$50,000,000 Rocky Mountain Arsenal outside Denver I saw a government plan which produces the most deadly gas known to man, "G-gas." It's produced behind thick concrete and steel walls by workers who wear rubberized suits, gas masks and who must take shower baths every hour. There is a highly intricate system of electronics, white rabbits, canaries to warn of leakage. In liquid form a drop from an eye-dropper on a man's palm will kill him in less than 30 seconds. A quart sprayed from a plane could kill every living thing - humans, livestock, plants, crops, etc. within a cubic mile. You cannot see "G-gas," smell it, or taste it, and yet it can kill you on contact. It makes the H-bomb sound like a Roy Rogers pop gun.

Sign on a Kansas church: "Could be that people drink to make other people interesting." U. S. Becoming Nation of Veterans At the rate our war veterans are increasing, by the end of the year we will have about 22,000,000. This is almost 2 out of every 5 men over 20 years old. World War 2 veterans now total 2 out of every 3 men between 22 and 37 years of age. The situation is alarming because potentially every veteran and his dependents are eligible for benefits administered by the Veterans Administration. VA says that, by next year World War 2 veterans and their families alone will reach the unprecedented total of about 62,000,000, or nearly two-fifths of the population of the U. S. The taxpayers may well interpret this alarming increase in terms of GI loans and insurance now upward of 3,500,000 separate loans annually . . . over 450,000 admitted in Veterans Hospitals . . . no mention pensions for war veterans who have become totally and permanently disabled since leaving service . . . education and training . . . pensions for widows and children . . . burials, gravestones, and other similar expenses involved. The total is being increased at the rate of about 100,000 veterans per month.

THE MAIL BOX

Editor, Torrance Herald, Attention Rev. Bell! In your letter to the Editor, published in the Torrance Herald, Thursday, June 3rd, in reference to "Church and Politics." In paragraph two, you state, in part, "We do not believe that questions of honesty and dishonesty are really separable from politics, for politicians are either honest or dishonest." Are you inferring that only candidates chosen by your Church are honest—and that all other candidates endorsed by other interested citizens are dishonest? You state in paragraph three, "I personally believe that were the Church to confine its efforts to religion it would be faithful to its Lord." Do you mean that any other church that does not involve itself in politics is faithless to its Lord? I agree with your point No. 1. That communism and fascism contradict Christian doctrine and Christian morals, however, can your Church determine any tendencies of communism or fascism in any candidate for public office, and are you not implying that all other candidates not chosen by your church may, therefore, have communistic or fascist tendencies thereby labeling them unfairly? Point No. 2—I agree with you that the basic principles of Christian truth and morals in politics are important, how can you help but imply that only the candidates chosen by your church have the basic principles of Christian truth and morals? Point No. 3—It is understood that at times there may be political corruption, is it not an implication that, therefore, your Church must control politics? Point No. 4—You state that the Church must be concerned with the standard of personal ethics and integrity observed by politicians in the conduct of the nations and communities affairs. Is the public to believe that any candidate not chosen by your Church, that their personal ethics and integrity are open to question? During the recent elections in the City of Torrance, out of seven candidates, the Torrance Ministerial Assn. publicly backed two candidates for city council by paid political advertisements in both local newspapers—because of their moral and spiritual standings. Does this not imply to the public that your church could not consider the other five candidates for office, because of the lack of their moral and spiritual standings? If this is so then I can't help but feel that you are implying that in the future, any candidate for public office must be chosen by the church, and any candidate not chosen by your church would be automatically unfit morally and spiritually to serve in public office. Therefore, this would be unfair to any other candidate, and I do not feel this is the intent of the Torrance Ministerial Association. Because of the unintentional discrimination placed upon other candidates not chosen by the church, I feel that all churches should speak on any and all political issues, but not to the extent of picking and backing candidates for public office. E. WILLIAMS, Acting Chairman, North Torrance Veterans

EDITOR'S NOTE, Letters to the Mail Box are solicited. We want our readers to feel that this is their department. Letters must be signed, but publication of names will be withheld upon request. Letters or subjects of general or human interest will be published to the limit of space in the first available issue after their receipt. The Herald reserves the right to reject any or part of or all of any letters sent in by readers.

Editor, Torrance Herald With the end of the school year we should like to express our appreciation for the coverage given activities at Torrance Evening High School during the past year by the Torrance Herald. Publication of news about evening classes for adults is the most effective way to reach those persons who would most benefit from such instruction. The more than twelve hundred adults who have attended evening classes this year, in having forty who will receive High School diplomas, have been made aware of such opportunities to a great extent, through news stories carried in the Torrance Herald. MARSHALL R. CRAWSHAW, Director of Adult Education



Criswell Predicts

An Accurate Glimpse of the Future

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 be used in the answers which will appear in rotation as received and as space permits. There is no charge for this service. Write Criswell Predicts today!

FOR PEOPLE AND PLACES: Vice-President Nixon: Your coming weekly report to the nation will be very well received by radiote! . . . Atlanta, Georgia: You can expect a tragic fire! . . . Clement Atley: Your biography will prove a disappointing seller! . . . Denver, Colorado: You will have a good tourist year! . . . Emily Kimbrough: Your latest book, "Forty Plus and Fancy Free," will be one of the top musicals out of Hollywood in 1955! . . . Las Vegas: One of the west's largest and most powerful television stations will soon be built just off your famed Strip! . . . Jennifer Jones: You will appear on Broadway in the new Somerset Maugham comedy based on the private life of an American girl who married into royalty! . . . New York City: Prepare to outdraw Atlantic City in conventions in 1955! . . . Governor Dewey: You will be the number two man in the Republican Party!

Dear Eleanor: My dear Eleanor: You shall have a talk with the manager of your apartment building, and I know they will be very selective in the tenants they permit into the house. It would be wise for you to share your apartment with this lady friend who would be most happy to stay with you, for this will give you comfort and enjoyment.

Dear Criswell: I know I don't have the figure I had when I married, but after giving birth to eight children, plowing fields, walking half a mile to the well, and milking cows, plus cooking and cleaning. Now my husband tells me I should take better care of myself. Have I failed? —Mrs. D. R. C. Rt. 4

My Dear Mrs. D. R. C.: You have failed no one, but they have failed you. It is amazing you have stayed alive with the work you have been expected to do. It is time your husband and children took care of you instead of you taking care of them. You have sacrificed your entire life for your family, and I suggest that your husband take a look at his own figure in a full-length mirror.

Dear Criswell: The police have been patrolling our neighborhood which offers some protection, but I'm still so frightened. I live in a four story building and am unconscious. Further, to come under the guest law, you must have been hurt during the ride. Third, even a guest may recover damages, if the driver's willful misconduct led to the injuries. In court this means that you must show that the driver was more than merely negligent, even if he was clearly at fault. "Willful misconduct" does not have to be intentional injury to the guest, but it does mean an intention by the driver to act in a way likely to cause injury. Even so, the guest's own contributory negligence may bar recovery. As a guest, you have a duty to take ordinary care of your own safety. You should protest, for example, against reckless or other improper conduct, or should demand to be let out of the car.

NOTE: The State Bar of California offers this column for your information so that you may know more about how to act under our laws.

LAW IN ACTION

QUESTIONS AND PASSENGERS If you are hurt while riding in someone's car, can you recover damages from the car's driver or owner? Not easily under California's "guest" law. The statute says if you accept a ride as a "guest" you cannot recover damages, but the law makes some exceptions: First, the fact that you ride with someone need not make you a "guest." Anyone who pays for the ride with money or other benefits is a "passenger," not a guest. He may therefore recover damages. A benefit, say an anticipated business profit, may be the pay that makes a rider a passenger and not a guest. Mutual business ventures may also make the rider a passenger.

Congratulations

This is the time of the year when congratulations are in order to the thousands of young men and women who are completing various steps of their education. High school graduates, looking eagerly ahead to college days and four or six years hence when they likely are to step out into a push-button world, particularly face a changing and unpredictable future.

Only a generation or two ago the average high school graduate could and did whirl through these halcyon days blithely with nothing more than a lugubrious commencement speaker or two to inject a sour note. Now these graduates are better trained and, for the most part, better equipped for the very serious college days to come. Today's graduate must know where he wants to go. Business, industry and government are looking for and expecting to find highly trained specialists.

The almost limitless fields opened up by electronics certainly will change the entire industrial picture. But it must be remembered that these machines never will be better than their builders or the men and women who operate them. Opportunity always will be around.

These graduates who, because of economic stress, must undertake at once the role of breadwinners must have the sympathy of the community. However, they still have opportunity to learn and to become successful providing they find the right job in life and make the most of it. While times have changed, there are still thousands of successful men and women who never went beyond the eighth grade. What they lacked in formal education, they have made up with ingenuity, persistence and ambition. Furthermore, they never have stopped learning.

The Herald extends its congratulations to all the local graduates and wishes them success in the years to come.

A Torrance Asset

Among many Torrance assets, often taken for granted and not appreciated, is the Torrance Municipal Airport. When heavily populated areas around Los Angeles County are losing their small airports one by one, it should be encouraging to progressive community leaders to know they not only have an adequate local airport but a very good one.

Private aviation still is an important keystone of the entire aviation business, certainly an important one in the Los Angeles area. Thousands of persons in this area earn their living in the aviation industry. They should be the first to appreciate the importance of encouraging every aspect of aviation, notably the grassroots phase that is the smaller airport.

Fortunately for Torrance the local airport is physically able to allow for expansion. Already several highly desirable industries are seeking ground leases and they eventually will give employment to hundreds of persons. Legislative action that gives the city authority to extend leases to 50 years will further encourage commercial as well as industrial development of the airport's large acreage.

Add Torrance Municipal Airport to your list of good things about Torrance. This fine airport certainly is one of the institutions people can point to with pride.

Freeing Atomic Energy

The Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy recently began hearings on a bill which would alter controlling the production of atomic energy with the aim of freeing the atom for industrial development. Co-sponsors of the bill are Senator Burke Hickenlooper, Iowa Republican, and Representative W. Sterling Cole, New York Republican. The bill is one in which every American should have a keen interest. The greatest tragedy concerning the development of atomic energy is that none of this vast potential has been put to use for the benefit of mankind. It is now about ten years since the first atomic bomb was built, and it is generally realized that much of the early knowledge about atomic energy is now general information all over the globe.

Thus, there is no reason why industrial development of the atom and wide-spread use of energy for peacetime purposes cannot be begun. Proper security in atomic energy must, of course, be well guarded in the interest of U.S. security. On the other hand, the United States can demonstrate to the world a form of moral leadership which will win this country friends in every corner of the globe by putting some of our atomic energy knowledge to use for the benefit of humanity.

A New Twist In Strikes

The latest in strikes was demonstrated in Jerusalem, where all salaried physicians in Israel began a three-day strike for higher wages. Government officials protested any salary hike would bring on an inflationary spiral, but this argument fell on deaf ears as far as the Israeli Medical Association was concerned.

In fact, the association announced that if the three-day strike didn't work, then a strike of unlimited duration would begin in June.

Cooperating with the salaried physicians, self-employed physicians called a sympathy strike of two hours. It is reported from Israel that all municipal clinics were without physicians during the strike, and that 65 per cent of all the people of the country were affected. It is estimated that at least 2,000 physicians stayed away from work during the strike.

We have never been threatened with such a strike in the United States because of the fact that the medical profession is a professional group, composed of tens of thousands of independent physicians. However, were this country to reach the stage where government-paid physicians were caring for a majority of the people, then such a strike could be quite possible in the United States.

A Kind Deed Done

Mrs. Annie Lucas, 66-year-old seamstress of Stone Harbor, New Jersey, had taken in sewing for some time to accumulate the money to visit her sister in England. Recently, she boarded the Queen Mary and headed for Southampton.

As the Queen Mary neared the end of the voyage, Mrs. Lucas still had \$850 in her small pocketbook, and things seemed to be proceeding normally. But she went on deck on a very windy day, and didn't figure on the tricks the wind plays.

To her horror, a gust of wind suddenly blew her little pocketbook into the ocean as she stood at the rail. As the wind carried the purse into the ocean, the savings that had been earned to bring her to England to see her sister disappeared beneath the green water.

It looked as if Mrs. Lucas' trip might be at an early end. Her savings had come hard, and the dress-making business had not been an easy one for a woman with an invalid husband. However, passengers aboard the Queen Mary heard her story. They succeeded in collecting almost \$500 for Mrs. Lucas.

When she stepped off the boat in England, she had that much money donated from passengers in her new purse. It was not \$850, but it did allow her to see her sister, whom she had not seen for forty-four years. All of which proves that people do have a heart, and that the world is not such a bad place to live in, after all.

A Bad Impression

Annual Spring cleanups serve their purpose but year round good housekeeping practices do more to make a community presentable to the visitor. In several instances, approaches to the main business district of Torrance are marred by unsightly buildings, vacant lots littered with debris and city limit signs that have outworn their advertising usefulness.

Property owners have the first and moral responsibility to keep their premises in good order. This is particularly difficult for owners of vacant lots and abandoned structures for economic reasons. They hardly can be expected to have much interest in a venture that usually incurs additional expense when little or no income is in prospect. However, the wise owner or landlord recognizes the value of keeping his property attractive so that it will capture the attention of a prospective tenant or investor.

Torrance's rapid growth is something worth crowing about. New signs at all important approaches to the city are needed, not only for advertising the city that grows almost overnight, but, in appraising the newcomer or visitor of the exact location of the somewhat meandering city limits.

Roger M. Ryes, Deputy Secretary of Defense: "Tax dollars which pay for waste contribute exactly nothing to national defense."

Dwight D. Eisenhower: "This Administration believes that government from top to bottom, must be manned by men and women of brains, conscience, heart and integrity."

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