

EDITORIALS

Parking Checks Needed

The backing of every sales-conscious merchant in the downtown Torrance area should be given to the suggestion of Councilman Willys Blount that more adequate policing be given the parking meters throughout the area.

Blount charges that the meters are not being checked, and that cars are permitted to park in violation for long periods of time without penalty.

That his comments are sound has been confirmed in the area of The HERALD building by members of the newspaper's staff who report that most of the cars parked daily on Gramercy Ave. belong to persons employed in nearby establishments. Almost without exception, the meters show the red flag most of the day. The one exception in a meter in front of The HERALD building which has been stuck at about 24 minutes for some weeks (it has been reported a number of times).

Such flagrant violations of the parking meter ordinance without penalty is defeating the purpose of the meters—to provide spaces for shoppers driving into the downtown area.

Perhaps a new approach to the meter checking is in order. At the present rate of enforcement, more than enough additional revenue could be obtained to employ parking checkers out of the meter funds, and some cities do this. Inglewood recently put on three women to do this job in their business section.

Such a plan has two advantages—a constant check on violators will force a faster turnover of cars, making more parking spaces available each day, and additional revenue will permit faster acquisition of off-street parking spaces.

The HERALD agrees that police officers should not be put on a parking beat if they are needed for more serious duties.

But, The HERALD does not believe it is wise to install parking meters on the city's streets—and then not check for violations.

A method of checking the meters regularly without jeopardizing the city's limited police force should be given serious consideration by the City Council.

★ ★ ★

LAKE WORTH (FLA.) HERALD: "One would hardly be out of line to say that 90 per cent of all traffic accidents are the result of carelessness—oftimes criminal carelessness—on the part of one or both drivers involved."

Out of the Past

From the Files of The Torrance HERALD

Years Ago This Month

October, 1946

John T. McCrary Jr., chairman of a Torrance Chamber of Commerce merchants' committee, announced that Christmas decorations for downtown Torrance had been assured by subscriptions made by various local merchants. Police Chief John Stroh warns youngsters, and parents, that a 10 p.m. curfew would be enforced locally on Halloween night. Bernard Lee was named to head the Chamber's election committee by Reed H. Parkin, the booster group's president, for balloting on two new directors.

15 Years Ago This Month

October, 1941

Police Chief John Stroh reminded local youths to "have fun but don't do any damage to property or people," as the city prepared to celebrate Halloween in the traditional manner. The First Church of Christ Scientist in Torrance held opening services in a new building at the corner of 218th St. and Manuel Ave. A new Scout troop was being formed by the men of St. Andrew's Episcopal church.

20 Years Ago This Month

October, 1936

Mayor W. H. Stanger reported that William Day was awarded a contract to remove 100,000 tons of clay from the city dump. Day's winning bid was 10 cents a ton. Michael Starsztor, former HERALD editor, was re-

turning to Torrance and The HERALD after four years as editor of the Corona Daily Independent. Pete Zamperini, USC student, left for Indianapolis, Ind., to attend a convention of Phi Epsilon Kappa, professional physical education fraternity.

25 Years Ago This Month

October, 1931

Edwin P. Arthur, Torrance, was found guilty in Judge Dennis' court of violating the state labor law. Two armed men robbed Young's service station at the corner of Arizona and Narbonne. South Gate High School, rated the underdog team, came up with a surprise touchdown to tie Torrance High School 6-6 on the local football field. Members of the Associated Independent Merchants of California held an organizational meeting with Torrance merchants in an effort to incorporate the local businessmen into the state group.

30 Years Ago This Month

October, 1926

Nate Groenke was elected commander of the Bert S. Crossland Post of the American Legion. Pupils of the elementary school were preparing to present a historical pageant of Torrance at the dedication of the new auditorium in November. Inaugurating a new policy, the management of the Torrance Theater announced that five acts of vaudeville would be presented every Tuesday night.

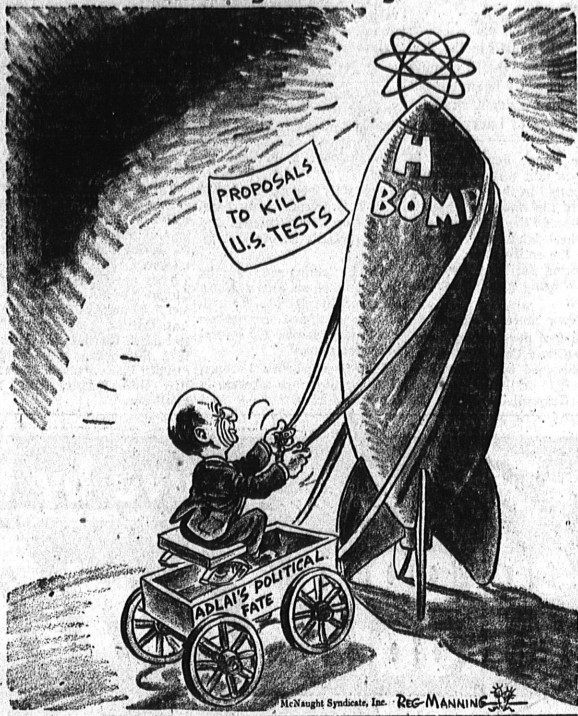
THINGS TO TALK ABOUT
BY FRANKLIN J. MEINE
Editor, American Peoples Encyclopedia

IN WHITTIER, IOWA A LAMB WAS BORN BARE. ITS OWNERS NAMED IT A SWEEPER.

Small boys fighting in the Stone caught a medal, signed containing 20 letters addressed to Parisians besieged by the Prussian Army 25 years ago.

Historian John Shelton says that Lady Godiva, who would have been 60, did not ride unclothed through the streets of Coventry 313 years ago and, that there was no keeping lion. Country city officials were annoyed. The legend has lasted 300 years. We will continue to have Godiva processions. They said. The story had helped to make Coventry a mecca for tourists.

Hitching His Wagon



YOUR PROBLEMS

By ANN LANDERS

Dear Ann Landers: I hope you won't think I'm a nut but something's been on my mind a long time. Maybe you can help me.

I've been married three months to a wonderful girl. I think I'm the luckiest guy alive. I wasn't exactly a saint before we met but I wasn't any worse than most fellows who waited until 28 to get married.

My conscience has been bothering me a lot lately. I feel that my wife is so pure that I'm unworthy of her love. Shall I tell her all the details of my past—"bare my soul," so to speak? The modern philosophy seems to be to keep your mouth shut. What is your opinion?—Duke.

If you think "keeping your mouth shut" is a brand new idea listen to this. It's from the Panchatantra, a collection of tales over 2000 years old:

Some things a man should tell his wife
Some things to friend and some to son;
All these are trusted. He should not
Tell everything to everyone.

Dear Ann: I'm a sophomore in college and my boyfriend is the problem. Whenever he comes to take me out he has liquor on his breath. I told him I didn't like this and he blew his nose. He said he was no stumble-bum and that he could "take it or leave it alone." He's the only boy I know who carries a flask. I'm 18, he's 19. Do you think he's fit company for me?—Amy.

If the boy says he can "take it or leave it alone"—tell him to prove it by "leaving it alone" when he takes you out.

In the Prohibition days when a fellow carried a flask it was "in case of a snakebite." What's HIS excuse?

Dear Ann: I'm 24 and my wife is 22. We've been married almost three years and get along just fine. Our son is only two weeks old.

I went with my wife for three years before we were married. My parents did everything they could to break us up—even took us to court on a trumped up charge. The court threw out the case and the judge said he never heard of parents behaving this way.

Two weeks before I left for the Army my dad kicked me out of the house because I was a week behind in the rent. When we got married we invited the folks to our wedding but they didn't show up.

Three years have passed and Mom is gone. My brothers tell me Dad wants to see me. He asked that I come to the house but requested me to leave my wife at home. He's not young any more,

and I hate to do the wrong thing. Please tell me what is right.—A.R.M.

Go see your father. Make no reference to the bitter past. Be pleasant and friendly. Tell him you'd like him to see his new grandson.

Make it clear you can't come to see him in the future unless you bring your wife. Explain that YOUR door is always open, however. By going to see him you will have turned the other cheek. The rest must be up to him.

Dear Ann Landers: Saw where you told a young wife in the column that her husband "should stick to his steady job and not try to make a living off the horses." I'd like you to know, that contrary to YOUR advice, it

CAN be done. I know, because I did it. At present I'm retired and living very well. I stuck to the "system" and it paid off handsomely. I haven't had a loser in over two and a half years. Thought you'd like to know.—Daily Double Dan.

Well, how-do-you-do, Dan... I'm happy to shake the hand that shook the bookies, and made it pay off. In a figure of 160 million people, I figured there must be ONE guy around who had beat the horses. These are about the odds. Thanks for writing. You didn't ask, but my advice to YOU is stay "retired."

(Ann Landers will be glad to help you with your problems. Send them to her in care of this newspaper. Copyright, 1956, Field Enterprises, Inc. Distributed by Chicago Sun-Times Syndicate)



LAW IN ACTION

PREPACKAGED EVIDENCE
The human race—going back far beyond the baked clay cuneiform writings of the Babylonians—learned that men's memories fail and they had best write down what they agree to.

A written contract is first of all evidence of what you and the other man decided to do together. It is also a good manual of how and when you were to do it, and who was going to pay, etc.

But when a dispute arises, as it may, the written agreement is first-rate evidence—much better than "he said" and "I said."

So when someone asks you to sign a paper, be on your guard. You may be binding yourself and your property, call it what you will—a contract, a lease, a receipt, an order, a release, an option, a mortgage, or a deed.

Know what you sign, why you sign it, and what will happen if you go back on your word. Rarely can you avoid its legal effects.

So before you sign anything: Know what the paper says and what it means. Don't let its title confuse you—a "statement" may be a release of all your claims, or a "contract" may be a negotiable promissory note. "Co-sign" a note and you may have to pay it off.

Read EVERYTHING, fine print and all, in any document. You may not be able to enforce oral promises not written down; or, if you could, it would be too hard to do. Take nothing for granted.

Double check the document: Dates, prices, names, and conditions. You are bound by what it says, not by what you thought it said. Ask questions and don't sign unless you understand

what the document means. Get language clearly stating what you want put in. Get advice if much money is involved.

Get and keep a copy and make sure the proper persons sign the paper. Record it, if necessary, with the proper public official.

Your signature and fingerprints are unique. Only you can sign your signature. Doing so may set events of great legal moment into effect.

Note: California lawyers offer this column for you to know about our laws.



"Life can be pretty grim when you pass 80—especially when a motorcycle cop's behind you."—Allen Swift.

"A woman makes up her mind and her face several times a day, and is seldom satisfied with the results of either."—Glenn Bunnell.

"There are still some old-fashioned mothers who love to tuck their children in bed, but many of them can't stay awake until the kids come home!"—Galen Drake.



"Life is too short for a long face!"

The SQUIRREL CAGE

By REID BUNDY

I was sitting around in the bus depot Friday, listening to the collective woes of all commuters when it suddenly occurred to me to see how the other half lives—the motorists who skip the bus and drive their autos to Torrance. Councilman Willys G. Blount triggered the idea earlier in the week when he declared during a Council meeting that he had tried for several days to get a parking ticket in one of the metered stalls downtown and couldn't. So, I made a survey to see what he was talking about. Apparently he had a point. Because a lot of other drivers tried all day to get parking tickets Friday—but so far as we could determine, they all failed.

Here's the way it looked at 1 p.m., Friday:

Forty-nine cars were parked in metered stalls where the red flag was up in the meter. No tickets in sight.

Several meter stands broken off at the sidewalk, cars parked free in the unmetered stalls.

One head missing on a downtown meter stand.

One car parked across a downtown driveway (still there an hour later). No citations in sight.

At 3 p.m. we started out again, but confined our survey to the main business street—Sartori Ave. (That's a long walk around all of the meters, believe you me.)

On the 3 p.m. check, we found 14 cars parked at expired meters. No citations in sight.

Again at 5 p.m., when the shopping crowd downtown was very heavy, we made another tour of the Sartori Ave. meters from Cabrillo to Torrance Blvd.

Motorists getting a little braver—found 27 parked this time in expired meter stalls.

And, some of the cars and delivery trucks noted in the stalls on the 5 p.m. rounds were the same ones noted on the first circuit four hours earlier. Still no tickets.

And, at the same time, cars were circling the downtown blocks looking for a parking place.

Blount said the meters weren't being checked, and stated "Let's check them or take them out."

And his point is apparently well taken.

The grandest phrase of all I've seen

Since the pen replaced the quill; Is the note from the store downtown, Saying "This Is Not a Bill." —Joe Bleaux

Bob Vincent's thought for the week: "We're only young once. After that we have to think up other excuses."

Packed up my houseful of early risers yesterday morning and motored down to the Civic Auditorium where we all had the YMCA special—hotcakes, orange juice, coffee, sausages, and milk for the kiddies.

That's a swell treat for the family, and the YMCA should consider having these breakfasts more often—say about every other Saturday.

Nobody's sure who started it, according to the current issue of the "American Municipal News," but it may have been the mayor of Rockford, Ill., who announced he was bringing all 20 members of the Rockford City Council with him to the 33rd American Municipal Congress in St. Louis next month.

Just about the time he was being conceded a shoo-in for top attendance honors, Mayor Ben West of Nashville, Tenn., made reservations for the 21-member Nashville city council, the vice mayor, and a dozen department heads.

Four of Torrance's five Councilmen plan to attend—if for no other reason than to talk to some of the members of the 21-seat council to see how well they get any thing done, according to our own mayor, who will attend.

The Freelancer

By TOM RISCHÉ

A few years ago, everybody seemed to think that giving the government to the people would solve all our problems.

It solves lots of them, but doesn't go all the way.

For instance, Californians this November will be called upon to decide 19 propositions, ranging from repeal of obsolete laws on judges' salaries to oil and gas conservation. County voters will be asked to decide an additional four questions, while Los Angeles voters in this area have seven more questions appearing before them.

How is a voter supposed to know whether these propositions are good or bad? About all the average citizen can do is to see who is endorsing the measure and decide from that whether he's for or against it. How can he scan all the printed material with all its legal jargon and make an intelligent decision?

It's fine to let the voters have a say in electing candidates and some of the more important things, but is democracy really being served by "having him vote on a couple dozen things he knows nothing about?"

In case of doubt, the voter usually says no. That's probably a good thing.

For instance, so much mud has been thrown up around the controversial Proposition 4, the so-called oil and gas conservation measure, that few voters appear to know what the score is.

So many charges have been hurled back and forth that everybody is confused.

The pros say that the proposition would conserve oil and gas.

The antis say it wouldn't, and what's more, it would drive the little fellows out of business.

State Controller Robert Kirkwood says it's a good measure.

State Attorney General Pat Brown says it isn't.

The pros say it would mean cheaper gas prices.

The antis say it would mean higher gas prices.

One poster says, "Save Oil—Vote Yes."

Another says, "Save Oil—Vote No."

Who's telling the truth? The citizen, if he's so inclined, can pore through 20 pages of fine print in the Voter's Handbook to find out what the truth is. Even then, he's likely to be as confused as he was to begin with.

This is one example of the type of thing that voters are called upon to decide. Such things might better be pondered by men with more knowledge on such matters—namely, the legislators.

The citizen should have a voice in his government. But when he reaches the bottom of a tediously long ballot, he is likely to be thoroughly mixed up. It's well known that candidates and propositions at the tail-end of the ballot get lots fewer votes than those at the beginning.

Why not shorten the ballot?

SAFETY HINTS

from the Red Cross



This car is riding for an accident from the back. For safe driving, always keep the rear window clear of obstructions, to insure a perfect view of the highway behind in your rear-view mirror.

GLAZED BITS

By BARNEY GLAZER

It's our Glazed prediction that in the future school blackboards will be constructed in the shape of a TV screen in order to hold our children's attention.

Friend of this gallery went out looking for his brother who was three hours late. Arrested on a reckless driving charge, he was placed in jail where he found his brother who was there on the same charge!

If you're disgusted with yourself lately, just sit on a tack. That'll make you get up and do something about it. All men are born equal to the occasion. Here's an excellent way to cut down freeway traffic. Restrict it to only cars that are paid for.

Personally, I'd be satisfied with enough if my neighbors didn't have more. Next time you're out driving your car, just pretend you're a baseball player. What really counts is the number of times you reach home safely. The way my wife packs all those trunks and suitcases for a trip, who says you can't take it with you?

It's amazing, simply amazing, how much scientific research and hard labor went into the television set and how little comes out of it. Soap and water make you shine on the outside, but try a little singing and notice how you'll shine inside.

Trouble with most of our troubles is that just when we think we're at the end of our rope, it's only the beginning. Description of the average man: When he stops at a hotel, he's always yelling for that homey atmosphere, and when he's at home he wants nothing but hotel service.

Sign on a minister's desk: "Tell me all about your troubles and if you don't have any, tell me how you do it." ... As the Hollywood bridegroom said to the hamburger steak served by his young wife: "How now ground cow?"

A typical city in the United States is described as a dad-blamed, moth-eaten, dust-filled, one-horse whistle-stop by its inhabitants; or a quaint and picturesque town with rustic charm by its tourists.

I have the answer to television. It doesn't dissolve into way lines or snowstorm effects. It doesn't pause to deliver a message from its sponsors. It's three-dimensional, having length, breadth, and thickness. It lives indefinitely in the fourth dimension of time. It's a book!

Beware of two salesmen working door to door with a cute gimmick. One offers you baby pictures at \$2 each and naturally you turn him down. The second one comes along and offers you the same pictures at \$1 each and you immediately recognize a bargain and order them.

Owner of a barbecue stand almost popped his eyes when a helicopter suddenly settled on his empty parking lot. The pilot sat on a stool and explained: "I smalled your chicken up there and just had to come down and get some." ... One of the happiest men on earth is a fellow I know who never lets an opportunity pass to say a kind and complimentary word to every person he meets.

TORRANCE HERALD

1619 Gramercy Ave.

FA 8-4000

Established Jan. 1, 1914

Published Semi-Weekly at Torrance, California, Thursday and Sunday. Entered as second class matter January 30, 1914 at Post Office Torrance, California, under act of March 3, 1879.

KING WILLIAMS, Publisher

GLENN FFEIL, General Manager

REID L. BUNDY, Managing Editor

Adjudicated a legal Newspaper by Superior Court, Los Angeles County. Adjudicated Decree No. 218470, March 30, 1927.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: By carrier, 40¢ a month. Mail subscriptions, \$4 a year. Circulation office FA 8-4000.