

EDITORIALS

Loss to the Chamber

Ill advised, we think, was the City Council's decision to break a precedent that has had one member of the council serving on the Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce. The argument that there is "conflict of interest" involved in the decision is thin in the light of the record that has more than once revealed much more serious conflicts of interest in the actions of individual council members.

The city has a very important stake in the actions of the Chamber of Commerce so long as that important body receives public funds in support of its program. It is logical that a representative of the Council participate in the deliberations of the Chamber, not only to see that the city's interests are properly served, but, also to evaluate and to decide just when those much discussed "conflicts of interest" appear.

In recent years, and currently, the Chamber board has been particularly well served by Willys Blount and by Former Mayor Mervin Schwab. On many occasions their counsel has been valuable in decisions made by the Board when specific knowledge of public affairs was invaluable. Both men served faithfully, sincerely, and well. It is unfortunate that the Chamber is to be deprived of such service in the future.

THE FREELANCER by Tom Rische

For Mom and Fido

Every Mother's Day, everybody gets all choked up and sentimental over Mother, with good cause. A tear dampens the cheek of those whose mothers are gone and sentimental thoughts fill the heads of those whose mothers still are here.

After all, mothers are pretty wonderful people. It's hard to think up anything new to say about mother because so many people have said so many things about her in the past. One of the best, in this writer's way of thinking, was presented in 1935 by the late Will Rogers, who tenderly, yet humorously, honored everybody's favorite girl friend: "It's Mother's Day. Of course it's pretty late now to remind you of it. If you didn't know it before, there's not much you can do about it now. Unless you might possibly be shamed into going or phoning to a florist. They're keeping open just to accommodate late consciences."

"Of course, Florists—they got mothers, too, florists have, but they've got more flowers than they've got mothers, and—and they have a great organization the florists have. They have led us to believe that no matter how we have treated our mothers during the last year that a little bouquet of hyacinths or verbenas will square it, you know—not only with mother

but with our conscience too; when as a matter of fact you don't need to be square with your mother. She knows you better than you know yourself.

"A mother is the only thing that is so constituted that they possess eternal love under any and all circumstances. No matter how you treat them, they still love you."

"I was telling that to my wife today and I was telling her a little thought that I wanted to use in here, and I said a mother and a dog is the only two friends that has eternal love. No matter how you treat 'em. And my wife makes me cut the dog out. Said it—well, it didn't sound very good and it might sound disrespectful to a mother, but I certainly didn't mean it that way, but it's the only thing that really is. You know what I mean."

"So the poor old dog he'll have to go. I can't use it on account of my wife made me leave the dog out, but it still loves you just the same—just as much as a mother did. Some day we may have a dog too, or something, and I can use that on the dog day. I hate to leave the dog out. My wife runs this outfit."

"Well, anyhow, they both certainly—no matter what you do to them—they all love you."



LOOK WHAT'S AHEAD . . . Phones of the future impress Pacific Telephone's Gwen Axthelm prior to their being demonstrated in lecture titled "Horizons Unlimited." Closest to Miss Axthelm is the TV picture phone in which you can both see and hear your party. The push button telephone in the middle may eventually replace the dial wheel and the pint size bedroom telephone is for featherweight carrying and compactness. Requests to see phone models demonstrated in lectures may be made at business office by civic groups or employee organizations of 20 or more persons.

Spice Makes It Tastier



YOUR PROBLEMS by Ann Landers

They Both Got Sentenced

Annie Dear: Can you help? Wanted: A decent break for the poor, crucified American ex-husband who is chewed up by alimony. Take two guys, Frank and Hank:

Frank gets drunk, buys a gun, steals a car, holds up a bank, shoots the cashier in the hip, crashes three red lights, runs, over a blind preacher, leaves the scene of the accident, and perjures himself at the trial. Penalty? Maybe 20, or 30 years. He could get off with 10 if he played it cool in the cooler.

Now, take Hank: Fine, clean-cut fellow who goes to church four times a week, abhors strong drink, never gambles, contributes to 12 worthy charities and participates in civic affairs. Hank gets married. Ooops—wrong woman! What now? Divorce.

Load the dice, boys, here comes a live one. Hank is stripped of his home, his furniture, his car, his bank account, and his children. He's handed a life-time alimony rap. He can either pay and pay and pay or go to jail and play gin-rummy with Frank. This is justice?—Sir Spencer-lot.

Sir Spencer-lot, You plum forgot When man selects a wife— Or when a wife selects HIM, The way it is in life, They take an oath 'Fore God and man That they will face together Whatever fate the future holds, Including stormy weather. I shed no tears for brother Hank— For him I'll do no grieving. For alimony is, dear friend, The high, high cost of leaving. —Ann Landers

Dear Ann: Recently a good friend of ours married a spoiled brat of 18. He's 31. We try for his sake to be civil and friendly to her but it's becoming more difficult all the time. She says "Shut-up" during a conversation so she can talk. Every discussion is turned into a debate. No matter what the topic, if you're for it she's against it.

This girl refers to our furniture as "junk although it's only four months older than hers. She constantly corrects our children and belittles me in-catty ways.

My husband and I are at a loss as to how to handle this embarrassing situation. We hate to end our friendship with the fellow because he's a fine guy, but his bride is getting too much for both of us.—P.T.D.

When a "fine fellow" of 21 marries an 18-year-old spoiled brat with no respect for basic courtesy, he can expect to be persona non grata (plenty unwelcome) in most circles.

Most everyone knows at least ONE couple of whom it's said "Love him—but can't stand her"—or vice versa. In

such instances, the couple is usually excluded, as a unit.

Maybe when this "fine guy" thres of being left out by alimony. Take two guys, Frank and Hank:

Dear Ann: May I get into the controversy between you and the taxi-cab driver who doesn't want to be called to take expectant mothers to the hospital?

I don't blame this fellow one bit. This is quite a responsibility to drop into the lap of a total stranger, out of a clear blue sky.

My opinion is, any husband who is so lazy and inconsiderate that he would let his wife make her own way to the hospital to have a child, should

be hit right smack in the pocket-book. She ought to call an ambulance, and lie down and take things easy.—Duff Dorothy.

Confidentially: WIDOW-INDOUBT: The kind of farm-life you describe sounds wonderful, and the man must be a fine fellow. By all means, take the guy with the hoe—ad pass up the one with the hokum.

THE LONELY ONES: Keep your standards (and your spirits) up. You girls will come out ahead in the long run . . . where it counts.

(Ann Landers will be happy to help you with your problems. Send them to her in care of the HERALD and enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.) C) 1957, Field Enterprises, Inc.

FROM THE MAILBOX By Our Readers

Fight Subversion

Editor, Torrance Herald: The annual report of the House of Representatives Un-American Activities Committee charged that today the Russian subversion in this country is "the equivalent of 20 combat divisions of enemy troops."

Those enemy troops are engaging in propaganda, espionage, subversion, and are loyal only to the Soviet Union (Chairman Francis E. Walter of Pennsylvania; Los Angeles Examiner, Feb. 10, 1957, Sec. I, Part A.)

We all realize that those subversive activities represent a great threat to our democratic institutions. I believe it is the duty and privilege of every institution of our democratic USA to help our government in combating those subversive activities.

One way of helping would be to train a comprehensive staff of young (as well as mature) folks to understand and be fully versed in the Russian language. The U. S. Army school of languages at Monterey, Calif., is now training their personnel in the Russian language; this is, however, just a drop in the bucket and the need of help from civil learning institutions is immediate. Why not inaugurate Russian language courses at El Camino College this fall?

ALEXIS N. PESTOFF

Walteria

What's the Score?

Editor, Torrance Herald: Why not try to count the score in Lomita?

Ten months of campaigning have netted a scant 1000 property owners who would submit to incorporation, as against more than 3000 who want no part of it.

Why the clamor for elections? The promoters would have to whip into line more than 2000 non property owners in order to win. What inducement could they offer? Experienced, intelligent renters know that whatever raises the landlord's taxes raises the tenant's rent.

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The man with a small business, whose land use is non-conforming, is protected by the county zoning. Incorporation would destroy his safeguard. The homeowner who wants peace, moderate taxation, and freedom from local political meddling, must protect himself from incorporation.

The huge campaign fund of the promoters forces us to tremendous effort to offset it. "The appalling waste of money and time goes on and on. They must know they cannot win. Why persist?" MAY W. ROSS

Lomita

Potts Disagrees

Editor, Torrance Herald: I read your article (Tom Rische's Freelancer) concerning the desired name change of Kornblum Ave. in the May 5 edition of The Torrance HERALD. I cannot agree that a street named Potts Street would give a poor first impression. As a matter of fact, it would be an easy name to remember as well as to pronounce and spell.

A. E. POTTS

(Editor's Note: In his article, Rische opined that Potts St. was not a very elegant name and would give a less favorable impression than other names.—Via de los Angeles.—W.A.)

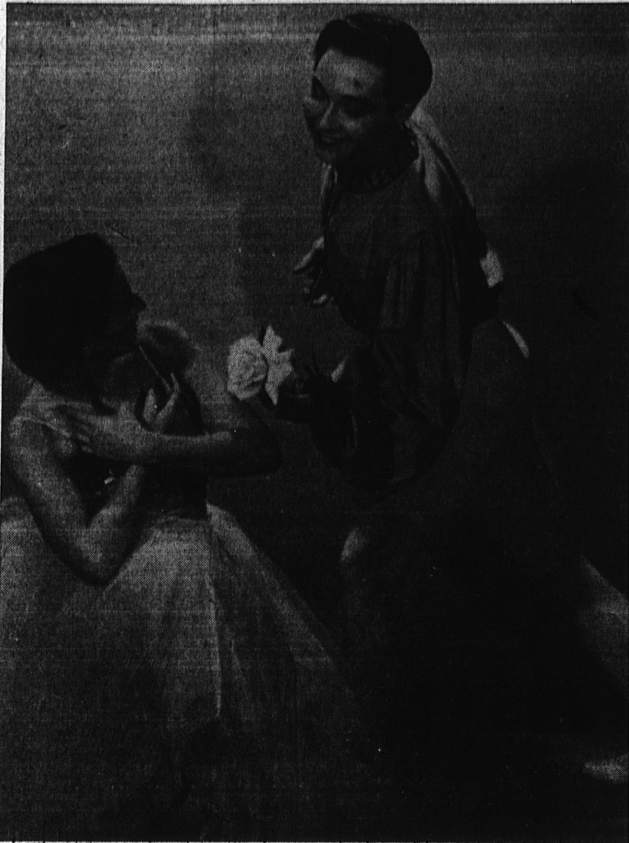
Plugs College Vote

Editor, Torrance Herald: One of Torrance's finest assets is the community college located on its northern boundary.

Providing scholastic, recreational, and cultural advantages, El Camino College has helped local residents from post high school age to 80 enjoy a fuller and more complete life. Its facilities are shared with the community, with little or no charge.

Costing only 55 cents per \$100 assessed valuation, the college has never asked for an increase of its original tax base.

In the face of its growth, it



ART FESTIVAL SET . . . Ballet dancers will be featured as leading participants in the May Festival of the Arts to be presented at the Redondo High School auditorium this Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Here, Pat Jenkins and James Jeneji perform with a rose. Art and music also will be featured in the three-day festival.

GLAZED BITS by Barney Glazer

Some Notes for Posterity

Just make a note of this for posterity, Mr. Librarian. The first couple to dance on the new floor of the refurbished and fabulous Coconut Grove was Betty and Barney Glazer and the evening would have been perfect for showbiz history if Freddy Martin hadn't leaned over and asked: "Where's the five bucks you owe me?"

Caskie Stinnett of Holiday Magazine reminds us of National Laugh Week, just in case you want to start clearing your throat. "Uncontrollable laughter in a theater audience by a patron of the arts," continues Mr. Stinnett, "is usually handled by turning on the house lights, while the orchestra remains poised to go into 'The Star Spangled Banner' if the lights don't work."

In Las Vegas, a pre-school age youngster was bragging that he had learned to count. "Okeh," invited a guest of the city, "go ahead and count for me." The lad drew a deep breath and started counting: "Two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, 10, jack, queen king, ace."

Under old English law a bankrupt was a trader who hid himself or did other things to defraud his creditors. Under the Roman law creditors could cut up the bankrupt's body and each take his due share. Other laws would put the debtor in prison or in chains, allow whipping and hard labor. East Indian creditors could sell the debtor and his family into slavery for ever.

In the Middle Ages a bankrupt was a criminal. Later he got some rights: Though creditors could force him to turn over all his goods, he would escape prison.

The basic concepts of our bankruptcy law: (1) Prorate the bankrupt's assets among his creditors, (2) discharge him from most of his debts, and (3) "grubstake" him by exempting certain things from the creditors' reach.

The English wanted to discourage extravagance, yet they saw that a debtor's misfortune could trap him. So the early bankruptcy laws grudgingly were only for actual tradesmen. Others had to take their medicine.

Our constitution gives Congress power, first used in 1800, "to establish a Uniform . . . Law on the subject of bankruptcies."

After Congress had passed and then repealed three laws it passed our present bankruptcy act in 1898. It amended the act in 1938 to refine liquidation and rehabilitation procedures.

Today the act relieves the debtor through liquidation or reorganization and rehabilita-

States citizen. One day, he said to his Commie boss: "When we overthrow the government what happens to my Social Security and Unemployment checks?"

A reader of this gallery writes the following: "Dear Mr. G.—My first wife claims that our Mexican divorce is illegal and she wants to come back to me. My second wife is also illegal and she too wants to come back. My third wife refuses to give me up. What shall I do?" Answer: Move into a larger apartment.

LAW IN ACTION

For the Penniless

"BANKRUPTCY" came from the Latin "banucus" (a tradesman's table) and "ruptus" (broken).

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