

EDITORIALS

Doing It Themselves

Youngsters from the Torrance area want a teenage recreation center, and they say they are willing to work for it.

Good for them. That's an encouraging sign in an age when too many people announce they want something, but aren't willing to work for it. Too many people run to the government every time they want something, and all too often they get it. That's one reason that budgets and taxes go up.

Right now, an enthusiastic group of teenagers are studying the best ways by which they could get a center, and declare they would build it themselves, if they could get the materials. If they can follow through in their work, they should be able to arouse Torrance citizens to help them. It is a worthy project.

Too often, government-planned recreation is based upon what officials think the citizens "ought" to want, rather than what they actually desire. People appreciate more what they have built with their own hands than something which has been built for them.

The WALTERIA Businessmen's Assn. proved that individuals can cooperate to satisfy their own needs when it financed and built the WALTERIA Scout Center.

For some reason, while most homeowners feel they can "do-it-themselves" on their own property, many of the same people seem to feel that the government should take care of any project outside their property lines.

There's more than one way to "do it yourself", and Torrance's teenagers are off to a good start.

Opinions of Others

The cry for federal money for new school buildings this year was simply a renewal of the century-old conception that the federal government has lots of money. And educators, filled with ambition and a desire to form their own intellectual empire, often blind themselves into believing that federal money be poured into their local coffers without the slightest hint of federal control. In reality, the government has no money and all it can offer is control.

The administration's reversal here is a boon to real educators who are concerned with learning and not with fancy bricks and picture windows. — Colorado Springs (Colo.) Gazette-Telegraph.

Americanism is an unfeeling love of country; loyalty to its institutions and ideals; eagerness to defend it against all enemies; undivided allegiance to the flag; and a desire to secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and posterity. — Carrollton (Ill.) Gazette-Patriot.

THE SQUIRREL CAGE By Reid Bundy

Pool Shark at Work

Chuck Homan, who scoots all over Southern California supervising construction projects for Maceo, squeezed in enough evenings and week ends during the summer months to get a new swimming pool built in his back yard. It cost him plenty of time, worry, and not a little money.

Came the big day a few weeks ago, he filled it with water, fought the chlorination battle and won, and had a whale of a family party to inaugurate the pool. Everyone thought it was a doozy. The next afternoon, his teenage daughter, Candy, meekly asked him if she could borrow a dollar against her allowance.

He hasn't been the same since he found out she wanted it to go down to the city plunge with a bunch of her friends.

While on a vacation jaunt recently, a Torrance Gardens couple and their children were winding up through the back roads near Lake Arrowhead when Dad pointed out that the car ahead still had an "Ike and Dick" sticker on

it. The couple's 7-year-old pondered the matter for a few moments then came up with the announcement that Ike was President Eisenhower. After another half mile of silence, she piped up and said:

"Mommie, who's Dick? Dick Whittlinghill?"

Dad nearby drove off into a canyon.

Overheard: "She's a good housekeeper. Every time she gets a divorce, she keeps a house."

And, to wrap it up, here's a salute to mothers who have only until next Thursday to worry about the kids underfoot. They'll be off for school then, and mom can sit down and look at some of those magazines that have been piling up during the summer. Maybe even write a letter to the folks back home.

Political Charge Account



YOUR PROBLEMS by Ann Landers

Keats, Dun, and Bradstreet

Dear Ann: I'm a woman 60 years of age but I still have plenty of pep and enjoy life to the full. Please don't think me a fool when I tell you I have a heart problem which has nothing to do with my vascular condition.

Last winter I'd sooner have expected an H-bomb to hit me than Dan Cupid's dart. The gentleman is some 20 years my junior. He showed casual interest at first, then the sparks began to fly. I suspect he may have had an inkling there is gold in them thar hills. Out of the blue came a proposal of marriage.

I love the buzzard but noted that he didn't mention our remarkable ability to get along together. Of course I'd like to marry him but I don't want to be a foolish old lady. Do you honestly feel this man could be sincere or does he sound like a clever fellow who is trying to feather his nest? — R. E. T.

I suspect that Romeo has been reading Dun & Bradstreet as well as Browning and Keats.

Ask him how he'd like to sign a pre-nuptial agreement which would cut him out of any inheritance should you precede him in death. Learn, also, if he expects to support you on HIS salary or does he plan to move into your place and live in the style in which he'd like to become accustomed.

Either the lad is looking for a mother or his interest is purely financial—or both. I'm betting the love-light shining in his eyes is merely a reflection of the gilt-edged securities he longs to hold. Better tell him to pick up his geiger-counter and prospect elsewhere.

Dear Ann: Five years ago when I was in high school our Spanish teacher arranged for pen-pals in Spain. I started to correspond with a boy. About a year ago we realized we were becoming serious about each other. My mother was furious when I told her I thought I was in love. She suggested I stop writing to him.

This spring the boy came to the United States and spent three weeks in our town. He stayed at the hotel. Now we know it's love, but my mother refuses to accept the fact. We are of the same religion and get along fine. He wants to marry this winter and has discussed it with my father. Dad doesn't say much but Mom is 100% against it. She claims we can't possibly know each other in three weeks. I feel as if I've known him forever. Please help us.—Bridget.

Distance lends enchantment and the romantic circumstances of your meeting adds great excitement. Mar-

riage at this point could be a risky business. Slow down. If you and Mom could take a trip to Spain and view your pen-pal in his home surroundings it would be well worth the investment. He may look better than ever, but there's the possibility that you'll be glad you can grab your sombrero and say "Adios."

Dear Ann: I've been reading your column a long time and it burns me up to see the mother-in-law get it in the neck so often.

We live next door to my husband's mother and I never want to move. When I get behind in my ironing or housework she gives me a hand. If she takes something special, we get half. If my baby sitter can't make it, my mother-in-law will come on a moment's notice. When I brought the new babies home from the hospital it was my mother-in-law—not my mother—who was there to take over.

I wish some of these girls who gripe about their mother-in-law would remember that the boy she raised was good enough to be her husband. I just had to write this letter, Ann. I sincerely hope you'll print it.—XXXX.

THE FREELANCER by Tom Rische

What Do You Do?

New ideas are hard to come by, only most people don't realize it.

People are a pretty unoriginal species. Witness the hackneyed remarks that are dropped whenever two people meet for the first time. Naturally, the introduction leads to inquiries about what kind of work each is engaged in. Then comes crack that one person thinks is hilariously original, but the other person is likely to have heard a thousand times before.

Take the mortician: "Oh, you're the last guy to let me down, huh? Ha! Ha! Ha!" Or the veterinarian: "They wouldn't graduate you from medical school, so you had to work on animals, huh? Ha! Ha! Ha!" Or the newspaperman: "I'd better watch what I say because you might put it in your newspaper. Ha! Ha! Ha!"

These hackneyed cracks generally fall into two categories—the "funny" remark or the request for free advice. We are of the same religion and get along fine. He wants to marry this winter and has discussed it with my father. Dad doesn't say much but Mom is 100% against it. She claims we can't possibly know each other in three weeks. I feel as if I've known him forever. Please help us.—Bridget.

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I'm happy to print your letter but I'm withholding the initials because I'd like eight million mothers-in-law to think perhaps this letter was written by her son's wife.

CONFIDENTIALLY: Heartbroken: Get off your knees and start to date others. Nothing is so unattractive to a man as a blubbering female who'll settle for crumbs just to have him around.

(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.

My Neighbors



"Don't just stand there! Hurry back and buy \$15 more groceries before creeping inflation makes them cost \$17!"

hearing a knock in my engine lately, and I wonder if it could be—

People spend their whole days at work and probably aren't overly delighted to hear request for free advice at night. They could probably shut up the queries by sending bills for overtime.

Then there's the type of occupationalist in which the conversationalist is denounced the minute he announces his occupation.

Take the policeman: "I hate you guys. You know I've gotten three speeding tickets in the last three months and—"

Or the auto salesman: "You guys are all crooks. I bought a used car recently and boy did I get stung." Or the phone repairman: "I don't know why you had to put me on that party line. Some old woman talks all day."

The poor guy gets blamed for all the mistakes of other people in his profession. Certain professions lead to arguments, automatically.

One man, who got tired of all the wisecracks and comments, has started telling people he meets that he is a retired ditch digger.

"That shuts them up right away," he reported. "They look at me like I was crazy and then start backing away. I don't make many friends, but I avoid the remarks." That's one way.

REYNOLDS KNIGHT

Those Loafing Executives

Some companies complain that their top executives don't take as much time off their jobs as they should.

With the summer vacation season "officially" ended, the American Management Assn. made a study of executive vacation practices. Of 96 randomly selected members of top management surveyed, 46 reported that they used less than the total amount of time allocated to them by their companies. Four took no vacation at all.

The median length of vacation for the 46 who were short-changed on their time off was 67 per cent of the amount allowed. "Too busy"—or some variation on this theme—was the most common reason the survey respondents gave for not taking all their time off.

One company president reported that henceforth if an executive in his organization did not take his vacation he would not be paid for it. "I am a believer in full two- or three-week vacations, not piecemeal," he said. He admitted, however, that last year he took only one of the three weeks to which he was entitled "due to changing our organizational setup."

BEYOND THE FIGURES—To really appreciate the giant strides the American economy has been making, you have to look a bit beyond the "this-year-against-last-year" reports most common in summaries on sales and shipments.

That's particularly true in the case of long-lived durables. While sales may fluctuate, within a long-term up-trend, there hasn't been a day, since production resumed with the end of World War II, that the average family's ownership of things for better living hasn't kept moving upward.

And, as the Gas Appliance Manufacturers Assn. points out, the capabilities of the average durable item increase. The kitchen range becomes more automatic. The water heater is selected to be able to take care of an extra bathroom, an automatic washer and a dishwashing machine. Heating system capacities are growing, too, in line with new home dimensions. Thus, there's a lot of real progress that doesn't show up when you summarize by the conventional "number and type" reports.

THINGS TO COME—An instant coffee that has unmistakable aroma of freshly roasted coffee that becomes even more pronounced when hot water is added is being hot-marketed... Add to the instant foods category a seaweed pudding. It's a powder which when mixed with milk makes a seafood-flavored custard... A new lightweight, all-weather, wash-and-wear outercoat for men is made of dacron and cotton and is said to be rain-resistant, wrinkle-proof and crush-resistant.

CITY-SIZE THIRST—It takes a lot of water to cool the reactor core and draw the radiation of a new Atomic Energy Commission research reactor nearing completion at Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

The reactor will fill a big need in producing valuable radioisotopes and testing the effect of irradiation on metals, liquid fuels and engineering materials. It will generate a fantastic 20 million watts of heat, requiring the services of its own 150,000-gallon "swimming pool" of demineralized water to shield the surrounding area from radiation, and a private river piping 12,000 to 18,000 gallons of water per minute through the reactor core to keep it cool.

To handle that flow of water—equal to the average consumption of a city the size of Des Moines—the project makes use of aluminum piping for the first time in the main coolant system of a major atomic reactor. For changes of direction in the complex piping network the largest aluminum welding fittings ever forged were produced by Tube Turns of National Cylinder Gas Co. These include reducers three feet in diameter, and elbows, returns and barrel-type tees that are two feet across, with walls more than a half-inch thick.

government aircraft procurement could dip as much as 36 per cent to \$6.5 billion... While dollar sales in retailing for 1957 are likely to exceed 1956 by three to four per cent, unit volume will be up only a little... In spite of the housing slump, new construction in 1957 is proceeding at an annual rate of \$46.8 billion, compared with an actual \$46.1 in 1956.



Please Remit!—A woman in Burbank, Calif., who discovered that her marriage hadn't been legal, after all, immediately filed suit against her "husband" for \$25,000 for eight years' work as secretary, bookkeeper and housekeeper.

"You've reached middle age when what you get your teeth into frequently is the dentist's office."—Franklin P. Jones.

"Peace of mind is better than a bank account—but one helps the other."—Bob Haymes.

"There are two ways of spreading light—to be the candle, or the mirror that reflects it."—Edith Wharton.

"When it comes to picking up a check some fellows have an impediment in their reach."—Phil News.

Mailbox

Those After Hours

We, the teachers of Torrance, appreciate your editorial of Aug. 29, "Those After Hours." It so clearly pictured the place of a teacher in the community, the place and teacher should have in any community, though all are not so fortunate.

A number of our members have commented favorably on your editorial, and certainly new teachers will appreciate the "open mindedness" of Torrance to the teaching profession.

JAMES W. CLEMENGER, President, Torrance Education Assn.

He's the Sheriff

The judge can make decisions, reach judgments, and issue orders, but somebody has to carry them out. On the state level, our sheriffs do this job, but for the United States courts the U. S. Marshal does the work—and busy men he and his deputies are.

The U. S. Marshal is a kind of federal sheriff named by the Attorney General for four years. He takes orders from the administrative office of the U. S. courts and the judge of the court he serves.

The Marshal, like the sheriff, has his deputies. They make arrests on federal warrants, serve papers in lawsuits in the federal courts, subpoena witnesses, summon jury men, and seize property on federal court writs.

The marshal also manages the money set aside for federal courts, paying federal judges, witness and jury fees, and the board and room of federal prisoners held in local jails.

Unlike the county, the federal government has only a few local jails. So the marshal keeps prisoners awaiting trial or commitment in county and city jails at federal expense.

For prisoners held a few hours while waiting to appear for trial or to make bond, the marshal usually has a small lockup in his office.

The marshalls takes prisoners sentenced for "a year and a day" to a federal peniten-

tiary, but those with a shorter term stay in local jails.

There is often excitement in the marshal's work, but mostly he follows through for the courts.

In the old days when much of the west was territories instead of states, he often had the job of local law enforcement now taken over by the police and the county sheriff.

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

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TIME FOR A REAL HAIRCUT!

