

EDITORIALS

THOUGHT FOR TODAY—"We can afford to do all that is necessary, and much that is desirable, and pay for it. But we should not reach for everything at the same time. Even a rich country can get into trouble if it keeps pending beyond what it pays for currently.—Treasury secretary Robert Anderson.

Exposure to Learning

A lengthy report on the status of local schools when compared to a national average show that Torrance is at least average or above in most categories—a truly encouraging finding.

The report presented by school administrators to the board of education recently, and published in the HERALD Thursday, indicates that as many Torrance students are taking the "hard core" classes as has been reported by other schools across the nation.

Parents of the area should be encouraged by the findings of the local survey—at least their children are being exposed in average numbers to the subjects believed by most experts to be the essential ingredients of a proper education.

While many parents may feel the reports answers the critics of American education; others might rightly ask if the statistics on numbers tell the whole story.

These parents will ask "How is Johnny doing?" in addition to asking about the courses he is taking.

What is Johnny's level of achievement? How does his achievement rank with a national average? What is the national level of achievement? Is the national level lower than it should be?

These are questions which should be asked, and are being asked by many parents across the nation, of the nation's school administrators and educational theorists.

Someone, somewhere should be able to come up with some answers.

In the meantime, the statistics on numbers are fine, as far as they go.

Opinions of Others

A New York grand jury looking into collapse of discipline in the schools made this stinging report:

"Our classrooms are turning out far too many delinquents and it can be expected that matters will be worse until teachers again are placed in command. Respect for teachers has been tossed out the window by starry-eyed educational leaders who encourage freedom while de-emphasizing responsibility for one's actions.—Abilene (Kans.) Daily Reflector-Chronicle.

An old time King of Siam had a nasty way of getting even with any noble he happened to dislike. He would give the man a white elephant. Since the white elephant was sacred to the Siamese, anyone who happened to own such a beast was required to keep it in style. In fact, the cost of maintaining a white elephant was so great that any noble who received one was automatically condemned to financial ruin.

What brings this to mind is the national highway program, now in its second year. Has this program become a white elephant to America's car and truck owners? ... If things keep on the way they've been going in the program's first two years, a project that was presented as a boon to the nation's car and truck owners will turn into the biggest and costliest white elephant ever wished on a group of suffering taxpayers.—Plentywood (Mont.) Herald.

The Kindhearted Pirate



The Boulevard Beatnik Should Expect Trouble From DMV Boss

There has been a lot of talk since the inauguration of Governor Edmund G. Brown about a "get tough" policy in dealing with reckless drivers, and of the man who has been selected to activate that policy.

So let's discuss the policy, the man and the manner in which he hopes to do the heretofore seemingly impossible task of making the highways a safe place for driving. Robert McCarthy, the 38-year-old new Director of Motor Vehicles, is that man. No other single individual in the 50-year history of vehicle regulation in California has ever had entrusted to him the wide executive powers that go with McCarthy's designation as coordinator of official state highway safety efforts.

The laws governing your car, and the way you handle that car, are believed to be broad enough without additional legislation to deal with most phases of driver control. "The problem," says Mc-

Carthy, "has not been in the inadequacy of laws, but in a lack of public acceptance of what must inevitably be done to cure our traffic ills.

"By that I mean, people have not been willing to accord the habitual bad driver the treatment he so richly deserves. The habitual bad driver is a nuisance, a plague, an evil, ugly, cancerous growth on the body politic.

"He knows no reason, will listen to none. He's utterly anti-social, an arch egotist of the type to be avoided.

"I urge that his neighbors and associates treat him as such. For that's the way he's going to be treated by the Department of Motor Vehicles in the matter of his driving privilege.

"We have in this department a driver improvement and re-examination program that is admirably suited to ferreting out those drivers whom I shall call boulevard beatniks, because they ap-

pear to be living in a world all their own. Through this program, we are going to see these people afoot.

"I have said that it is our intention to suspend the licenses of drivers found guilty of four moving violations in any 12-month period. There naturally will be ameliorating circumstances, as is true with any law, or rule or regulation. But a driver had better have a mighty good excuse when he comes before us after his fourth conviction.

"What we will look for is attitude. The smart alec, the I-don't-give-a-damn driver, has had it, as far as this department is concerned.

"These are some of my thoughts on problem drivers. I believe the general motoring public, the millions of good drivers who would like to enjoy their cars in peace and safety, will support an all-out effort to take the frolicking freeway freak off the roads."

RAMBLINGS by Ronnie Saunders

About Ice Plants and Spring

With the calendar reading mid-March, and the thermometer in the 80's this week in Torrance, one begins to wonder what ever happened to spring. Technically it's winter—and they were shoveling their way out of the snow in

some parts of this country during the past week—but weather-wise it's summer.

To this writer, spring in Torrance always starts officially when the ice-plant bursts into color on the slopes of the city's hillside homes, lighting up the landscape with bright carpets of orange and purples. The color-spattered season which starts somewhere in March and lingers until late April or early May where lawns look like artist's palettes for a spectacular brief period is more than compensation for the forfeit of giving up the Eastern-type spring, where the re-awakening of dormant life this time each year never ceases to arouse a feeling of awe.

When the ice-plant splashes its annual rainbow across the Torrance terrain, it is time to begin thinking of patios and pools and planting summer annuals and getting the barbecue gear in working order. It's time to get the bathing suits ready for those pre-summer days we enjoyed this week and plan an off-season excursion to the beach. It's time to begin those sun-tan sessions on the patio chaise lounge.

Next week we may have



"Some men are so afraid of doing wrong that they never do right."—Charles T. Folen.

"A good teacher is someone who can understand those not good at explaining and explain to those not very good at understanding."—North Carolina Education.

"Hedy Lamarr says she's suing 'the only man I ever loved' for \$51,000. Wouldn't you hate for someone to have that much affection for you?"—Billy Arthur.

"Money in the bank is a friend in need."—Ruth Smetzer.

"The narrower a man's mind the broader his statements."—Burton Hillis.

"It's a great pity that things weren't so arranged that an empty head, like an empty stomach, would not let its owner rest until he put something in it."—Ladies Home Journal.

"The opening may a person needs most is one in his closed mind."—Puck.



"Tact is the ability to close your mouth before someone else wants to close it for you."

THE SQUIRREL CAGE by Reid Bundy

Yankus Family to Sell Farm

Stanley Yankus is going to auction off his farm in Dowagiac, Mich., on Sunday, April 4.

That's not much of a local story, I'll admit, but being an old farm boy, it kind of caught my eye.

You see, Stanley got himself in a pile of trouble with Uncle Sam. He insisted on growing 35 acres of wheat to feed his chickens, on which he depends for his income, but Uncle Sam put his foot down and says, "No, you can grow only 15 acres of wheat."

Stanley, 40-year-old son of Lithuanian immigrants, started farming in 1941 when he had saved up money to make a down payment on a \$2800 farm.

A few years later, he bought his present \$9000 farm and went into the egg business, because he and his wife decided the land and general area best suited his farm to that purpose.

He has about 100 acres which he divided into four fields and he alternates crops of wheat and barley to feed his chickens. He was doing well until about six years ago when a man came into his farmyard and told him he couldn't raise wheat to feed the chickens. The man said he'd have to cut his wheat acreage to 15 acres.

Stanley, who had been brought up to make his own way, said later he thought the American people would rise up at the thought of a government man telling him he couldn't raise wheat to feed his chickens. But Stanley found he was fighting a lone battle.

After a couple of years of threats, the government clamped down, and Stanley has since paid out more than \$5000 in

fees for growing wheat to feed his chickens.

The Yankus family chose to live their lives the hard way. He didn't have to pay the fines—he could have signed up with the government program, grown less wheat, and let the government send him subsidies—much more than the amount he paid in fines.

But Stanley thinks that is wrong.

"I was brought up to make my own living. I have worked hard. All I ask is that I be allowed to make an honest living," Stanley told Chicago Daily News Reporter Jack Mabley who talked to him recently.

"I don't want the government subsidies, I was not allowed to vote on them," Stanley said.

The embattled farmer said he had a choice of conforming, of taking public money for doing nothing, or of sticking to a principle. Stanley is sticking to a principle.

When Stanley decided not to join the government program, his bank account was seized. FBI agents questioned people he did business with. His background was investigated.

So, on Sunday, April 4, Stanley and Mrs. Yankus are auctioning off their Michigan farm and they plan to start all over again.

"One of the magazines I get listed all the nations by the amount of socialism they have and Australia had the least," Stanley said.

So Stanley, his wife, and two boys are moving to Australia as soon as he can clear away his farm and get passage.

Come to think of it, maybe it is rather a local story.

In Years Gone By

Although it seems like yesterday, March 15, 1944 has joined the ranks of yesterday.

The pages of the HERALD file of that date have already yellowed with age, and the stories that made news on those yellowed pages have become dated.

Residents who were dependent on public transportation to get around in that war-year were offered the opportunity to expand their travels to Long Beach, Los Angeles, San Pedro, Inglewood, and the South Bay cities with the decision by City Council to purchase six new buses.

Recreation for the young people of the city was discussed that week by the Torrance Youth Commission, which decided to investigate possibilities of establishing a local youth club where teenagers could dance, eat, sit and talk, and enjoy soft drinks. The commission also planned to contact the board of education to see if school ground facilities could be used for recreation purposes under a trained director on Saturdays and Sundays. Preliminary plans for obtaining a qualified professional re-

creation director for the city were laid.

Also making headlines were the facts that the OPA had slashed the limit of gas which could be purchased with the "A" ration stamp; the California Taxpayers Assn. was planning to discuss post-war jobs at its monthly meeting; and a group of Hollywood unknown entertainers entertained the ailing and convalescent soldiers at the Army Hospital Station in Torrance.

While the city officials tangled with problems of water system improvements and highway improvements, voter registration in the state reached its lowest ebb in 14 years.

Help wanted ads dominated the classified columns. "War-time work with peacetime future" was offered for unskilled men by the Aluminum Corp. of America. The Torrance employment office of Doak Aircraft Company sought "experienced and inexperienced war workers"; and Todd Shipyards wanted "all workers" to help build and repair ships. Also pleading for help were advertisements by the Southern Calif. Telephone Co., National Supply Co., and Western Pipe & Steel Co.

In the news columns, a specialized employee was also sought in one publicity release—lady cobblers to make

shoes for the WACS!

But the job that was really aimed at the ordinary Joe was the one advertised by Armstrong Cork Co. which read in part as follows: "Joe was all tucked out when he got home one night. He told the missus that half the trouble was getting to the job and back again, what with the traffic and trying to find a place to park ... This wouldn't be much of a story if that's all there was to it. But Joe found just the kind of job he was after ... at Armstrong Cork Co. in South Gate. The plant isn't big. It's small—and out in the country where there's plenty of fresh air and a place to park ... And you can get a job like Joe's."

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS 1-Carnivorous animal 2-Desert 3-Force 4-Japanese man 5-Forward 6-Japanese man 7-Babylonian deity 8-Romany 9-Foray 10-Put off 11-Baptize 12-Group 13-Put in place again 14-Pretext; new 15-Tree on 16-Pretext; not 17-Recruit 18-Recruit (abbr.) 19-Cover 20-Body of water 21-Island 22-Pretext 23-Pretext 24-Pretext 25-Pretext 26-Pretext 27-Pretext 28-Pretext 29-Pretext 30-Pretext 31-Pretext 32-Pretext 33-Pretext 34-Pretext 35-Pretext 36-Pretext 37-Pretext 38-Pretext 39-Pretext 40-Pretext 41-Pretext 42-Pretext 43-Pretext 44-Pretext 45-Pretext 46-Pretext 47-Pretext 48-Pretext 49-Pretext 50-Pretext 51-Pretext 52-Pretext 53-Pretext 54-Pretext 55-Pretext 56-Pretext 57-Pretext 58-Pretext 59-Pretext 60-Pretext

Grid for crossword puzzle with numbers 1-60 indicating starting positions for words.

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