

EDITORIALS

"The more government does for you, the more it does to you."—Theodore Roosevelt Jr.

Freedom's Week

The week of Dec. 15 is an epochal one in the history of human rights.

On Dec. 16, 1773, one of the first colorful protests against the infringement of those rights took place in the form of the famous Boston Tea Party.

On Dec. 19, 1777, Washington's ragged fighters for freedom moved into their historic winter quarters at Valley Forge.

Fourteen years later, on Dec. 15, 1791, the Bill of Rights Amendments to the Constitution of the United States were ratified.

And, on Dec. 19, 1865, the 13th amendment was ratified abolishing slavery.

As men reach ever farther toward the moon and the stars, he has yet to complete his long, hard task of ensuring himself on earth those rights the Declaration of Independence called inalienable and endowed by the Creator.

It would be well to pause during this coming week and ponder its history. It saw many monuments to freedom erected over the years. May it, and the coming weeks, see many more.

Opinions of Others

A welfare state is one run for the benefit of everyone but the taxpayer.—Cheseloh (Wis.) Independent.

It may be unhappy news for taxpayers that of 18 state legislatures that met to approve budgets this year, two-thirds of them increased taxes or changed collection procedures to bring in more money.—Arlene (Kans.) Reflector-Chronicle.

Despite the Hoover Report and the warnings of so-called "reactionaries," the public has blithely continued on its merry way, trading its freedoms for inflated bucks and ignoring the pruriose path they are taking toward bureaucratic domination.—Cambria (Calif.) The Cambrian.

When Lenin wrote his book on Communism, one line in that book was all powerful: "We shall force the United States to spend itself into destruction."—Clermont (Fla.) Press.

It has been interesting to note that while there has been considerable interest shown in the small foreign cars, which advertise economy and space, a lot of these cars are being used for "seconds" and have had but little effect on the domestic market.—Roseburg (Ore.) News-Review.

Nations build up their stock pile of atom bombs, which could lead to the ultimate destruction of mankind. The atomic age we have, what we do with it, is up to man, who must become either master or slave.—Gillespie (Ill.) News.

Worry is like a rocking chair—gives you something to do, but it doesn't get you anywhere.—Brenard (N. C.) Transylvania Times.

The freedom we enjoy has its own peculiar perils. It seems often to encourage softness, laxity, self-indulgence, and indifference to responsibilities... A civilization is only as vital and strong as the men who give it life. It must falter when they do.—Virginia (Miss.) News.

FROM OUR MAILBOX by Our Readers

Shortage of Park Areas Nit

Editor Torrance Herald: I would like to voice my opinion on the subject of lack of recreational facilities for our children. In this connection, the real estate people, builders, property owners and zoning officials are all due for considerable criticism.

Thousands of houses already built and many already in the planning stage are on city lots. This leaves only one place for the children to play—in the streets.

Park facilities are wholly inadequate and would need to be expanded by 50 per cent to meet the demand. It is difficult to think of any new parks in the Torrance-Los Angeles area in the past 10 years.

Zoning officials are granting permission to build on the back half of lots on the plea that the land is waste space and two much to take care of the workers of children. The profit motive apparently has priority over everything else.

The Los Angeles Property Owners and Registered Voters, Inc. have been asking for more parks in the Los Angeles area for years. We cannot help but note that Supervisor Chace has been successful in getting a large appropriation for a golf course in the Palms Valley area. He is still waiting for park development in the area.

Editor Torrance Herald: This week completes my work with the Harbor Area Commission. I am very proud of the Harbor record in leading all of Los Angeles in this campaign and I want to give you my very personal thanks for the help you have given our campaign in Torrance.

With the large pool in the area, Torrance has been right up at the top all the time, and it was especially nice to see the city in the residential division come from behind and catch up with the leader. I have heard so many of our Torrance volunteers comment on the pictures and stories in the Herald and I am sure you made a very real contribution to the success of the campaign.

It is very encouraging for a volunteer to have such a friendly and generous reception at the various and pictures. I have appreciated it very much.

I Hate To Tell You, Santa—



THE SQUIRREL CAGE by Rod Bundy

Church Prayer-Conditioned

Thought for the day: If a man is heckped, you can figure he's a little chicken to start with.

Church bulletin board: "Come on in. Our auditorium is prayer-conditioned."

We shot a monkey in the air. It came to earth. We knew not where.

You can now lease your shirts instead of buying them.

My Neighbors



"Greetings—Oh lovely spouse. Wouldst care to have me come to your house for some coffee?"

We like Shelly Berner's comment on the article: "I think all queries should be written in English so you'll know what's boring you."

LAW IN ACTION

Going to Court

A criminal case goes through many steps before a court finds the accused guilty or innocent.

Even before officers arrest anyone for homicide, for example, a coroner's jury decides whether or not a person has died of unnatural causes.

Then too, a judge may hold a preliminary examination to decide if someone has committed a crime at all, or if anyone should be accused of it.

A court must "arraign" the accused and inform him of the specific charges against him and of his rights to counsel.

Or, a grand jury takes sworn testimony before deciding someone for a crime. The accused may plead guilty or not guilty, or answer in other ways. (Example: by showing there is no such offense on the law books.)

If he pleads not guilty, the justice or municipal court may hold a hearing and find whether enough evidence exists to hold him for a superior court trial.

This court often takes sworn testimony of witnesses and decides the facts.

under a plan announced by a Detroit laundry. The company puts 11 new shirts out with your name stamped on them and delivers five a week for \$1.95. It's one way to keep the tax men from getting the shirts off your back because you don't own one. Just rent it.

Company Christmas parties are on the wane, according to an employers' association survey recently in Chicago. For example, such parties are reported to be down 31 per cent over last year—and have been declining since 1931.

Incidental Tax collections on paper for "roll your own" cigarettes are up 50 per cent over last year. Shades of Golden Grain.

The Army life isn't so bad after all, according to news reports. Fives Frenzy's earnings during the year he has been in the service will amount to about \$2,000,000 (That's a million).

Quote of the week: An English sailor, Raymond Philpott, visiting San Francisco said, "All them shiny new cars give me the willies. You've got to be a really good driver."

So members can start making their plans, the Rotary Club announced this week that next year's convention would be in New York City; that it would be in Miami in 1939, Tokyo in 1941, and in Los Angeles in 1967. Ample warning, we'd say.

"A good father who feeds his son out the wrong end will provide nothing but trouble."

LAW IN ACTION

Going to Court

incases may be the state prison or the gas chamber.

After the trial the "defendant" may appeal to higher courts, claiming he did not have a fair trial or that his conviction was erroneous.

California has changed its trial procedure for a person accused of a "capital" crime where the sentence is death, or life in prison, such as first degree murder or kidnapping with bodily harm. The judge or jury have to (1) find him guilty, (2) fix his penalty, and (3) then, sometimes decide if he was insane when he committed the crime—in separate hearings.

After the jury finds a person guilty of first degree murder, it must hold a separate hearing to decide the penalty—whether death or life imprisonment.

Only a " sane" person has the legal "capacity" to commit a crime. So sometimes the jury may still have to hear evidence and decide the defendant's sanity.

If "not guilty for reasons of insanity" the court may send him to a hospital for the criminally insane.

Usually the California Supreme Court has to hear an appeal before a death sentence can be carried out.

Tracing Torrance History

City of Torrance Land Purchased From Rancho

(Sales of large areas of the original Rancho San Pedro to developers of such cities as Torrance, Redondo Beach, and others is related in today's article; the 15th in a series, published exclusively in the HERALD.)

By R. C. GILLINGHAM

After the formation of the Dominguez Estate Co. in 1911, a number of sales and related transactions took place which further reduced the original acreage of the Rancho San Pedro. These sales involved primarily the western and southern portions of the Dominguez holdings. In the 20 years that followed, the combined family income, stimulated by the development of petroleum and general industry in the harbor area, increased many times over that of the earlier Rancho days.

In 1911 a tract of 2791 acres was sold to Jared S. Torrance and associates by the Dominguez Estate Co., resulting in the founding of the City of Torrance that same year. This project had been originated by the Torrance-Marshall Co. of Los Angeles. The land brought \$350 an acre at a total of \$976,350. At the same time, and for the same price per acre, an adjoining tract of 730 acres was sold by the Del Amo interests to the Torrance Co.

The above transaction marked the beginning of a series of large-scale sales of Rancho lands, involving over 6000 acres in all. During the years 1917-22, portions of the Duane Tract east of Redondo Beach and lands south and east of Torrance were sold, bringing in more than \$800,000. In 1917, as a preliminary to the annexation of San Pedro Harbor to the City of Los Angeles, the "Shoestring Strip" was sold for \$336,088.42. Comprising over 240 acres, the land was valued at \$200 per acre, but the Dominguez interests agreed to take half this price in return for street and drainage improvements to be made in the area.

In 1923 a tract of 40 acres, lying in all of Lots B, Block 3, of the Dominguez Colony Tract, was sold to the Davidson Investment Co. for \$120,000. Located at Alameda and Carson Sts., this subdivision earlier was known as Davidson City, and is now almost completely filled with homes.

Another large sale of industrial property south of Dominguez Hill was made in 1925, when over 1000 acres were purchased by the General Petroleum Corp. and the Southern California Edison Co. The total consideration being \$2,854,307.28, or more than all other previous transactions put together. During this same period several large tracts also were sold by the Watson Land Co. for the development of oil refineries in that area.

All of these sales were the outgrowth of oil discoveries on Dominguez Hill, beginning in 1921. Some of the first wells were drilled on lands owned by the Dominguez Estate Co. and the Carson Estate Co., which have provided a handsome income from royalties for more than 30 years. In the first decade alone, total receipts from this source amounted to \$1,442,897.85. The several tracts are still under lease and have continued to bring in a substantial return in recent years.

In 1928, the Dominguez Estate Co. and the Watson Land Co. concluded a sale to the City of Los Angeles of another tract of more than 800 acres. The price of this land was

\$2000 per acre, which again indicates the progressive increase in real estate values within the original Rancho grant. Located west of the Los Angeles River flood control area, this land was a narrow strip a few hundred feet wide and more than three miles in length, extending from a point south of Carson St. to the inner harbor near Terminal Island. Originally designed for a railroad classification yard its handling freight at the harbor, part of this land has since been devoted to other uses.

In the past 20 years, other sales by the several family companies have diminished still further the acreage remaining in possession of the Dominguez heirs. With the exception of Dominguez Hill, these transactions have occurred throughout the several tracts as partitioned to the daughters of Manuel Dominguez in 1835. Considerable acreage has been disposed of by the Del Amo Estate Co. in the Torrance-Redondo area, much of which is now completely occupied by large subdivisions. In like fashion, other sales have been made by the Watson Land Co. in the vicinity of Watson and Wilmington.

During the past five years, another industrial tract of 1900 acres has been in process of development in the area east of Dominguez Hill, along the Los Angeles River. Some of this acreage has been sold at even higher prices than in earlier transactions, but the great majority is on a long-term lease basis. Designed for light manufacturing and commercial operations, over 30 firms are now established there, with others in process of negotiation.

Other than land sales and oil royalties, the several Dominguez companies have received a steady income from rentals and some agricultural operations, although the latter source now has almost ceased. Altogether, over 1000 acres are still under cultivation along the Los Angeles River and in other parts of the original Rancho, but practically all under lease to other parties. Business properties subsequently acquired in the Los Angeles area also are a source of revenue, together with lots and blocks owned in Wilmington and substantial investments in securities. Through this later policy of long-term lease and diversification of investments, greater protection of future income has been obtained.

Certain of the earlier family companies representing the interests of some of the Dominguez heirs have been dissolved after their deaths, and these properties consolidated with those of the Dominguez Estate Co. Those were the Francis Land Co., the Reyes-Dominguez Co., and the Dominguez-Wilshire Co., the latter having recently

been dissolved after the sale of the Dominguez-Wilshire Building in Los Angeles.

Of the 23,000 acres passed on by Manuel Dominguez in 1822, about 24% or 6000 acres, remain in the possession of the several family companies today. A tabulation of the various tracts, not including property acquired outside the original Rancho, indicates that the holdings are divided approximately as follows: Dominguez Estate Co., 1700 acres; Carson Estate Co., 900 acres; Del Amo Estate Co., 1400 acres; and Watson Land Co., 1000 acres.

Each of these corporations has assets in the millions of dollars. They are wholly owned by the descendants of Manuel Dominguez and their families, principally through the children of George Carson and James Watson, now involving slightly less than 100 individuals.

Thus it becomes evident that the record of the Rancho San Pedro, held together in 1822, is a record of the efforts of Manuel Dominguez, fully justifies the modern title that has been bestowed upon it as the "Rancho of Success." The later history of the tract stands out in sharp contrast with that of other early land grants in Los Angeles County, or in all of California.

Its colorful story speaks for itself, and the Dominguez heirs today represent one of the very few Spanish families who were able to retain the greater part of their heritage until the time when they could profit by the tremendous developments that have transpired in this strategic area of Southern California.

(In the concluding article Thursday, Mr. Gillingham will take a look at the story of the Dominguez homestead on Alameda Blvd., two miles north of Compton. The original residence and surrounding grounds are now a monument to rancho life and activities of another century. See the concluding article Thursday in the HERALD.)



"I've many politicians feel they must approach every problem with open pocket-books."—Horner Phillips.

There are 35 million fishermen in America, and still the Russians are able to out-fish us.—Texas Tax Journal.

"It's never safe to be sure about something until you're absolutely certain there's no chance of its coming back."—Bill Vaughan.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- ACROSS: 1. Your choice... 2. Famous... 3. Famous... 4. Famous... 5. Famous... 6. Famous... 7. Famous... 8. Famous... 9. Famous... 10. Famous... 11. Famous... 12. Famous... 13. Famous... 14. Famous... 15. Famous... 16. Famous... 17. Famous... 18. Famous... 19. Famous... 20. Famous... 21. Famous... 22. Famous... 23. Famous... 24. Famous... 25. Famous... 26. Famous... 27. Famous... 28. Famous... 29. Famous... 30. Famous... 31. Famous... 32. Famous... 33. Famous... 34. Famous... 35. Famous... 36. Famous... 37. Famous... 38. Famous... 39. Famous... 40. Famous... 41. Famous... 42. Famous... 43. Famous... 44. Famous... 45. Famous... 46. Famous... 47. Famous... 48. Famous... 49. Famous... 50. Famous... 51. Famous... 52. Famous... 53. Famous... 54. Famous... 55. Famous... 56. Famous... 57. Famous... 58. Famous... 59. Famous... 60. Famous... 61. Famous... 62. Famous... 63. Famous... 64. Famous... 65. Famous... 66. Famous... 67. Famous... 68. Famous... 69. Famous... 70. Famous... 71. Famous... 72. Famous... 73. Famous... 74. Famous... 75. Famous... 76. Famous... 77. Famous... 78. Famous... 79. Famous... 80. Famous... 81. Famous... 82. Famous... 83. Famous... 84. Famous... 85. Famous... 86. Famous... 87. Famous... 88. Famous... 89. Famous... 90. Famous... 91. Famous... 92. Famous... 93. Famous... 94. Famous... 95. Famous... 96. Famous... 97. Famous... 98. Famous... 99. Famous... 100. Famous...

Grid for crossword puzzle with letters and numbers.

STAR GAZER by CLAY & FOLLAN. Table with columns for date, time, and astronomical data.