

Torrance Herald

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Wanted: A Solution

It has been stated here—and elsewhere—many times that development of the Del Amo Shopping Center, one of the largest retail centers of its type in the nation, has brought a major change to the areas of Torrance which surround the center.

What might have been a proper and highest use of land in the area half a dozen years ago no longer is true.

Two cases in point are again before the city council one a change of zone proposal and the other a variance. Each is proposed as the site of multiple-family residence development.

Homeowners living in the area have protested in such numbers that last week the city council withdrew approval of both proposals which it had granted a week earlier.

Residents of the area living in recently constructed single-family homes contend—and with logic—that the development of the high-density residential units would increase traffic hazards in the area and would make a heavily traveled boulevard out of Madison Street, now a residential street.

Their protests are valid, and the developers and the city should seek means of answering the problems posed by the residents without scuttling a development which could mean much to Torrance.

Development of the huge shopping center at the Del Amo site has put a higher demand on surrounding property, as persons living in that area could tell you after looking at their tax bills last month.

Land within walking distance of such a center—be it in Torrance or elsewhere—becomes too expensive for low density development such as single-family dwelling units. Most of the land alone dictates heavier development whether that be commercial multiple-family residential units.

In cases 736 and 738 which are scheduled for reconsideration by the City Council Tuesday night, owners of the land seek to develop apartment units on their property.

The HERALD believes a sincere effort should be made to seek a solution which would permit the development and would—at the same time—assure that the traffic originating there would not move through the existing residential area in great volume. Access to Hawthorne Avenue should be provided from that area; and the city, in cooperation with the school district, should determine and protect a route between the homes and the Meadow Park Elementary School.

With answers to these problems, the city should permit the proposed multiple-family developments.

Out of the Past

From the Pages of the HERALD

30 Years Ago

The proposed city charter was formally presented in its complete form to City Clerk A. H. Bartlett this afternoon by Judge C. T. Rippey, chairman of the board of 15 freeholders who drafted the document. Electors of Torrance will vote on its adoption at the general election April 11, 1932.

It's time for the annual Christmas tree harvest in the forests of California. With

cutting already underway, there will be 750,000 transported to markets to provide the festive fun for the people of the state. According to W. B. Rider, deputy state forester, the cutting of the trees in no way depletes the California woodlands; in fact, they are improved by the pruning. A cigarette carelessly tossed in the summer can start fires that can destroy far more trees than are used for the Christmas season.

A resolution asking for the

support of the post office department in requesting an increase in the appropriation for a new Federal building here, from \$84,000 to \$125,000, was passed by Torrance Chamber board members Monday. An appropriation of \$84,000 has already been approved but is considered inadequate by Postmaster Alfred Gourdier and others.

The million-dollar rain Tuesday gave the city 1.07 inches of welcome wetness, according to reports from the high school weather watchers. Rainfall to date this season totals 2.85 inches. Last year (1930) at this date only 1.66 inches had been recorded.

20 Years Ago

The little city of Torrance was reeling with the shock of the Pearl Harbor attack, back in 1941, and in communion with others in the Los Angeles area was blacking out in fear of air or submarine attacks. The city's new air raid warning system was scheduled for a tryout along with exercises in turning off gas valves in homes.

The front page of the HERALD of Dec. 11, 1941, was filled with stories of the community's preparations for supporting President Roosevelt's formal declaration of war.

Among the first organized group to condemn the attack was the local group of the Japanese American Citizens' League.

The war brought an end to Christmas lighting plans for homes and business district, although the community planned to continue afternoon observances of the season, notably carol singing in El Prado Park.

Can't Shake Off His Nuclear Cloud



Sacramento Report

Our Schools and Songs Of the Christmas Season

By CHARLES E. CHAPEL
Assemblyman, 46th District

The following letter was received from highly respected citizens of the city of Torrance. They have given me permission to quote their letter and name in full.

Many other people have written to me on the same subject. After you have read the letter set forth below, please write to me at Post Office Box 327, Redondo Beach, Calif., and express your own ideas on the subject, either in agreement or disagreement. Here is the letter:

"Dear Mr. Chapel:

"In our local newspapers this morning there was an

article which stated a few of our public schools are banning all religious carols and nativity scenes from their Christmas observances this year.

"This upset my wife and I very deeply, for we have a son, though not of school age as yet, who we hate to have miss the excitement and experiences throughout his schooling, of the preparation and production of Christmas plays and the enjoyment of singing Christmas carols. This is to us as much a part of American way of life as is music, dancing, movies, hamburgers, Coca Cola, or any of a thousand items.

"Mr. Chapel we would like to know why this is happening in our State's school system, and how far can it go, and what we can do to help stop it?

"We have all our faith in you as an Assemblyman of California and primarily as an American, to do what is right for our State and Country.

"Sincerely,
"Mr. and Mrs. John McCandlish
"5227 Lee St.,

The Constitution of the United States of America and the Constitution of the State of California include provisions for the separation of church and state. As a member of the armed forces of the United States, I repeatedly took the oath to support, uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America.

As a member of the Assembly, California State Legislature, I have taken an oath orally, and then signed my name to the same oath in printing and writing, at the beginning of each two-year term, which means that I have taken the oath six times, because I am now completing my sixth, two-year term.

This oath is a very long and complicated one, but among other things it requires us to support not only the Constitution of the State of California but also the Constitution of the United States of America.

Having taken all these oaths, orally and in writing, for many years, I am under oath to support all provisions of both Constitutions, including the principle of separation of church and state.

In addition, these constitutions which I have taken solemn oath to support on many occasions, grant each man, woman and child the right to worship God in his own manner. Legally and morally, I must represent even atheists and agnostics, even though I personally dis-

agree with them in the realm of theology.

From "The Book of Common Prayer" of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States of America, I quote from the chapter titled "Prayers and Thanksgiving." "For a State Legislature—
"O God, the fountain of wisdom, whose statutes are good and gracious and whose law is truth; we beseech thee to guide and bless the Legislature of this State, that it may ordain for our governance only such things as please thee, to the glory of thy Name and the welfare of the people; through Jesus Christ, thy Son, our Lord. Amen."

Also from the same chapter I quote another prayer: "For the Unity of God's People—

"O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our only Savior, the Prince of Peace; Give up grace seriously to lay to heart the great dangers we are in by our unhappy divisions. Take away all hatred and prejudice, and whatsoever else may hinder us from godly union and concord: that there is but one Body and one Spirit, and one hope of our calling, one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, one God and Father of us all, so we may be of all one heart, and of one soul, united in one holy bond of truth and peace, of faith and charity, and may with one mind and one mouth, glorify Thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1-Every	7-Every	13-Every	19-Every
2-Mature	8-Mature	14-Every	20-Every
3-Explosive	9-Explosive	15-Every	21-Every
4-Mixture	10-Mixture	16-Every	22-Every
5-Moving part	11-Moving part	17-Every	23-Every
6-Short	12-Short	18-Every	24-Every
7-Short	13-Short	19-Every	25-Every
8-Short	14-Short	20-Every	26-Every
9-Short	15-Short	21-Every	27-Every
10-Short	16-Short	22-Every	28-Every
11-Short	17-Short	23-Every	29-Every
12-Short	18-Short	24-Every	30-Every
13-Short	19-Short	25-Every	
14-Short	20-Short	26-Every	
15-Short	21-Short	27-Every	
16-Short	22-Short	28-Every	
17-Short	23-Short	29-Every	
18-Short	24-Short	30-Every	
19-Short	25-Short		
20-Short	26-Short		
21-Short	27-Short		
22-Short	28-Short		
23-Short	29-Short		
24-Short	30-Short		

A Bookman's Notebook

Muckrakers as Fearless Spectators on the Grid

William Hogan

Exhibits from a journalistic museum are paraded in an anthology compiled by Arthur and Lila Weinberg titled "The Muckrakers" (Simon & Schuster; \$7.50).

This is an outsize and for the most part a ringing series of pieces by America's writers for reform—among them Ida Tarbell, Lincoln Steffens, Samuel Hopkins Adams, Edwin Markham.

Their attacks on the nation's malaise of the time drove Americans toward a Progressive Movement. Their findings and eloquence (often shrill) were unleashed in such effective magazines of the age as Collier's, McClure's, Everybody's — and, in the case of Upton Sinclair, a novel of the meat-packing industry, "The Jungle."

It was Theodore Roosevelt who gave the Muckraking Movement its name when he attacked some of these allegedly biased charges of corruption in business and politics. But the writers went on, attacking robber barons, political bosses and other institutions, including the chicanery (if not mass poisonings) of patent medicine kings.

Fearless spectators all, the muckrakers took on just about anything—railroads to the churches. Their tactics may have been sensational. But as V. S. Parrington, the social critic, is quoted here: "It was a brisk housecleaning that searched out old cobwebs and distributed the dust that lay thick on the antiquated furniture."

Some of this journalism seems a little dusty today. Yet look at Ray Stannard Baker's story of Atlanta's racial policies (1906) or George K. Turner's story of great immoralities, "The City of Chicago" (1907). Some of this could pass as today's reportage at large.

It was all dazzling journalism in its time and, dusted off, it appears again as antic and vivid social history. The editors emphasize the effect of muckraking by quoting Finley Peter Dunne's classic Irish saloonkeeper Mr. Dooley: "It looks no, said Mr. Hennessy, 'as though the country was goin' to th' divvle.' Put down that magazine, Hinnissy!"

An import from England: "Between the Wars" (Houghton; \$6.95) is a scrapbook arranged by James Laver, the social historian, whose prev-

ious "Victorian Vista" and "Edwardian Promenade" found an intimate but appreciative audience on this side of the Atlantic.

In this, Laver looks back on British life and customs from the London victory celebrations of 1918 to Neville Chamberlain's "peace in our time" speech on his return from Munich. There are innumerable cultural, political, sports, theatrical and other vignettes in between.

Although presented mainly in the words of others (Wyndham Lewis, Robert Graves, Stephen Spender, Winston Churchill and the

like), Laver's book suggests the atmosphere of Frederick Lewis Allen's notable and very American "Only Yesterday."

In 1941 Graham Greene kept a journal of a wartime convoy to West Africa which became a prelude to his writing "The Heart of the Matter." In 1959, the author visited the Congo, which furnished the raw material for "A Burnt Out Case." These two journals plus notes will appear in Greene's "In Search of a Character," which Viking will publish in January. It presents a view of the fiction writer's craft.

Around the World With



"... I understand there are several kinds of 'Taverns' in England. What are they like?"

The bar system in England is so complicated that I gave up trying to work it out. There are pubs. The pubs include "private bars" sometimes, "public bars" (hence the word "pub") and "saloon bars." The beer is drawn from the same tap. But sometimes the prices are different according to where you sit.

As near as I can figure it out, you can take a lady into the saloon bar and sit down. In the private bar you usually stand up but possibly can sit on a stool. In the public bar, you stand up and play darts although some now have tables and chairs.

Beer is ordered by the pint or half pint. And if you order beer, you don't get what you think of as beer. If you want beer you order bitter. Or you might try "arf and arf."

The large pubs are good for lunch. Ask at your hotel for the name of your friendly neighborhood pub. They'll give you a good one.

"We plan to spend two weeks in Spain... what do you suggest we buy there for presents?" All Spain sells wonderful Spanish dolls. Usually in the dress of Andalusia. With the sweeping skirt and high comb. They come from a few inches to two feet. And run from 50 cents to \$10 according to dress. You can get a bullfighter with metallic jacket and cape with an extra costume for around \$12.

All over Spain you find Toledo work. Dipped in gold and engraved. The engraving turns black. They make anything from Moorish scimitars to the same thing in miniature for letter openers. And thimbles, cigarette cases, bracelets, scissors, jewel boxes.

"Does Alaska have any organized sight-seeing?" Grey Lines has three-hour bus tours out of Anchorage and Fairbanks. Bush pilots can take you to the remote hunting and fishing spots. Stern-wheeler river boats ply all the navigable water between cities, towns and Indian villages. Or you can take a "skin" boat ride in a walrus-hide kayak. They are powered with an outboard motor these days.

"Is it safe to drink the water in European countries?"

For a general rule, don't drink tap water in Latin countries. In any case, always ask. Water is okay in Switzerland, Germany, Scandinavia, England. Doubtful in all Latin America, Spain, Italy and the Far East.

Stan Delaplane finds it impossible to answer all of his travel mail.

For his intimate tips on Japan, Italy, England, France, Russia, Hawaii, Mexico, Ireland, and Spain (10 cents each), send coins and stamped, self-addressed, large envelope to Stan Delaplane, Torrance Herald, Post Office Box RR, Torrance, Calif.

LIFE'S LIKE THAT By FRED NEHER



"Drink your milk... you're too young to worry about your figure!"



TEN YEARS AGO... Dr. Howard A. Wood (right) is congratulated after being installed as Lieutenant governor of District 19 for Kiwanis International. Homer W. Bale of Gardena, who relinquished the post to Dr. Wood, offers him best wishes during installation ceremony held at El Camino College early in December 1951. (Herald Photo)