

# Torrance Herald

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## Not Vox Populi

When Governor Brown was in Washington recently he assured capitol newsmen that "we in California" think the Kennedy administration plan for a vast network of federal power lines that would eventually take over control of the production and transmission of electrical power, "is fine."

Now whether our amiable governor was usurping the editorial "we" or using the word in the royal prerogative, we (editorial) can't be sure. We are certain he wasn't speaking as the vox populi.

Long before federal government got around to putting ideological ideas for a public power network on paper, California's private utilities were working out plans for a pooling of their production and transmission facilities so that all parts of the state would always have adequate power supplies, despite disaster or excessive temporary need; and have it at cheaper rates, with better service, under better management than government could ever provide. This plan was completed and announced on December 15, before the Department of Interior revealed its proposal for a West Coast inter-tie of utility facilities under its aegis.

Public power has long been a pet goal of socialism. In his 1960 campaign President Kennedy warned that Russia would soon surpass us in production and distribution of electrical power. The facts, of course, don't support him and never did. In the 40 years since Lenin first promulgated a public power program for Russia, that nation has built its transmission line mileage up to only 62,000 miles. We have 304,000. The Soviet production is 3,000 kilowatts per capita. Ours is 7,500. In Russia, the annual use per customer is 500 kilowatt hours. In the United States it is 3,927.

It looks very much as if what Pat Brown, Jack Kennedy, Stew Udall et al are trying to get ahead of is private initiative, not Russia.

## The Pig in the Parlor

There is an old story about the French peasant family which complained rather bitterly to the parish priest about their poverty... especially the fact that all seven of them had to live in a one-room cottage. To teach them gratitude for what they had, the priest put them on a three-week regimen of space sharing. For the first week they were to bring the chickens in to live with them. The second week they had to add the cow. The third week the pig.

By the end of the three weeks the family was frantic; so the priest absolved them of any further coexistence with the livestock. Out went the chickens. Out went the cow. Out went the pig. What joy, what luxury, what spaciousness!

We were reminded of this old tale by a remark made by Robert Gros, vice president of the Pacific Gas & Electric Co., in a San Francisco report to the Commonwealth Club of California on his visit to Premier Khrushchev's reception in Moscow, celebrating the 44th anniversary of the communist revolution. Said Mr. Gros:

"It is good tonic for an American to go behind the Iron Curtain: you feel such a sense of relief when you get out and away from the mediocrity, the bureaucracy and frustration — the permeating smell of a communist country. You revive your faith in our much maligned USA—our way of life, the incentive system we call private enterprise."

We can think of a number of rather highly placed individuals who might benefit by having a pig in their parlor, so to speak.

## Morning Report:

The president has urged a new department of Urban Affairs and Housing. All of us city-dwellers will, of course, approve. Those farmers have had it their own way too long with a Department of Agriculture.

First off, we want a building—at least as large as the Department of Agriculture has. And, if possible, several stories higher.

We also want annual payments, just like the farmers get for not planting wheat. One payment for not going to work during the morning rush hour. And another one for leaving the office early and thus easing the heavy traffic in the evening.

Abe Mellinkoff

ROYCE BRIER

## Look at Berlin's Wall Refutes 'Dozer Theory'

The following sentence, referring to the Wall in Berlin, is quoted in a political column: "A dozen bulldozers on Aug. 13 would have been worth 10,000 tanks two or five years hence."

This was the anonymous view of someone who feels President Kennedy is big on talk and small on decision. The sentence noted happens to touch on a subject frequently under belligerent discussion in America recently.

But it also happens to be a fragment of oversimplification of a problem faced by the West in the Berlin barricade crisis.

The theory is that had the Americans simply bulldozed the Wall as fast as the East Germans erected it, we would have called their bluff, obviating all the trouble and danger at the Wall since. Let us examine it.

Clearly the wall was built

on Soviet order. It was built to halt the alarming and increasing flow of East Germans to West Berlin.

But it was built legally insofar as there is legality in a closed society today, and it was built a few feet inside East German territory.

This territory is legally administered by the Russians under the Four Power agreement, to which we are signatories. Under this agreement we have legal access to all four sectors, but the Germans do not.

Unfortunately, had we invaded the territory with bulldozers, we would have violated the very agreement we contend the Russians violate.

Since Premier Khrushchev intensified this dispute two years ago, we have said, and still say, we have a right in West Berlin. This right rests

## Throw Out the Life Buoy!



THIS WILD WEST by Lucius Beebe

## God's Noblest Creation: The Fantastically Rich

It is not the intention of this wholesome department whose energies are usually and resolutely devoted to humanitarian good cheer and moral uplift to usurp the adjacent domain of beautiful letters presided over by my learned confrere William Hogan. Books belong in the book section or, to the mind of a determined laborer in the word foundry like myself, in the hands of cash customers emerging from book shops.

There have, nevertheless, come to my desk in the last couple of weeks for review, jacket endorsement or other promotional purposes in the vineyard of belles lettres; three or four books of historical and biographic nature that make such good reading and whose editorial stances may yet be a trend that I'd like to pass them along to seekers of good reading in dismal times.

Time was when the historian who didn't take a swipe at what used to be known as the robber barons of the American record or the well-to-do dynasties of Europe would have his union card taken up and his subscription to The Saturday Review of Literature canceled. Bookshelves crawled with authors deploring the bad old days when it was possible for a man to look forward to making his way in the world and denouncing the Morgans, Vanderbilts, Whitneys, Mellons, Hills, Belmonts, Astors, Huntingtons, Crockers, and

Stotesburys who managed to turn a dime.

To cite just a few of the defamations of wealth in recent years one might name Claude Bowers' "The Tragic Era," Frederick Lewis Allen's "Lords of Creation," Meade Minnigerode's "Certain Rich Men," and Don Seitz's "The Dreadful Decade."

For years the rich got a lousy press. Not that it mattered, for money and what it represents continued to be the American dream.

Now there come along four books I would like to place in evidence which view a wide variety of robber barons in a different light, not necessarily one of sanctified holiness, but as far and away the most interesting of the species passing as homo sapiens. They are Richard O'Connor's "Gould's Millions," John Tebbel's "The Inheritors," "The Vanderbilts & Their Fortunes," by Edwin P. Hoyt, and a stunning survey of the richest, longest-lived and most powerful dynasty of them all, Frederic Morton's "The Rothschilds."

All of them, in their various fashions, are studies of money, its acquisition, possession, administration and ultimate dissipation. Their approach, generally speaking, is that practically invented by Stewart Holbrook in "The Age of the Moguls," which studies wealth with clinical delight in its aspects of amusing magnificence much as a connoisseur takes pleasure in fine art or numismatics or the breeding of roses.

Here is an analysis of the human urge to acquire property, often in quite immoderate quantities, that is a theme a thousand times more fascinating than the trashy fabric of romance or the stuff of sex, which is strictly for the paperback

mentality. One adventure of that epic American "Get-Rich-Quick Wallingford" of fragrant memory in the old Saturday Evening Post is worth a thousand mooning Romeos.

In the case of most of the great American fortunes, they were acquired by men of magnificent drive and ambition and often enough scoundrelly morals, who found themselves at something of a loss with what to do with their loot once they had it.

A few, like August Belmont, J. P. Morgan St., William C. Whitney, and Henry C. Frick, were great magnificoes in their own right who knew what money was for and purchased it in great, gorgeous, and often overwhelming quantities. Most of their contemporaries, who had looted everything in sight, were in turn looted by their idiot wives, cretin families, and bird-brain descendants. In time the Government also got in on the act.

The Rothschilds job, a truly dazzling tour de force, parts of which appeared in Holiday, is the lovely saga of a family of resolute Jews from the Frankfurt ghetto who, in three generations, took over the finances of all Europe with a dexterity that makes for breathless reading.

It is, of course, the story of Real Money in terms to make the robber barons of the American railroads and New York Stock Exchange look like panhandlers. The Rothschilds made no fools of themselves with women; they married other Rothschilds and there were no divorces. The legend of their magnificence, their estates, yachts, palaces, art collections, and private trains would have amused even a Vanderbilt.



## AFTER HOURS By John Morley

## Case of the Vanishing Birthright Perils U. S.

SEATTLE — What do we mean by "birthright"? The dictionary says: "a right acquired by birth... including the inheritance of goods, property, chattels."

"Birthright" is also something which belongs to a person by virtue of his having been born. His Creator endowed him with one life... and with the right to mix that life with all the other existing lives that came before him and those that will come after him.

This means he has the right to live or exist... otherwise, whoever created him would not have done so. If this be true, he also has the right to live as he chooses, subject to certain limitations to insure the rights of others.

So, it is not just a matter of a right to live as one chooses, but the right of all others to live as they also choose. This means being a tree-man... with the individual right to liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

In the United States... every American has this right from his Creator and from his Constitution. The pursuit of happiness means the individual's idea of pursuit of happiness... not somebody else's. Certainly not the idea which is forced upon him by those referred to these days as "social planners."

Just as sure as night follows day, our American birthright is being buried deeper and deeper away from us. The burial grave was started some 30 years ago by an older model of the New Frontier.

It was started by telling the worker he had a "birthright" to higher and higher wages without bothering to produce more... they told the farmer of a "birthright" to government subsidies and payments without working or producing a thing... and by and by arranged for some chosen people, lucky enough to live near the right place, a "birthright" to cheap government supplied electric power at the expense of millions of others.

This is the incredibly false, immoral, un-American theory they put over on a gullible public. The socialist-bureaucrats know in their restricted conscience that under the "American birthright" no one has the "right" to reduce by pressure, by government edict or by any kind of compulsion, the possessions of any other American in order to increase or equalize his own. To do it under the "American birthright" is highway robbery.

The only true birthright under the U.S. Constitution is... the free opportunity to achieve for yourself... not to wangle advantages at the expense of other Americans.

## Quote

"I've got enough on Paul Van Vickle to blackmail him down to his shoe-tops, concerning a certain fishin' trip a few weeks ago, but the party I had in mind telling it to, and me, aren't on speaking terms right now, so Paul's temporarily safe." — Charlie Crawford, Lawrenceburg (Tenn.) Democrat-Union.

"The tongue weighs practically nothing. Yet it's surprising how few people are able to hold it." — H. W. Brueckel, Waucoma (Idaho) Jericho Community Echo.

"Be courteous — treat the other fellow as though he is as important as he thinks he is." — Mrs. Gary Hott, Pickens (S. C.) Sentinel.

"Learn how a candidate for the U.S. Congress stands on paternalistic government and vote accordingly." — Lee R. Fleming, Zion-Benton (Ill.) News.

American pilot flies 4,070 miles an hour. Of course, it still takes an hour to get to the airport. — Ed Hill, Rome (Italy) Daily American.

"Funny thing about trouble. It always starts out being fun." — E. M. Remsburg, Vista (Calif.) Press.

cans. Wherever this has happened in the world... that part of the world has decayed and died. When the state is being aggrandized by force... the individual is being destroyed by force.

We have been brainwashed by socialist-bureaucrats to such phony birthrights as... a government-financed home... government-financed security... government-financed medical care... unemployment insurance... and the right of another man to work his heart out, to gamble his savings in a business, and then to be taxed up to over 90 per cent so many loafers can get a free ride.

With much of the world going socialist... we don't seem to have the courage to stop it here and expose its falsehood. We applaud anti-communist rallies and yet allow our own government to perlead us closer and closer to

communism. You cannot outperform Khrushchev by adopting more and more of his methods.

Our American birthright grew out of a revolution against a British bureaucratic super state imposing a managed economy upon our forefathers. Managed economies were repressive then and they are repressive today.

America moved ahead by renouncing managed economies, which are as old as the hills and have destroyed nations as old as the hills. Now, after a hundred years of unprecedented American growth we see the spectacle of moving backwards.

The people can reverse the road to socialism by pondering this question... what doth it profit a man if he gained a free ride at the expense of his neighbor, if in the process he lost his own American birthright... perverted his own self-respect?

## Hoppe in Wonderland The Child's Role In Civil Defense

Art Hoppe

Our Federal Free Enterprise and Do-It-Yourself Fallout Shelter Program is going great guns. They've printed up 60 million more brochures on how to stand on your own two feet when the bomb goes off. Which sounds very rewarding.

Only in their many brochures issued so far they haven't given enough attention to the younger generation. So, at the suggestion of a nice but worried lady I know, I've been working on a Civil Defense pamphlet called: "A Handbook for Parents." Or: "A Guide to the Development of Wholesome Attitudes in Children Toward Life Underground." The text follows:

Children will naturally be fearful during a nuclear attack and the farsighted parent can do much to allay such fears in advance by properly developing wholesome attitudes in the child.

Once the family fallout shelter is completed, thought should be given to making it a "fun" place, one the child will enjoy. A cheery wallpaper with nursery rhyme characters, for example, would be of help. (Send for OCDM Handbook 1432-A-63, "Decorating the Family Shelter.")

In order to grow accustomed to life underground, the child should make visits of increasing length to the shelter. These should, of course, be happy occasions. Good examples of events that might be held in the shelter during this adjustment period are birthday parties, Thanksgiving dinners and Christmas festivities. This builds a sense of security.

Once the child has come to think of the shelter as a warm and friendly place, the parent should prepare him for the Take Cover warning. One good method is to wake the child at night frequently and time how long it takes him to reach the shelter. By keeping a monthly chart of his progress and awarding gold stars, this can be made a cheerful competition.

Keeping the child occupied during the several weeks which must be spent in the shelter until radioactivity diminishes poses a problem. Stockpiling simple children's games which can be played in the dark is recommended. Singing may prove helpful, although the gloomier hymns should be rejected in favor of encouraging songs, such as "America the Beautiful."

By common-sense preparation such as this, the parent can do much to insure the child will survive with a normal, healthy outlook. The question of the child's development thereafter will be treated in a pamphlet now under preparation (OCDM 1796-B-32) entitled: "A Guide to the Use of Children in Family Defense and Food Hunting Following a Thermonuclear War."

LIFE'S LIKE THAT By FRED NEHER



"You lose... get up and make the breakfast!"