

Torrance Herald

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First Freeway Link

Traffic began flowing over the area's first completed section of the San Diego Freeway Thursday, a 1.3-mile segment from Alameda Street to the Long Beach Freeway.

While of slight help to road-weary motorists of the area by itself, its official dedication Monday and opening Thursday is a welcome indication that something is happening atop that long-pile of dirt that has been building up over the past year.

State officials report that other segments of the freeway will be opened throughout the Torrance-Southwest area in the coming months, and that within another year, motorists should be able to travel its length from Orange County to the San Fernando Valley.

Long before then, the final link in the Harbor Freeway should be opened, bringing this Southwest county area within short minutes of other areas of the county—and more importantly, opening up this area to the rest of the county.

With the completion of the two area freeways, this area's greatest immediate need will continue to be an east-west artery. Completion of the proposed Artesia Freeway east from Normandie Avenue in the next few years would help move major traffic flows, but a need still exists for completion of the Del Amo Boulevard project—probably one of the most talked of and least acted on undertakings of the day.

Also needed in the very near future—in fact now—will be the improvement of Carson Street between Alameda Street in the Dominguez area to Flower Avenue in Torrance.

These are major projects and require the cooperation of the Board of Supervisors, Los Angeles and Torrance City Councils, and probably the State Division of Highways.

Traffic will continue to approach the point of strangulation, however, until something is done with these arteries.

Morning Report:

If all it takes to get to the moon is money, I'm sure we are going to make it. The total cost is now estimated at \$50 billion. For this year the Administration wants to spend about \$5 billion.

At \$5 billion, space would be the fifth most expensive item in the Federal budget. Only defense, veterans, agriculture, and interest on the debt would be bigger.

I can't quarrel with the cost. But I only hope, however, we keep the earth attractive enough that once we get people on the moon they will want to come back.

Abe Mellinkoff

Out of the Past

From the Pages of the HERALD

40 Years Ago

The comparatively few display ads carried in The HERALD of 40 years ago revealed some interesting prices reflecting the economics of the era. Rahman and Dial announced they had just secured the agency for Chevrolet and could deliver a new car in Torrance for \$675. The local Ford agency listed prices for their line starting at \$285 for the chassis only, FOB Detroit. Ladies union suits were offered for 68 cents by James M. Frame in Gardena. Torrance Furniture Co. had 40-pound mattresses for \$5.75. Southern California Edison company stock was available at \$100 on a time payment plan of \$5 down and \$5 per month. It was yielding 8 per cent at the time.

A basketball game between Torrance and Redondo Beach was an extra attraction for an American Legion dance. The Ladies Aid Society of the First Methodist church gave a miniature apron and pot luck dinner in the sales office of the Dominguez Land Co.

30 Years Ago

The Torrance Woman's Club will play host to the largest gathering ever assembled in the city when it entertains the President's Council Federation of the Los Angeles District, which includes clubs of various counties of Southern California. The sessions will be held in the high school auditorium.

The Chamber of Commerce in Torrance will be operated

on a 5-cent tax basis beginning Feb. 1, instead of spending the customary 10 cents per \$100 valuation, according to action taken at a special meeting of the board of directors Friday. This will reduce the Chamber's budget to \$1,000 a month and the secretary will be placed on a half-time employment schedule.

Protests against the improvement of Lomita Boulevard (formerly known as Western Street) which were heard in Los Angeles Monday resulted in action by the Board of Supervisors to postpone all further proceedings for a period of one year. The action will delay the completion of what was to be the south portion of the Sepulveda freeway from San Fernando Valley to Long Beach.

20 Years Ago

The Torrance Municipal bus system is very much "in the red," the net loss for the past eight months amounting \$5,960 or \$745 per month. Those figures do not include depreciation which, if included, would bring the loss to \$1,000 per month. The loss was given in a report by City Clerk A. H. Bartlett.

All German, Italian, and Japanese non-citizens of California are required to file applications for certificates of identification between Feb. 2 and Feb. 7. The new order has been issued by the Department of Justice following President Franklin D. Roosevelt's declaration of war.

James Dorais

A Look at Radical Left Can Be Quite Rewarding

A major crime that the "radical right" stands accused of these days is voicing the belief that the nation is endangered not only by Communist pressures from without but also by Socialist pressures from within.

Recently, the Wall Street Journal reprinted a magazine article written for "Partisan Review" in 1947 by Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr., one of President Kennedy's closest advisors. It reads in part:

"If socialism (i.e., the ownership by the state of all significant means of production) is to preserve democracy, it must be brought about step by step in a way which will not disrupt the fabric of custom, law, and mutual confidence upon which personal rights depend.

"That is, the transition must be piecemeal; it must be parliamentary; it must re-

spect civil liberties and due process of law... There seems no inherent obstacle to the gradual advance of socialism in the United States through a series of New Deals.

"Government ownership and control can take many forms. The independent public corporation, in the manner of TVA, in one; state and municipal ownership; the techniques of the cooperatives can be expanded; even the resources of regulation have not been fully tapped...

"Socialism, then, appears quite practicable within this frame of reference, as a long-term proposition. Its gradual advance might well preserve order and law, keep enough internal checks and discontinuities to guarantee a measure of freedom, and evolve new and real forms for the expression of democracy. The active agents in effecting the transition will probably be, not the working class, but some combination of lawyers, business and labor managers, politicians and intellectuals, in the manner of the Labor government in Britain...

"In England the business classes had the aristocracy, and now the Socialists, to protect them...

"But the American business community continues to resist the radical democracy, like a drowning man thrashing out at his rescuer. In so doing, it may destroy the possibility of a peaceful transition to socialism."

If Presidential advisor Schlesinger's concluding sentence means anything, it appears to indicate that if

Americans who believe in the free enterprise system don't stop resisting the peaceful transition to socialism, they are going to get socialism rammed violently down their throats.

Unless Professor Schlesinger has radically altered his views—and there is no indication that he has—there would seem to be more danger at the moment from the "radical left" than the "radical right." Certainly the former are currently in positions of far greater influence.



"An old timer is a fellow who can remember when one woman thought the next one was lazy if she bought canned goods."

Law in Action

Active children sometimes get hurt at school, a risk every child and parent must take.

Schools do not guarantee their pupils' safety. A child hurt playing tag or hit by a bat, as a rule, can seldom hold the school to blame or collect damages.

But now and then a school may be negligent in lacking safeguards or proper supervision. It may have defective equipment or allow irresponsible students to mishandle

it. In such cases the school is liable, as it was, for example, where it allowed an incapable student to drive a sound truck, injuring other students.

As a rule such liability arises only in cases of negligence or lack of due care, for example, where the school people know of, and do nothing about defective and dangerous school property.

Some injuries take place because of the heedlessness of other students, say, in throwing rocks on the playground or "horsing around" in a machine shop. Here the school is not to blame for injuries unless it fails to supervise the students properly.

In one school, for example, students for years had played a game of "blackout": One boy takes a deep breath, holds it, and another squeezes him until he becomes unconscious. One such boy fell and struck his head on the sidewalk. The court held the school to blame and made it pay damages for not stopping the game. It had lacked proper supervision.

Again, a student who helps to bring about his own injuries by ignoring school rules, for example, cannot hold the school responsible. One such youngster climbed the school yard gate against the well-known school rule. It swung to and pinched him, injuring him badly. The school was not liable, since the child's own negligence contributed to his injuries.

Note: California lawyers offer this column so you may know about our laws.



McNaught Syndicate, Inc. REG-MANNING

A Bookman's Notebook

Eugene O'Neill's Early Years Subject of Book

William Hogan

A revival of interest in Sinclair Lewis occurred last fall in the wake of the Mark Schorer biography, the Barnaby Conrad novel "Dangerfield" and the reprinting of Lewis' works in several paperback editions.

This may be the year of Eugene O'Neill. For the brooding dramatist who won a Nobel Prize for Literature and three Pulitzer Prizes is the subject of two large-scale biographies, the first of which has just been introduced.

I wouldn't be surprised to see collections of O'Neill's plays dusted off, as a result, and reissued in low-priced editions. Some of the plays actually may be produced again. (I wonder how "The Emperor Jones" or "The Great God Brown" would stand up today? Or the long, shaggy "Strange Interlude," for that matter.)

"The Tempering of Eugene O'Neill," by Doris Alexander, a New York professor of English, is the first edition of a projected two-volume study. It takes O'Neill to 1920, the playwright's 32nd year. This absorbing, excellently documented book may be the opening gambit in a scholarly competition to cover, analyze and explain this morose and tormented man.

But Arthur and Barbara Gelb, in a full-scale biography "O'Neill," due in March from Harper and billed as "definitive," will be first in with the whole story. The second half of O'Neill's life according to Doris Alexander presumably is still in the works, and perhaps some years away from publication.

Doris Alexander has chosen to concentrate here on O'Neill's turbulent formative years. At 32 he was already recognized as perhaps "the great American playwright." That was the year he received his first Pulitzer Prize, for "Beyond the Horizon." Behind him were rebellion and the family forces that shaped him, chief among these being his actor-father James O'Neill, who rejected the boy and under whose shadow Eugene had grown up.

Behind O'Neill in 1920 were Princeton and the famous Harvard drama workshop of George Pierce Baker and O'Neill's first great successes with the Provincetown Players. The author covers these and O'Neill's brutal seagoing period; his alcoholic

binges; early marriages and Greenwich Village years. There was the touch of the poet and the genius in the young man, as Miss Alexander's book makes abundantly clear.

The author notes, as she pauses at 1920: "His great works were ahead of him, but most of the experience that had formed them were

already behind him. He had come of age as an artist." We shall be speaking again of this revealing study when the Gelb biography appears. The playwright's life itself was a continuing series of dramas, and only now is the whole tragedy being revealed.

The Tempering of Eugene O'Neill, By Doris Alexander. Harcourt, Brace & World, 280 pp., illus.; \$5.95

Around the World With



DELAPLANE

"... would you recommend for restaurants in Stockholm?"

This is one I've never covered. But Pan American Airways (on a basis of local manager's recommendations—usually very reliable) suggests:

"Superb eating in this city. Bacchi Wapen, first-class, French food; Den Gyldene Freden, typically Swedish; Berns has floor shows and serves French or Chinese food.

"Riche, Trianon, Djurgardsbrunns Wardshus (in summer season), Maritim, La Ronde, Strand's Roof Terrace, and Tre Remmare are all first-class. You can eat elegantly and superbly for \$10 a day in Stockholm. You can eat well for half that figure. You can eat adequately on \$2.50 a day."

"... any information on dining in Portugal?"

This one I do know. Tavares is the oldest top-restaurant in Lisbon. Fairly expensive by Portuguese standards, which means dinner will go for \$5 or \$6 with wines. (There is some kind of law that they HAVE to serve wines with meals. And Portuguese wines are excellent.) Cortador is colorful. They carve the steaks in front of you and give you a murderous Spanish knife to cut it. Gambrinus is old and colorful and good.

The best color spots are the fado places—restaurants where they sing the Portuguese fado. "April in Portugal" is a fado. Done with guitars and a mournful voice in tavern-type restaurants with smoked sausages hanging from the roof.

Machado's is best known to the tourist trade. Festa Brava is good.

The stuff to drink is a wine and fruit punch called Sangria. And if you like rich, garlicky soups, sopa alentejana is your dish.

"... your favorite eating places in Japan?"

For this one, you send 10 cents and a self-addressed envelope to the address below.

I'd be glad to tell you here. But you'd never find them.

Tokyo streets don't have names or numbers. Even the taxi drivers can't find places unless you direct them. My list (I carry it myself) has the type of food AND the phone number.

Show the phone number to the driver. Give him a 10-yen piece. Make a motion like telephoning. He calls the restaurant. They tell him how to get there.

"... a restaurant for one night in Paris?"

Maxim's and Tour d'Argent seem to be the most popular to say, "I was at such-and-such for dinner."

I like Ramponneau at 21 avenue Marceau. (M. Charles is the head man. Tell him I sent you.) If it's summer, Chez Eugene in the little square under the trees in Place du Tertre. Or Closerie des Lilas under the vines at 171 boulevard Montparnasse.

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 the Torrance HERALD, Box RR, Torrance, Calif.

LIFE'S LIKE THAT By FRED NEHER



TEN YEARS AGO... Ralph DePalma (center) chats with Barney Higgins (left), then president of the Lomita Optimist Club, and Dr. Allen Pyeati, president of the Torrance Optimist Club, after speaking to a joint meeting of the two organizations here in January 1952. DePalma, famous veteran of the motor racing world, spoke and showed films of the famous Indianapolis "500." (Herald Photo)