

Torrance Herald

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George Kurtz Endorsed

With barely a dozen days left before Torrance voters decide on the make-up of their new City Council, selection of those candidates on whom the city could safely rest the responsibilities of such an office becomes the most important task before us.

Two weeks ago, the HERALD recommended the reelection of Mayor Albert Isen, and last week this newspaper announced that it was convinced that Ken Miller was particularly qualified to assume the role of a City Councilman and recommended his election.

In its desire to see the best possible slate of candidates elected to the City Council, candidates who the HERALD believes would work for the best interests of all residents of Torrance, the HERALD today recommends the election of attorney George Kurtz, whose education and professional background make him eminently qualified for such selection.

Mr. Kurtz, who has assumed a leading role in the fight to retain the city's industrial land, has practiced law in Torrance since 1957 and has been active in professional associations and the Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

He is a veteran of World War II and was a high school English instructor before completing his studies for the bar.

Mr. Kurtz is civic-minded, is articulate on civic problems, and has a better than normal knowledge of many of the city's most pressing problems.

His election April 10, we believe, would greatly strengthen the City at a time when it will face some of its most trying problems.

We, therefore, recommend that Mr. Kurtz be elected to the Torrance City Council.

From the Mailbox

By Our Readers

Editor, Torrance Herald

When I picked up the paper a few weeks ago, I was reliving a day two years ago, Feb. 12, 1960.

This 1962 headline read, "SIX-YEAR-OLD BOY DROWNS IN SUMP."

The 1960 headline read, "TEN-YEAR-OLD BOY DROWNS IN SUMP."

These aren't the only ones, either. I have read about many more, and it is a pity. Will it ever stop? Will anyone do anything to stop this? You see, I'm not just blowing off steam—I know what the parents of these unfortunate children have gone through, and will go through.

I am the sister of Ronnie (Middlekauff), the little boy who drowned in 1960. The pain and sorrow come back every time the headlines reappear in our local newspapers.

We were so upset and heartbroken, and no one could give us an answer. Why? Why was the sump open to the kids? Sure, it had a fence around it—with openings big enough for a man to get through. How do they expect to keep these so-called "Tom Sawyers" out?

After he (Ronnie) had drowned, they placed a guard there and then brought in a pump. After! We took a camera and drove all around Torrance and took pictures of

sumps, open holes, ripped fences, things that really shocked us. There were so many sumps we went out the following day and took more.

Now if the city can't afford to pump out these death traps or get rid of them, what can be done?

Shall we wait until more children die? They have mothers crossing the kids at crosswalks, they have lifeguards at swimming pools and at the beach. Why can't they arrange to have someone—teenagers or grown-ups—watch these places?

If you stop to think, all of these drownings occur after a big rain—the end of January, in February and March.

Toward the end of March, the water starts to disappear. These are our most dangerous months. Take a walk and see if you have one of these death-traps near you. If so, do something about it.

No one else will. We tried and they keep sending you to someone else. No one wants to take the blame, and they won't do anything because none of them have ever lost one of theirs. Talk to your neighbors or PTA. This hasn't ended yet.

I will end this letter with one hope in mind—that your children and mine get a chance to grow up.

MRS. M. ANGONE
2510 Loftview Drive

ROYCE BRIER

Acceptance of Ain't Finalized by Webster

The great Dr. Johnson compiled his Dictionary with little help. When a lady asked him why he had defined "postern" as the flock of a horse, he said, "Pure ignorance, Madam."

He was also a little biased. He defined "oats" as a cereal eaten by horses and Scotsmen. But the dictionary was a whopping success for a century.

In 1828, when Noah Webster (whom schoolboys always confused with Daniel Webster) published his American Dictionary of the English Language, he was more impersonal. He was also a success. Upon his death in 1843, the Merriam-Webster, unabridged, has become standard for American scholars, and even courts have legalized its definitions.

Now Merriam has published a new international,

third edition, the first since 1934, and it is less impersonal than its predecessors.

It is radically changed, undating and approving many terms formerly branded "colloquial." For instance, "ain't" is now given qualified approval. The dictionary says it is used "orally by many cultivated speakers," which is not what your teacher said. Had they looked around the compilers might have noted that Lincoln, an English prose writer of some repute, often said "ain't" in conversation, and not only with his Illinois prairie cronies, either.

The word "finalize" is now approved, a Hollywood-Madison Avenue term for "completed." Because of such entries, the new Merriam has taken a clobbering from a considerable segment of scholars and purists.

But some scholars favor the

He Demands Equal Time!



James Dorais

Escaping Tax Bite Is Big Business for Some

In these days of exceedingly high corporation and personal income taxes, it is only natural to find tax experts and financial wizards devoting time and effort to devising legal ways to reduce or escape taxation.

It is only natural, too, that businesses which must pay their full share of taxes resent the tax-favored status of competing businesses that have found a way to short-change Uncle Sam.

Non-profit educational foundations properly enjoy tax-free status. When such a foundation invests funds in ownership of a spaghetti factory, the profits from the factory's operations are extremely helpful in defraying costs of the foundation's educational institutions. But it's not surprising that competing spaghetti factories, whose profits are fully subject to taxation, should protest.

A relatively new development in the tax-privilege field is the practice of establishing special districts, which have the right to issue tax-exempt bonds, to aid in the development of subdivisions.

Instead of borrowing money from a bank or other lending agency to put in water lines, roads, sewers, and other facilities, a land developer can hold an election in the area he owns, cast the lone ballot in favor of establishing a special taxing district, and raise the needed funds by selling municipal bonds, on which the interest is tax exempt.

A recent Wall Street Journal article tells of a new Municipal Improvement District in San Mateo County covering 2,806 acres of raw, presently uninhabited land. One firm owns all the land within the district, which it purchased at a cost of \$12.9 million. The district has authorized \$55.5 million in bonds, which will be used to develop the area into a community for 35,000 people.

The special district approach can be used for profit-making purposes other than land development.

A special district near Palm Springs, currently constructing a two-mile aerial cable

on a mountain side, together with restaurants on each end of the line, is financing the project with \$7.7 million of bonds. When completed the attraction doubtless will rival Disneyland; one difference, of course, being that Disneyland pays taxes.

The United States now relies on corporations to pay \$22 billion annually in income taxes. As taxpaying corporations are forced out of business by competing enterprises with special tax privileges, individuals eventually will have to make up the loss in terms of still higher individual income tax rates.

Hoppe in Wonderland

Tribal Customs On the Potomac

Art Hoppe

In my forthcoming book, "Interesting Native Customs In Washington and Other Savage Lands," I plan to devote a whole chapter to the primitive art of Shafting. In Washington this ritual has been cultivated to a high perfection.

Like most seemingly inexplicable native customs, Shafting actually has a solid sociological justification. As I have mentioned before, the tribes along the Potomac—such as State, Commerce, the Solons, the Kennedys—engage in never-ending warfare. And the young men of each tribe are psychologically prepared for leadership through Shafting.

This is a custom similar to trial by the Fire Dance for Young Ugalaps in North Borneo. But less spectacular.

Most of the inordinately complex Shafting rituals of the Washington tribes are fathomable only by trained anthropologists. Three of the simpler forms will be described here: Leaking, Copy-to-ing and Jack Hornering.

Leaking is practiced only at the highest levels in each tribe. Usually by sub-chiefs. When a mistake is made, Sub Chief X announces publicly that no mistake was made. Then he leaks the inside dope to the Washington columnists that it really was a horrendous mistake. And that Sub Chief Y made it.

When three or more columnists print the Leak, it becomes known as a Fact. And Sub Chief Y is stripped of one secretary, his leather couch, and four buttons from his telephone.

Leaking can, of course, boomerang. An example is a Mr. Chester Bowles, once an

honorary sub-chief of the numerous Kennedy Tribe. After what is called "The Cuba Fiasco," Mr. Bowles Leaked the word that it wasn't his fiasco. He was naturally driven out of the tribe and took refuge in State, where he was ostensibly given full honors. So that he now has an office with a view, two secretaries, and an 18-button phone. But no friends.

Copy-to-ing is practiced on lower levels. Should Al Z, a young native, make a minor mistake, he will immediately receive 14 memos from his fellow tribesmen. Such as: "Al, I was very sorry to see us get in that awful bind. But I did warn you at staff beforehand. How about talking it over. Perhaps something can be saved from the wreckage."

At the bottom of each memo is typed "Copy to (name of tribal chief)." While no Chief could possibly read the thousands of memo copies he receives each day, the psychological damage of "Copy to..." on Al Z can be imagined.

I stumbled on Jack Hornering by making friends with a young native barely of the Executive Dining Room level. I found him busily initiating each page of a six-page report to his Chief.

"It cuts the chances of being Jack Hornered," he explained. Jack Hornered? "Sure." There's some good ideas in this report and it's got to pass through several hands on its way to the top. Each hand's got a thumb. Remember? So he stuck in his thumb and pulled out a plum and said, What a good boy am I! You initial every page and maybe the plums are still yours when it gets to the top. Maybe."

AFTER HOURS By John Morley

Attack on Conservative Americans Called Hoax

KANSAS CITY—The well-organized thunder being unleashed by leftists against conservatives in both political parties... using as an excuse a few ill-advised statements of a few ultra-conservatives... is the latest political hoax intended to discredit the millions of traditional conservatives opposed to big government invading the traditional right of individuals to free choice.

The leftist-radical hoax is obvious. By concentrating their fire on Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society... who unfortunately went beyond the area of propriety in accusing high public officials of "communist connections or leanings"... they are attempting to discredit millions of patriotic Americans in both parties, who belong to conservative organizations like the JBS, Daughters of the American Revolution, or who support such patriotic Americans as Barry Goldwater, General Walker, Dan Smoot, and others.

They are attempting to vilify all conservatives, and stigmatize the whole conservative cause on the flimsy assumption that Mr. Welch's statements against Presidents Eisenhower, Truman, former Secretary Dulles and others, represent the conservative American view.

We have not heard other members of the conservative JBS agree with Mr. Welch—and since all of the accused officials are out of office, it's rather late to revive the skeletons.

This is not to condone Mr. Welch's ill-advised and unfortunate statements or to approve all that other ultra-conservatives believe—but to defend their right to say what they think, and, more important, to better define the conservative and his true position in this ideological war waged by U.S. socialists, radicals, and the like.

Millions of ultra-conservatives do not impugn the loyalty of any president... or the sincerity of conviction of any Supreme Court justice. Even though they may believe that the integration decision and the method of enforcement was a improperly handled, this does not make Chief Justice Warren an associate of Khrushchev.

The true conservative is fighting for a basic fundamental in all government programs—the preservation of individual initiative as against the unlimited power of big government leading us on the road to socialism.

The leftists accuse the conservatives of fantasies of conspiracy and treason by high public officials—which is a hoax and a screen to hide their real objectives.

What concerns the conservatives is the political ignorance, bad advice, naivete toward the communist conspiracy, which allowed the Alger Hiss and the Harry Dexter Waites to infiltrate the most vulnerable government channels... and wrought serious danger to the security of the nation.

Millions of conservatives may not buy all the cloth woven by Senator McCarthy, Robert Welch, Barry Goldwater, General Walker, or Dan Smoot, but some of their targets—on the public record—were fairly chargeable with acts of disloyalty. The millions of intelligent conservatives do not advocate ignoring the indigent and needy from public aid, but oppose wholesale socialist medical schemes that include those who don't want them and who prefer to buy their own insurance and work out their own medical programs as freedom of choice dictates.

The conservatives do not advocate the abolishment of all income tax as a source of government revenue, but object to the graduating method to 90 per cent rate as unfair and inequitable... and the double tax on dividends as self-defeating and discriminatory. A conservative at the end of World War II supported foreign aid to rehabilitate the war-torn soil to our allies... but after 17 years and \$100

billion of such aid, he believes it time that "charity" again return home. With a \$300 billion public debt... and a \$9 billion interest rate annually on that debt, it is not extremism to want to call a halt. He believes that foreign rich landowners should be forced to bail out their own countries, instead of the U.S. taxpayers.

Conservatives are not sold on the imposing tactics of the U.N... when 84 of 104 of its members refuse to support U.N.-voted programs... and the U.S. liberals' advocacy of the U.S. subscribing to 50 per cent of the proposed U.N. bond issue of \$200 million. The conservative is opposed

to the policy of the welfare state which compensates an unemployed worker with as much net take-home pay as he would earn if he were working.

It is the extreme leftists who declared war on traditional American liberalism and aroused millions of Americans to fight for states' rights, minimum federal intrusion... and individual initiative and free choice.

It is the leftists who are unleashing the orchestrated thunder on the questionable symbols of a few extreme conservatives in an effort to discredit the whole genuine conservative cause rising to defend the American birthright of individual freedom.

Around the World With



"We will make our first trip to Europe in April (by air and going first to London). We have no idea of customs, of flying long distances, landing, etc... We are going tourist."

I just made this trip. Here is how it works: You should, if you can do so, check your baggage straight through from hometown to London. It was snowing when I went through New York and the terminal change is a problem just with hand luggage.

I flew TWA from San Francisco. Excellent. They fly the Atlantic. They do check your baggage straight through. (This is one of the few airlines who still serve a luncheon cocktail inside the U.S.—free in first-class, one dollar in tourist.)

If you can bump your time up to March and not come back until October, you fly off-season family rates: \$150 less round-trip for wives and children flying with the full-price breadwinner. It's worth considering.

I would carry a sweater and slippers. You nap better if you get out of the going-away clothes. Planes are darkened at night. A small flashlight helps you down the aisle without waking up your neighbors.

It is customary on airlines to ask the steward (TWA has them transatlantic) or hostess for anything you want. Punch the call button. There is no tipping on airplanes.

Ground baggage carried by redcaps costs a standard fee—25 cents per bag most places, 35 cents in New York.

If you have to change terminals at Idlewild, N. Y., there is a bus that runs every 10 minutes or so. Don't bother trying to get a cab. They HAVE to take you. But they hate you.

If you have checked in on a through line (such as TWA), you don't have to check in again in New York.

Excellent hot meals are served free. Flying West to East will confuse your stomach. (I flew from San Francisco at 10 in the morning. Arrived in London at 11 that night, but 7 a.m. London time. The late-late breakfast.)

Probably won't happen to you, but for the first time in many flights, my baggage was left behind. (Snow delayed my first plane and there wasn't enough time to make the transfer.)

I told the TWA station agent in London. He sent a wire to New York. It came over on the next plane. They delivered it to my hotel.

This is standard airline practice. If, for weather reasons, you don't go out on your flight, the airline puts you in a hotel. They pay your expenses until they get you out.

Landing in London: You don't have to go through Customs and papers alone. The airline has a ground hostess standing by you throughout. They take care of everything. European Customs are not difficult.

You should have a FIRM reservation at a hotel before you leave the States. But, if you haven't, the airline station agent will telephone until he finds one for you.

A porter will carry your bags to taxi or London bus. Tipping is a shilling (14 cents) a bag at airports or hotels. Figure a shilling as we would a quarter.

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.

Morning Report:

Premier Khrushchev won the recent election in Russia. But that's not very surprising, as nobody was running against him. The amazing thing is that only 70,000 eligible voters in the whole country failed to vote.

This is not so much a demonstration of widespread interest in the electoral process. But, if you believe the figures, it shows an astounding level of physical fitness.

I'd have thought that out of 140 million voters, more than that on election day would have broken leg, gency operations, violent head colds, or were just too tired to dig away the snow to get outside to the polls.

Abe Mellin