

# Century-Old Words Still Have Meaning

By CHARLES E. CHAPEL  
 Assemblyman, 46th District  
 One hundred years ago, in 1862, the San Francisco Chronicle, published the following editorial which is interesting even today:  
 "At Meridian tomorrow commences the thirteenth annual session of the Legislature of California, and the tax-ridden citizens of our State insist that it be a short session. Prudence has never yet characterized our law givers. They waste vast amounts of time and money authorizing exorbitant salaries and passing frivolous legislation which is then repealed the following year.  
 "Drastic reform is also needed to break up the reprehensible system of lobby legislation, which has grown to an evil of the first magnitude. Let the Capitol be cleaned of the magnitude of harpies who infest its halls, and let legitimate transactions proceed promptly and energetically."

"NEVER SINCE our wise men first sat in council at the ancient Capitol of San Jose has there been a legislative session that reflected favorably on its members. If this be the year for that miracle, the names of our representatives should be inscribed in gold on the dome of the new Capitol at present under construction."  
 Please remember that the above was written in 1862, during the Civil War when the present Capitol in Sacramento was not yet completed. Many things have happened since 1862, but a few of the ideas in the Chronicle editorial of 1862 are worthy of comment today.

ABOUT FIVE years ago, a lawyer in one of the cities in the 46th Assembly District sent me a file of correspondence between one of his clients and one of the bureaus of the State of California. The lawyer's main complaint and that of his client was that the client's problem had not been solved and that several letters written by the client were not answered.  
 I personally took the whole file to the bureau involved and finally located the supervisor directly responsible for handling the case. He admitted that he had not been able to do his job as thoroughly as he would like to do but pointed to seven empty chairs behind secretaries' desks and said:

"I AM VERY short-handed. My most efficient secretaries, stenographers, and clerks have quit the State employment and taken jobs at much higher salaries working for national defense projects and for private industry. However, I shall personally go through the files and try to help your con-

stituents." This he did, and both the lawyer and his client were satisfied.  
 Salaries for people employed by the State of California in most cases are much lower than those paid by national defense plants and private industry. State employees with seniority, especially those over the age of 40, hate to lose the retirement benefits which go with long service, and find it difficult to get new jobs because of their age. For these and other reasons, such as the gradual decline in the purchasing power of the dollar, the Legislature has had to grant modest salary increases for the State employees.

IN MANY instances, throughout the history of California, a law has been enacted at one session and amended or repealed at a later session because the original law, as written cured one ailment but created one or more other ailments.  
 This is characteristic of all legislation, local, state, and federal. It is impossible for the wisest of men to know how the courts will interpret laws or how some innocent person can be injured when the laws were never intended to affect them.

THE POPULAR word "lobbying" is politely and legally called "legislative representation." A lobbyist is officially and legally referred to as a "legislative advocate." There are, during the course of any session of the U.S. Congress and the California State Legislature, many more legislative advocates than there are elected representatives. Some represent churches; others represent teachers, farmers, industrialists, small businessmen, colleges, universities, public and private utilities, labor unions, pet owners, patriotic organizations, and all the other groups in our modern world.

Most legislative advocates, like most doctors, dentists, lawyers, and businessmen are honest, truthful, and industrious in representing their clients. A few have given the word "lobbyist" a bad name by activities which affront the American ideals, but these are in the minority although they get more publicity than the majority who are not news because "Virtue is not news," as one newspaper reporter told me.

DURING THE 1961 General Session of the California State Legislature, I introduced a bill which was passed out of the Assembly Committee of Legislative Representation but killed on the floor of the Assembly. This would have "put teeth" in the law regulating lobbyists, but for some unknown reason it did not pass the Assembly.

### CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- ACROSS**
- 1-Hite lightly
  - 6-Torrid
  - 8-Comfort
  - 12-Mature
  - 13-Anglo-Saxon money
  - 14-Mountain of Europe
  - 15-Cooked slowly
  - 17-Corner
  - 18-Painful spots
  - 20-Escape
  - 21-Projecting rock
  - 23-Han away
  - 24-Heverage
  - 26-Wild sheep of India
  - 28-He mistaken
  - 31-Comeas point
  - 32-Dawn goddess
  - 35-Cooled lava
  - 34-Ugly, old woman
  - 36-Inclinations
  - 38-Secret agent
  - 39-Foxes
  - 41-Classify
  - 42-Eccentric person
  - 45-Importance
  - 48-Climbing device
  - 50-Bell to consumer
  - 51-Arrow poison
  - 52-Time gone by
  - 54-Aleutian island
  - 55-Free ticket
  - 56-Observe
  - 57-Final
- DOWN**
- 2-Hurt
  - 3-Singing voice
  - 4-Stub
  - 5-Sender
  - 6-Brick-carrying device
  - 7-Chinese pagoda
  - 8-King of birds
  - 9-Refer
  - 10-Hurried
  - 11-Actual being
  - 16-Member of Jacob
  - 18-Ur's nickname
  - 22-Avarice
  - 23-Abstains from food
  - 24-Isladus
  - 25-Meadow
  - 27-Electrified particle
  - 29-Knock
  - 30-Beam
  - 33-Classifies
  - 36-Valcypede (colloc.)
  - 37-Indefinite number
  - 38-Layers
  - 40-Mountain of South America
  - 43-Amount at which a person is rated
  - 44-Genus of frogs
  - 46-Small birds
  - 47-Blastera
  - 49-Ethiopia
  - 50-Fish eggs
  - 53-Earth goddess



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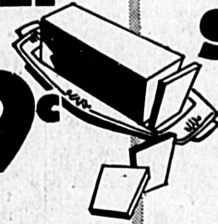
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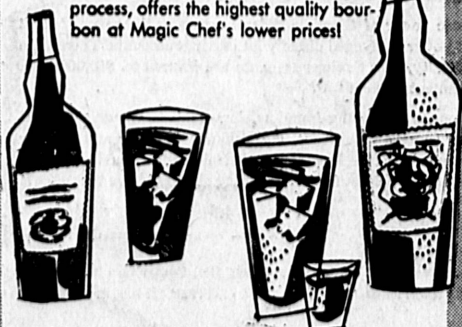


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