

# Torrance Herald

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## Broadened Outlooks

While the Kennedy Administration is trying to knit up the ravell'd sleeve of medicare, at least one enterprising Californian has a plan to keep the welfare ball rolling on and on. He is Walter E. Mauger of San Mateo, and his proposal is Plumbicare.

In a letter to the San Francisco News Call-Bulletin, Mr. Mauger suggests a Social Security tax-paid provision for payment of all plumbing bills of persons over 65. Says he: "I cannot abide the thought of our poverty stricken senior citizens (and almost all of them are if I believe Ribicoff) being faced with staggering plumbing bills during their golden twilight years." He goes on to point out that plumbers, not unlike doctors, "are well organized, highly paid, state licensed skilled technicians," and "are vitally necessary to the maintenance of public health." Caught up in the enthusiasm of the moment, Mr. Mauger even points out that if Plumbicare passes, we can move on to "Electricare, Autocare and eventually Embalmicare for the big breakdown."

Step up Mr. Mauger. The shade of satirist Jonathan Swift—he of the "Modest Proposal" for solving the 18th Century's population problem—would like to shake your hand.

## Opinions of Others

If you find life empty, try putting something into it.—*Indianola (Iowa) Record-Herald.*

When you are young you do a lot of wishful thinking. When you are old, you do a lot of thoughtful wishing.—*South Bergen (N. J.) News.*

The biggest trouble with political promises is they go in one year and out the other.—*Carteret County (N. C.) News-Times.*

No man is ever paid for what he knows—only for what he does with what he knows.—*Washington (Mo.) Missourian.*

One thing bad about freedom of speech is when a citizen can't think of anything to say, he says it anyway.—*Dodge City (Kans.) Globe.*

"There's nothing wrong with our national economy—it's our national extravagance."—*Louis Nelson Bowman, King City (Mo.) Tri-County News.*

"It develops that the oldest war for which our government is still giving pensions is that of 1812. Hurrah! The Revolution is paid for."—*J. W. Richards, Pageland (S. C.) Journal.*

"One local gent suggests that we legalize bingo. He sees it as a solution to the problem of corn surplus."—*Alvin E. Erickson, Bonduel (Wis.) Times.*

"Someone has figured out that we have put 35 million laws on the books trying to enforce the Ten Commandments."—*Bert Masterson, Hartsdale (N. Y.) Master-son Press.*

"If the Pilgrims had placed inordinate value on old age pensions and unemployment insurance, none of them would have made the trip on the Mayflower."—*Dean M. Worden, Brookfield (N. Y.) Courier.*

"Hers' where some of our tax money goes: A government bureau has just spent \$1,400 and 300 man hours to determine that the 'average man's posterior covers 179.4 square inches an exerts an average pressure of 9.2 pounds per square inch.' Enlightening information."—*Frank P. Hill, Tahoka (Tex.) Lynn County News.*

## ROYCE BRIER

# Prince Rainier Facing Problem in His Future

To Charles De Gaulle, the tax problem offered by Prince Rainier of Monaco hasn't a thousandth of the potential of Algeria.

But it is a good example of the parasitic state of the royal institution today. No prince in our time wields unquestioned power, and only a handful wield any power at all. It is easy to attribute this to the growth of rationality, but when you behold the sad case of some of the republics about you, you aren't sure.

The ancient Sumerian and Egyptian rulers were absolute monarchs, and the Pharaoh was identified with the Sun-god. Yet some of the Pharaohs mingled with their people, and there is a record that one rode out to meet some bakers putting on a strike-riot, whereupon they harangued him in the most familiar terms.

In contrast with royal divinity, the divinity of the Caesars was quite cynical, and nobody of any intelligence believed in it. Nor did the intelligent subscribe to "divine right," which was still a big pitch of the Kaiser a generation since.

From about the year 1500, European monarchs progressively lost areas of former power. In time they lost the power of royal decree, but particularly they lost the power to impose arbitrary taxes, which made their exchequers subject to parliaments.

Following England, the European monarchs in the last century became ceremonial figures without any vested right to rule. Victoria, by strength of character, exerted great influence, but the run of monarchs found themselves without even that.

A truly ancient divinity resembling that of the Pharaohs survived in Japan, but it could not survive a historical upheaval.

The reality was that with the growth of a technical-industrial civilization, large states became so complex that only the competent could manage them. But the hereditary system could not confer competence. Kings were like all men—bad (or stupid), mediocre or competent. There were too many rulers in the first two categories, and nations so ruled tended to fall into the hands of dictators, or strong chief ministers and their cabinets responsible to parliaments, which were in turn responsible to an electorate.

In this century's world wars, such kings as still occupied thrones had little, if any, power of decision. If it could happen in England, who is Rainier?

## Wups—Sorry!



## THIS WILD WEST by Lucius Beebe

# The Four-Bit Haircut Is Just Around Corner

Well, at long last and as it was sure to do, the word is getting around that maybe you Yankees, who have been talking tall as Texans and just about as offensively about our limitless "expanding economy" and "the highest standard of living in the world," are about to get economically shook up a bit, and that we have been living higher on the hog than we ever will again in the foreseeable future.

Economists and financial editors have long been aware that the United States has priced itself out of the world market in a grim and ever mounting category of heavy industries and now even the flannel mouths in the legislative halls of Washington are getting the news that there is such a thing as competition abroad in the world and that it is a deadly sort of competition that can overnight knock the props out from under \$2.50 haircuts and journeyman electricians earning \$20,000 a year.

When this comes to pass, the hardest hit community in the land is going to be San Francisco for the explicit and obvious economic reason that anything you care to name costs more in San Francisco than it does anywhere else. The \$2.50 haircut, which elsewhere is in the \$1.75 price range, is as good a point of focus as any. The taxi rate is another, a tariff ranging up to five times what is acceptable in other cities. The author of these paragraphs, a short time back, had occasion to hire a meter cab in Pueblo, Colo., between trains to achieve a restaurant that had been recommended on the outskirts of the city. Four of us occupied the hack for what must have been well in excess of two miles and the fare overall was four bits. The driver allowed he would be glad to wait while we lunched without charge if we would ride back with him.

In Denver, Colo., the top ranking status symbol and showplace of the Queen City of the Plains is the Brown Palace Hotel which corresponds closely in prestige and affection to San Francisco's Sheraton Palace. The businessman's lunch at the Brown, which usually includes an incredibly good London broil or New England broiled dinner fit to stay the innards of a stevedore, beautifully and formally served by old-fashioned waiters of courtly mien and vast acquaintance, recently raised its price from \$1.25 to \$1.35 and Denver was fit to be tied.

You can't get an entree at any first class hotel in San Francisco, let alone a full meal, for less than twice the sum.

Set your sights a bit higher on the international scale. Merchant tailors in the United States now get from \$275 to \$350 for a bespoke suit. If you wish to take the trouble to send one of yours out as a sample, it can be duplicated, stitch for stitch in identical fabric and meticulous workmanship in Hong Kong for \$40-\$50. There are alleged Hong Kong importing tailors around San Francisco, who double the markup and get \$80-\$90 for the same thing, which is still less than \$350 by a handsome margin.

A cutter in Hong Kong gets two bits an hour, a bushelman nine cents, and the number of Hong Kong suits you pass on the street daily would surprise you.

I have no idea what an electrician gets in Hong Kong, but if he makes \$1 an hour it would seem about what an electrician is worth anywhere. It is also closer to what he is shortly likely to be making in California and New York than his current \$500 for a three-day week.

work done in Amsterdam and imported in sheets, is able to sell for \$12.50 to \$15 picture book jobs which, if manufactured here, would have to sell for \$25 or more, which means not at all.

If Americans in ever increasing numbers latch onto the manifest advantages of purchasing their suits, shirts, books, automobiles and other articles of impulse buying in foreign countries, there's going to be a shakeup in wage scales hereabouts that will rock union agitators for ever more ruinous pay raises on the congress gaiters. The American workingman, when he condescends to membership in that once honorable category, has been told for years by his unions that he is entitled to fantastic wages for doing an absolute minimum of anything useful and bitching about that.

There are tailors in Hong Kong and printers in Milan and motor car mechanics in Coventry who haven't heard about the AFL-CIO pie-in-the-sky philosophy, and all of them are working 12 hours a day six days a week to make mincemeat of \$2.50 haircuts and \$20,000-a-year plumbers. They encourage me and a good many other Americans to look forward to the day when we may yet return to the dime shoeshine, the four-bit haircut and the airport taxi for a dollar. It may be closer than you think. Sailing right into New York harbor are Cunard liners where a haircut is 30 cents.

## Losses to Fire Can Be Cut—If

The nation's huge industrial fire losses, estimated to cost about \$200,000,000 yearly, can be cut if management views fire as a menace to production.

Management needs training in the consequences of fire just as much as employees do, according to J. R. Bachtler of U. S. Steel Corp. The attitude of "we've been doing it this way for years and we've never had a fire" must go if crippling fire losses are to be reduced, said Bachtler. He is fire chief of U. S. Steel's Gary (Ind.) Steel Works.

Bachtler said that training management to understand the necessity for automatic plant fire protection, as well as for employee training in fire prevention and fire fighting techniques, is the main job of the person in charge of fire protection in any plant.

"Unfortunately," Bachtler said, "it often takes a serious fire, or worse yet, several serious fires to put across this message."

## AFTER HOURS By John Morley

# You, Too, Can Join in Anti-Communist Battle

If you are not convinced that we are speeding . . . not coasting . . . toward socialism-communism in this country . . . read no further . . . because no one can convince you in a thousand years.

This column, then, is not for you. It is for those who are worried sick and who are trying to wake up enough of their countrymen to do something about it. Our California readers should be among the most concerned in this nation . . . for at the recent hearings of the sub-committee of the House Committee on Un-American Activities it was reported that "over 50 per cent of the die-hard communists in the U. S. are in California and New York" . . . and California is the prime target of U. S. communism because of its defense industry and the casual blasé attitude of too many of its citizens.

We hear it often in our national forum lectures . . . that because of the small size of the U. S. Communist party, it is not a serious threat. This is a false conclusion.

It is false because communism is and always has been a small minority movement. It is a consistent conspiracy of a small, fanatical, well-indoctrinated elite, working around the clock by subversion and infiltration in an attempt to weaken and destroy free institutions, faith and freedom.

The Communist party in the U. S. . . . meaning card-carrying and non card-carrying members once numbered about 80,000. Out of these probably less than 1,000 were actual party functionaries and half of this number committed espionage, sabotage and infiltration.

The fact that FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover reports that the party membership dropped to 21,000 and Attorney General Robert Kennedy says it's fewer than 10,000 . . . is immaterial for this discussion. What the party lost are a lot of meaningless dupes, theorists, misfits, who join anything which provides a platform for their gripes and ideological distortions. Many of these dropped out because of recent laws compelling them to register . . . while the hard core red-conspirators remained underground, where they always have been.

Few Communist spies ever carried party cards . . . or attended party meetings. These few hundred reported direct to the Soviet embassy in Washington, through carriers and intermediaries . . . or to secret headquarters in Mexico and Canada. While there are still quite a few who publish the red pamphlets, "The Daily Worker," and who make speeches . . . they do not represent the real danger of the Communist apparatus in the U. S.

Most Americans know what communism is and how it works . . . but appear helpless to do much about it.

We should like to offer a few suggestions of what can be done, based on our own experience from the Iron Curtain to the Bamboo curtain since 1931.

Every reader can help in one or more ways . . . now in the coming elections . . . to help contain the menace of communism.

Outlawing the Communist

## Quote

The church's problem today is, as always, simply to tell man that he has not been left alone; that God is with him, not against him. — Dr. Karl Barth, noted Swiss theologian on California visit.

It is taking some senior citizens an awfully long time to realize that nowhere in the Bible, our Constitution, the church, or any authority I can think of are we guaranteed or promised an easy time of it in our later years. — Mrs. M. B. Adams, Alhambra, widowed working mother.

The whole wage-scale mess can best be cleared up by government's taking a lesser, not greater part. — D. J. McCracken, San Bruno.

party and the signing of loyalty oaths are not enough. What's better is that those who are out of tune with the American tradition of free enterprise, free choice, free competition, should not be permitted to teach in our schools.

This does not mean preventing the teaching of socialism or communism . . . but teaching them for the falsehoods they are.

The point which matters is that those who teach the "isms" are philosophical anti-socialists and anticommunists . . . and that they express proudly their loyalty and allegiance to American free institutions. The place to start is in the school house.

The philosophical Communist feels no danger from the law . . . but he is dangerous, for he can poison the minds of both young and old from the pulpit, the classroom, the platform.

Among this crowd are those who attack anti-Communist rallies, books, literature . . . activities committees . . . they slander loyal Americans as drum-beaters, super-patriots.

Now is the time to stand up and be counted . . . and force every political candidate in the coming campaign to stand up and be counted. Insist that they declare themselves on the following: free enterprise, socialism, welfare statism, government paternalism . . . that they

define for you the difference between capitalism, socialism, communism . . . their opposition to making Berlin and Formosa another Munich . . . their support of a balanced federal budget.

And, most important, organize "Town Halls for Americanism" in every community and hammer the freedom story home in regularly scheduled meetings in homes and community meeting places.

Two such "Town Hall for Americanism" programs are the "Glendale-Plan" . . . and "National Town Meetings for Americanism."

They were both organized by patriotic business and professional men and women representing Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions, Optimists, Exchange, Sertoma, Soroptimists, Business and Professional Woman's clubs, and the heads of the American Legion, Chamber of Commerce, Board of Realtors . . . in Glendale, Calif.

The Tidewater Oil Co. has sponsored TV and radio programs which already have had national response for details for organizing "Town Halls for Americanism."

Anyone desiring free booklets and information for organizing "Town Halls for Americanism" can get them by writing National Town Meetings for Americanism, Box 15, Glendale, Calif. No cost or obligation.

## Our Man Hoppe

# Help End Famines—Attend Banquets

It isn't generally known, but I'm a follower. Not so much of Mr. Nietzsche or Mr. Gandhi. But of Mr. Herbert L. Coggins.

Mr. Coggins has long been President and General Manager of Patterson Parts, Inc. But it is not Mr. Coggins the Businessman I follow. It is Mr. Coggins the Pioneer in Constructive Gastronomy, the charitable if grueling vocation of Eating for Others.

Back in 1944 at the age of 63, Mr. Coggins nostalgically recalled his pioneer work in this field in an unforgettable article in the Atlantic Monthly. For those who have forgotten it, I quote liberally from the text:

"My first experience (in Eating for Others)," began Mr. Coggins, "was a particularly abundant meal I ate for the benefit of the survivors of the Johnstown Flood. This was the turning point of my life. I was soon giving a generous share of my time to dining for others: for the starving Armenians, the perishing Hindus, the famished Irish, the destitute Chinese, for the preservation of the Indian and the uplift of the Negro.

"Between times I did honor to many great persons: Washington, Lincoln, Jefferson, Henry George, Marx, Darwin and Susan B. Anthony. I nearly sacrificed both life and digestion during a ten-dollar dinner in honor of the father of American frugality—Benjamin Franklin. But I never held it against Mr. Franklin. The trouble was the oysters.

"Most of all, I have eaten for liberty and freedom. Causes of this type, as you will learn, require repeated honoring, since in any conflict both sides celebrate the same events. One side is fighting to get freedom, the other to preserve it. In fact, so numerous are the celebrations for freedom that anyone with a fair digestion might devote himself to this cause alone."

Mr. Coggins closed by announcing regretfully that at the age of 63 he was retiring from the field of Constructive Gastronomy forever. On the advice of his doctor and his dentist. It was very sad.

As I say, that was 18 years ago. And the reason I bring the whole thing up is that Mr. Coggins and I had lunch together the other day. For no good cause. Now 81, Mr. Coggins is the very picture of an elderly pioneer: spry, bespectacled and cheery. He consumed a sardine sandwich and Roquefort salad with gusto and chatted briskly about Joaquin Miller, wristpins, socialism, Sinclair Lewis, children's books, ornithology, pampering, vegetables, burglar traps and, lastly, a book he's writing about famous people he's known. "It's high-class name dropping," said Mr. Coggins the Author, with a chuckle.

Ever since, I've been a devoted follower of Mr. Coggins. That is, I've followed his example and renounced Constructive Gastronomy forever. It's the greatest health fad I ever heard of. I only hope by renouncing it my wit and digestion will be as zestful at 81 as those of my Leader.

So, should you be giving a banquet in behalf of Undernourished Uruguayans, you can count on me. You can count on me to send you a Bowser Bag and the requisite postage to Montevideo. Like Mr. Coggins, my heart will be with you. But not my stomach.