

# Torrance Herald

Co-Publishers  
KING WILLIAMS - GLENN W. PFEIL  
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SUNDAY, AUGUST 26, 1962

## Students Still Coming

Twenty years ago Torrance schools opened for the fall semester with a first day registration of 1,704—an increase of 68 students over the enrollment figures compiled six years earlier in 1936.

Those days of relative stability in school enrollment passed from the scene, however.

By 1949, the Board of Education was holding special meetings to consider housing of the growing school population, and school officials were looking ahead year-by-year to estimate the number of children which would be demanding classroom space when the next session opened.

By January, 1950, then Principal Robert Morton welcomed LeRoy Thompson to classes at Perry Elementary School as the 4,000th student in the city schools.

Two years later, the district had 6,100 students and 600 of them on double sessions. Voters were being asked to approve bonds totaling \$3 million for school construction because, as a HERALD editorial pointed out, "carpenters build houses faster than schools."

That is still true in 1962 when school populations figures have soared to the 30,000 mark. Despite the tremendous growth, the school district has been able to eliminate the double session menace, but it looms just off the horizon as the city's residential population—and, therefore, its school population—continues to grow.

To counter this threat and to continue to provide classrooms for the ever growing numbers of students, the Board of Education has called an election for Sept. 18 asking voters to approve a new bond issue for \$8 million.

If approved, the bonds would be sold only to the extent that they are needed, and in no case can the district's bonded indebtedness exceed 10 per cent of the assessed valuation of the property in the district.

The district has maintained this level of indebtedness for a number of years, so the authorization of new bonds will not mean a hike in taxes to repay their costs—only that the repayment schedules will be extended over additional years.

The HERALD agrees with members of the Board of Education that the district has no choice but to ask for the additional bonds. We can't educate our children without schools, and we can't build schools without funds. Bonds are the only means the district has of obtaining construction funds.

Torrance voters are urged to approve the Board of Education's bond proposal at the Sept. 18 election—and are doubly urged not to let the issue go by default because there appears no organized opposition.

The new classrooms are needed and will be needed for many years to come. We must provide them now.

## Opinions of Others

Albert Einstein once was asked what kind of weapons would be used in World War III. "I don't know," he answered. "I don't know what they are developing, because things are progressing so rapidly, but I can tell you what they'll use in the fourth world war. They'll use rocks."—Mason City (Ill.) Banner Times.

Today it costs the people of the United States 90 times as much to govern twice as many people as it did 50 years ago. . . This situation started in the year 1913 when the 16th Amendment to the Constitution was passed. . . When that amendment was ratified without any limit beyond which the Government could tax its citizens, the Government began to grow. That innocent appearing tax of three per cent on a few rich people has grown until today those same rich people are paying 91 per cent and the poor people who were to have been the beneficiaries of the tax are paying 20 per cent.—Charleston (Tenn.) Record.

## Out of the Past

From the Pages of the HERALD

### 40 Years Ago

"Last week residents of Torrance thought they were some pumpkins," the HERALD of Aug. 25, 1922, told its readers. "They had an idea that Torrance was an industrial city; that it was self-supporting, and was known throughout the Southwest, if not the state, as a growing, hustling community, a little self-centered, if you like, but absolutely independent of outside support so far as this is possible in any community."

What got the HERALD editor's ire up was an interview with a Redondo Beach civic leader who was quoted as saying: "Over in Torrance, four and a half miles away, just a suburb of Redondo Beach, is building up an industrial center, etc., etc."

The Redondo newspaper's interview touched off a small storm among Torrance civic leaders, the HERALD reported. From the Chamber of Commerce secretary to other civic leaders, the statements of "the beach city" official were taken as a grand insult.

Arlington Avenue was getting a facelift as the result of a \$50,000 bond issue floated by the city of Torrance. The street was being surfaced

with Willite, "the paving substance that will withstand most effectively heat, rain, and heavy traffic." The strip of road being improved was between Torrance and Lomita, and was referred to by the HERALD as a highway.

The HERALD commented that "obey" was being taken out of marriage rites, and that some take it out of the prohibition law, also.

### 20 Years Ago

Voters in the 17th Congressional District elected Cecil R. King, veteran State Assemblyman, to complete the term of Congressman Lee E. Geyer, who died in office. Congressman King's election was to a term ending Jan. 3, 1943. Assemblyman Vincent Thomas was re-elected to the State Legislature.

A new ambulance purchased with funds raised by the Torrance Kiwanis Club was presented to the city in ceremonies at the Torrance city hall.

School taxes were reduced 63 cents per \$100 for taxpayers living in the limits of the original city of Torrance and 60 cents for those in annexed territories. The school tax rate was pegged at \$1.59 per hundred.

## Takes More Than A Full Gas Tank



## ROYCE BRIER

# There's Ample Water, In the Wrong Places

We of the older generation may have learned about water by reading the denouement of Frank Norris' great novel, "McTeague."

Today every television kid knows that on the desert you can miss a lot of square meals and survive, but you need water quick or you've had it.

This may not be so simple and primitive an equation for all mankind, but a great many earnest men, most of them experts, are wondering when, with a population explosion, man is going to run out of water.

It's not that there isn't plenty of water in the rivers for a hundred times the earth's population. It isn't even how to get drinking water for everybody. In bulk, men consume little of the available water. The problem is how to get all the water we need in the places where it's needed.

Fifty years ago the population of the United States was about 90 million. An individual drinks no more water than his father did, so doubling the population only doubles the consumption. But consumption per capita has had a geometrical increase in 50 years.

The answer is primarily industrial consumption, used in cooling and other complicated processes. A recent National Geographic Society survey shows it takes 65,000 gallons of water to make a ton of steel, 200,000 gallons to make a ton of rayon, 600,000 gallons to make a ton of synthetic rubber. Fifty years ago the last two consumed no water because they didn't exist.

After industry, irrigation is the biggest water consumer in America. The individual consumer—your garden, your bath, the mix for your bourbon and water—comes in a bad third on the national scale.

There is plenty of water for everybody, quite apart from the oceans. The United States has an average rainfall of 30 inches, though the spread between Arizona and some mountainous regions of Hawaii is considerable.

But 70 per cent of all water

falling on the planet is either temporarily lost by evaporation, or is absorbed by growing plants, and most of these are wild plants in forest or the tropical zone.

Attempts to convert sea water are as old as the civilization. The Greeks tried it, and Caesar, cut off from the Nile, once got a little water

for his soldiers by evaporation. It is not hard in our technology to take the salt out of sea water. But the cost makes sweet water so obtained seem almost as expensive as French perfume.

Taking sweet water from the sea cheap, when it is accomplished, will be the equivalent of discovering the wheel.

A Southwestern editor, employing phrases as colorful as his territory, has taken a two-fisted swing at sin—and the chips are still falling in 50 states.

Jenkin L. Jones, editor of the Tulsa (Okla.) Tribune, aimed his hammer blows at the welfare state, at TV, the theater, Hollywood, and modern literature, then warned: "It's time we revived the idea that there's such a thing as old fashioned, willful sin, if America is to continue as the world's leader of free men."

Said Jones: "Our welfare state philosophy, immoral movies, theater and TV, and our lewd novels are weakening our moral fiber and are making us appear, in the eyes of idealistic youth in many countries, as being in the last stages of decay—while the fraud of communism appears synonymous with morality."

Jones on the state of our TV: "We are drowning our youngsters in violence, cynicism and sadism piped into the living room. The grandchildren of the people who used to weep because the Little Match Girl froze to death, now feel cheated if she isn't slugged, raped and thrown into a Bessemer converter."

And on literature: "The old eyepoppers of the past which tourists used to smuggle back from Paris under their shirts are now tame stuff. The quick buck boys have apparently convinced our befuddled judges that there is no difference between a peep show and a moral lecture."

Our rising crime rate is due in part, says Jones, to "the welfare state, which is taxing away rewards for responsible behavior, so that it can remove the age-old penalties for irresponsible behavior."

"The theory that misbehavior can be cured by pulling down tenements and erecting elaborate public housing isn't holding water. Our crime rate is growing along with our expenditures for social services."

"We have sown the dragon's teeth of pseudo-scientific sentimentality, and out of the ground have sprung black-jacketed gangs with switchblades and bicycle chains."

America must preserve her moral principles and her sense of individual responsibility, Jones said, "if we are to survive the hammer blows which are quite plainly in store for all of us."

## A Bookman's Notebook

# 'Act of Anger' Fated To Become Best Seller

William Hogan

I would be surprised if "Act of Anger," an explosive courtroom drama by Bart Spicer, does not soar to the top of best-seller lists within a few weeks. This has all the markings of best-sellerdom.

A highly charged narrative skillfully brought off, it deals with murder, justice, politics, legal shenanigans and sex, adroitly mixed. This is nothing new. The best of our mystery-suspense writers manipulate these ingredients skillfully all the time. But there is something added here, an intangible element that makes "Act of Anger" particularly gripping entertainment. Right now I'll say it is this season's "Anatomy of a Murder."

Essentially it is a record of a murder trial, presumably in Arizona. An itinerant Mexican youth, a hitchhiker, is accused of killing a wealthy and notorious Los Angeles homosexual during a journey across the Southwest desert. What was the background?

A lawyer member of a prominent local family, Benson Kellogg, reluctantly takes on the youth's defense. He attempts to investigate the background of his client's act of anger. But personal, family and State political pressures close in on Kellogg in an effort to soft-pedal his case during an election year in a community of strong Mexican-American voting strength. Striking back, the lawyer begins to take a deep moral interest in the case. This is the barest suggestion of a complex plot that carries strong social overtones.

I found it a better book than "Anatomy of a Murder." For unlike Judge John Voelker's narrative of a crime of passion on the upper peninsula of Michigan, "Act of Anger" is by a professional who has written a dozen mysteries (as Jay Barlette) and a few reputable historical novels to boot.

I could put down James Baldwin's ugly and disturbing "Another Country." And I have returned to finish several other well-publicized novels this season with only the greatest reluctance. But I found it almost impossible, once snared in his narrative, to put down Bart Spicer. This, I think, proves him to be a storyteller of extraordinary talent and ability.

Some of this is very rough, particularly as Kellogg plods

through the seamier side of the Los Angeles homosexual world in an effort to strengthen his client's case. Spicer handles this well, almost as documentary reporting, and never as sensation for sensation's sake. (The more I think of it, the more I suspect this was not the case with James Baldwin's so-called serious novel "Another Country.")

If Spicer's book is overlong and once in a while shows a tattle-tale influence of Raymond Chandler, it is in every sense above-average adult entertainment. Also, it is craftsmanship all the way. Commercially and just about every other way, I pick this one as a winner.

Act of Anger. By Bart Spicer. Athenum: 505 pp.; \$5.95.

## Around the World With



# DELAPLANE

"If you could recommend some places to have dinner in Hawaii . . ."

At Waikiki, I go big for the Tahitian Lanai. Outdoors, under coco palms, beside the sea. Candles, music, good food. Medium-priced. Don't pass up the e'ota—the raw fish cocktail has been "cooked" in lime juice. I don't taste raw.

Smart and colorful: Canlis' Broiler. One room is reserved for coats and ties. But aloha shirts are okay in the one around the piano bar. Soft music and candles, Japanese waitresses, excellent food and high prices.

Royal Hawaiian Hotel is dressy. Good food and a good show. Plenty of atmosphere with the dining room opening right on the sea. High-priced.

Queen's Surf: Serve yourself from the buffet. Eat out under the coco palms. Music and one of the prettiest places in the islands. Food is mediocre but it's a great setting. Medium priced.

On other islands, you'd better eat at the hotels. I haven't found anything very startling.

"Is there a complete list of ships going to Europe?" There is. "Ocean Cruises and Steamship Sailings" is free at any American Express office. Dates, rates, ports of call. You can write for it.

"Do you have to be a student to get into the youth hostels? I understand they are good and very cheap."

You can join American Youth Hostels, 14 W. 8th St., New York City, up to the age of 100, if you want to. For this you can use youth hostels all over the world—under 18, \$3; 18 to 20, \$5; over 21, \$6.

You can sleep for 50 cents to \$1 a night and sometimes they have inexpensive meals. You don't have to be a student.

"On a trip to Mexico, we'd like comfortable rooms but we would also like to see REAL Mexican towns off the tourist route."

"Comfortable" room and good food just aren't available "off the tourist route."

You could base on Morelia—toward Mexico City from Guadalajara—and visit some of the towns around Patzcuaro Lake. Patzcuaro itself has a couple of good hotels. And Morelia is plenty Mexican. The lake towns are pretty pure Indian.

Another good Mexican town to base on is Oaxaca, 300 miles south of Mexico City.

I'd be a little careful pointing cameras or looking too resort-type in the no-hotel, no-tourist towns. They don't like it. And there are lots of superstitions we don't always know about.

Sit around the plaza and have your shoes shined. Size up the way people react to you. Look relaxed and don't jump right into the sightseeing until everybody has a chance to evaluate YOU.

"We want to go to Jamaica and would like a good time of year. And what do you think of Tower Isle Hotel?"

I'd go in October when the rates are half what they are in the winter. Tower Isle is very plush. But I like something a little closer to Montego Bay. Casa Montego I thought was excellent.

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.

## Quote

I never got lost. Much. —Kenichi Hori after 5,000 mile solo sail from Japan to San Francisco.

If the Pillarims had waited for permission to leave England, they'd still be on the high seas somewhere. —Mayor George Christopher of San Francisco on Kenichi Hori's "illegal" departure from Japan.

The New Frontier has emerged so political, so tricky, so frivolous that it wouldn't surprise me if Kennedy wouldn't rather have his issue to "take to the people" than to have had the bill (medicare) win.—E. Lee San Jose.

If they must have a monument on Alcatraz, why not keep the prison, empty, as a decaying monument to man's inhumanity to man? — Basil Woon.

Established Jan. 1, 1914

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Member of National Editorial Association, Calif. Newspaper Publishers Assn., L.A. Suburban Newspapers, Inc. Verified Audit Circulation Represented Nationally by The Reed Co.

Publication office and plant, 1619 Gramercy Ave., Torrance, Calif. Published semi-weekly, Thursday and Sunday by King Williams Press, Inc. Entered as second class matter January 30, 1914, at Post Office, Torrance, California, under act of March 3, 1979.

King Williams Glenn W. Pfeil Co-Publishers  
Reid L. Bundy—Managing Editor  
Doug Anderson—Display Adv. Mgr.  
Darrell Westcott—Circulation Mgr.  
Chas. R. Thomas—Mechanical Supt.

Adjudicated a legal Newspaper by Superior Court, Los Angeles County, Adjudicated Decree No. 218470, March 30, 1927.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: By Carrier, 50¢ a month. Mail subscriptions \$8.40 a year. Circulation of, file FA 8-4000.

## Morning Report:

It took a rare gag vote in the United States Senate to let the Telephone Company go ahead with its high-flying Telstar. The last time the senators did such a thing was 35 years ago and the subject then was prohibition.

In between these two historic votes, a lot of great issues were talked to death before the august statesmen.

It really shows how homesy-folks our senators can be. In 1927, it was booze. And this time, it was television from Europe. Well shortly we can look at a Paris TV show and belt the beer with the happy feeling that 100 senators are watching over us.

Abe Mellinkoff

### STAR GAZER

By CLAY R. FOLLAN

Your Daily Activity Guide According to the Stars

To develop message for Sunday, read words corresponding to numbers of your Zodiac birth sign.

AGES MAY 22 1-23-47-61 69-70-84	Taurus APR 21 1-23-47-61 69-70-84	GEMINI MAY 21 1-23-47-61 69-70-84	CANCER JUNE 21 1-23-47-61 69-70-84	LEO JULY 21 1-23-47-61 69-70-84	VIRGO AUG 21 1-23-47-61 69-70-84	LIBRA SEP 21 1-23-47-61 69-70-84	SCORPIO OCT 21 1-23-47-61 69-70-84	SAGITTARIUS NOV 21 1-23-47-61 69-70-84	CAPRICORN DEC 21 1-23-47-61 69-70-84	AQUARIUS JAN 21 1-23-47-61 69-70-84	PISCES FEB 21 1-23-47-61 69-70-84
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1 Play 21 Can 61 Sorrowful  
2 Mind 22 Ac 62 Wit 62 Wit  
3 More 23 Desire 63 They  
4 Prepare 24 Prepare 64 To  
5 Attention 25 On 65 People  
6 Talk 26 And 66 Need  
7 A 27 For 67 Delinite  
8 Little 28 Q 68 Today  
9 To 29 Adjustable 69 To  
10 A 30 Visionary 70 Someone  
11 Full 31 A 71 Person  
12 Discovery 32 Intellectual 72 Come  
13 Strings 33 More 73 You  
14 Year 34 And 74 Objectives  
15 The 35 Plans 75 Trust  
16 To 36 Big 76 Word  
17 Private 37 Hope 77 Way  
18 The 38 Home 78 Promise  
19 Private 39 Dute 80 In  
20 Don't 40 Other 81 To  
21 Private 41 To 82 Tired  
22 The 42 With 83 Softly  
23 The 43 Certain 84 Need  
24 Slip 44 Get 85 Pleasant  
25 Talk 45 Peoples 86 Don't  
27 Break 46 The 87 Good  
28 Affairs 48 Tow 88 Necessities  
29 Those 49 Or 89 Results  
30 With 50 Give 90 Worry

Good Adverse Neutral

### PUNJABS

By gumparty

H.M.S. JOLLYWOOD

ENGLISH SUB TITLES