

A Closer Look

By Ernest Kreiling

HOLLYWOOD—Legislators are often a fearful and timid group of people. Being dependent on a fickle public for votes apparently teaches one caution and prudence on matters that effect the outcome of elections.

Although the House of Representatives recently passed (263 to 126) legislation that will make a 1964 version of "The Great Debates" possible, the bill encountered considerable more opposition than was expected. And even more resistance to the idea would probably have crystallized had it not been obvious that the public simply assumes that confrontations of principal candidates are now a permanent part of the American political scene and that some fancy explaining to the folks back home would have been necessary if no debates developed next year.

THE EXISTING law affecting political broadcasting—and it's prevailed since 1934—requires all broadcast stations to make equal air opportunity available to all legally qualified candidates for public office. (Note that stations aren't required to either sell or give time to candidates, only do for one candidate—sell or give time—what it does for his foe or foes.)

This poses no particular problem where there are but two or three candidates for an office. However, in presidential races, as well as in vigorously contested local primaries, there is often a small mob seeking the post. In 1960, for example, there were 16 candidates for the presidency, most of them appearing on ballots in only one state.

Without a change in the law the networks could have undertaken the Kennedy-Nixon discussions only by inviting the other 14 candidates to participate under identical conditions. But this provision of the Federal Communications Act was waived by Congress in 1960 as it applied to the Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates only and for that one election only.

BROADCASTERS have been lobbying energetically for total repeal of the political broadcasting clause and want to be free of the obligation of affording equal air opportunity. They point with pride to their record of fairness in 1960 and they view with alarm the circumscribed role radio and television must play in the American political game under the present rules.

Radio and TV people contend, and validly I would think, that these two media of communications can be more constructively influential in informing the public on issues and candidates than when they are obligated to cater equally to fringe candidates who appear only at election time and

Soul Subject For Sermon On Sunday

The meaning of "Soul" will be taught in the lesson-sermon at all Christian Science churches today.

The sermon will center around Psalm 77, "Thy way, O God, is in the sanctuary: who is so great a God as our God?"

Related reading from "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures" by Mary Baker Eddy, will open with the passage, "God is infinite, the only Life, substance, Spirit, or Soul, the only intelligence of the universe, including man."

in whom there is no widespread public interest. But legislators are becoming increasingly concerned about unleashing this power, because it is an unpredictable one at best. They can and have accepted the idea twice that Presidential contests are entirely too conspicuous to allow the broadcasters to get by with any major inequities.

BUT WHEN it comes to lesser offices, there's greater doubt and fear. Being human I'm sure most legislators would risk waiving the equal opportunity clause if they could be certain that any imbalance in air time favored them. But lacking such guarantees they naturally want the assurance of the law that any such imbalance doesn't accidentally tip an election to their worthy opponent.

The existing provision does help insure fair and equitable use of the air waves, but at the same time it stringently limits the full development of broadcast media as a vital tool in our political processes.

Beth Torah School Opens Registration

Registration for membership and Religious school at the Southwest Temple Beth Torah, affiliated with the United Synagogue of America, will begin today at the temple. Registration information will be available beginning at 10 a.m.

The temple has also announced the joining of several new groups, including the Hawthorne Congregation and members of the former B'nai Zion Temple, with their own congregation. A new temple will be built in Gardena.

The Southwest Temple Beth Torah is the only Conservative Congregation in the area.

Board Approves Area Road Work

Allotment of \$3,700 for improvement of three Los Angeles County roads in the Lomita area has been approved by the Board of Supervisors.

Work will include the pouring of 103,000 square feet of pavement on 248th Street from Pennsylvania Avenue to Cypress Street, Moon Avenue from Lomita Boulevard to 247th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue from Lomita Boulevard to 248th St.

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\$4 Million In Permits Issued Here

Over \$4 million worth of building permits were issued in Torrance during the month of July, bringing the total valuation of all permits issued for the first seven months of the year to \$31,036,991.

Of the 289 permits issued in July, 19 were okayed for multiple dwellings which accounted for \$3,099,100 of the July total valuation of \$4,089,563.

The multiple dwelling permits issued will increase the number of such units in Torrance by 295.

BY FAR the largest number of multiple dwelling permits

was attributed to Ray Nickel, who drew out nine permits which will account for 141 new units.

Permits issued to Nickel were responsible for \$1,604,700 of the total valuation. Nickel will construct 20 new units on Tandem Way and the remaining 121 on Newton Avenue.

A \$202,245 permit was issued to Moreau Construction for seven residences. Columbia Construction was granted a \$161,830 permit for a 20-unit apartment on Samuel Street.

Sponseller Building Corp.

received permits for \$798,450 which will go for 78 units on Anza Avenue. Robert and John Grimes were issued permits totaling \$329,610 for 28 units on Samuel Street.

Calvert and Taylor were granted permits worth \$130,810 for 22 apartments and seven attached garages on Artesia Boulevard.

Drivers should sweep their eyes back and forth across the highway and glance at the rear view mirror regularly. This not only keeps the driver aware of the entire traffic scene, but prevents his eye from fixing hypnotically on the road under steady driving conditions.

Garden Checklist

Container-grown plants like more frequent watering than those in the ground. Plants in small pots can probably use a daily drink.

Feed chrysanthemums again this month. They can be fed at 3-week intervals right up to the time their buds show some color. After this, feed them no more.

Remove faded blooms from roses. Feed roses this month to give them a late summer push.

Use weed killer to remove lawn weeds easily and completely. Be sure to read the directions!

Spray Tuberos Begonias to prevent mildew. Feed them bi-weekly with fish fertilizer.

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