

# Torrance Herald

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## Open Examinations

The city council's inclination toward a policy of open examinations for top echelon officers in the police and fire departments should have the approval of the citizenry.

The examinations would be open to men in the first three ranks of both local departments, and to men in the first three ranks of departments in California cities of 80,000 or more population. In the past, examinations have been open only to officers in the top two ranks of the police department and to the first rank below the chief of the fire department.

The council's policy, recommended by Chairman Victor Benstead's police and fire committee, is opposed by Torrance Fire Fighters Local 1138 and some Civil Service advocates.

Reward for public service should always be a consideration, but, such reward should also be predicated on achievement and all around ability, usually the policy in private business. Open examinations do not eliminate logical contenders within the local departments and they have many well wishers who would be pleased to see them win.

Because of the growth of Torrance, with attending problems in public safety, this city cannot afford to settle for less than the best leadership for its police and fire departments.

## If Peace Ever Comes

The yearning for world peace is virtually universal. Yet there is a question. It is this: Should world peace come, what would be the effect on the economy? Defense spending, now at the \$55 billion a year mark, is responsible for a vast amount of industrial production and employment. A long list of communities and areas live on it. So—would peace, ironically, plunge us into depression?

In a recent issue U. S. News & World Report examines the matter. And its findings add up to a more optimistic picture than many might expect.

To begin with, it observes in effect, the prospect of a real peace is about as clouded as anything could be. It is true that there has been something of a lull in the cold war. But the grave trouble spots, some potentially explosive in the extreme, remain—Cuba, Korea, Red China, Vietnam, and Berlin. As it observes, this is "... hardly a world in which to go about unarmed, or even with a smaller arsenal of weapons."

Even so, the hopes for eventual peace and the resultant disarmament exist. Where, and to what extent, would the economic dislocations be most critically felt?

In the most recent year for which such figures are available, U. S. News shows military orders accounted for 94 per cent of all aircraft and parts, 61 per cent of ships and boats, 38 per cent of radio and communications equipment, and so on down a list in which many of the basic industries are involved to a varying extent. Payrolls reflect this situation.

Some states—with California way at the top of the list—are far more dependent on defense spending than others. As of the year that ended last March 31, 10 states accounted for two thirds of the prime contracts, with a money value of \$17 billion.

Even so, says U. S. News, all the authoritative studies so far made—including those by government agencies and other groups—agree on three points

Point 1. Disarmament would be partial and would be spread over a lengthy period of time.

Point 2. A tax cut would accompany it, thus cushioning the shock.

Point 3. Business as a whole—despite the severe adjustments that would be necessary in some fields, as well as some states—would not have to be upset for a prolonged period. The magazine says: "... the effects would be spotty, and few think a general depression would necessarily follow unless the arms cutback should happen to coincide with the working of other forces of a deflationary type." The experience with the heavy cuts in arms spending that followed World War II and the Korean truce bears those anticipations out.

U. S. News goes into considerable detail concerning the effects of disarmament on individuals, enterprises, institutions, and policies. The summing up: "Any real peace, permitting substantial disarmament, still looks a long way off. Yet planning for peace is a continuing project. If it comes, the experts agree, the country should be able to take what it brings in stride, without a collapse of the economy."

It is a travesty on intelligence to consider war and killing as a foundation for prosperity.

The latest FBI report shows that crime in this country set a new record last year, and is increasing four times as rapidly as the population. More than 2 million serious offenses were recorded—an average of four a minute.

## Morning Report:

It's the last breakthrough in advertising. A New York agency will now pay you to repeat commercials to your friends at parties, over the telephone, over the backyard fence, or at a chance meeting in the supermarket.

This will put casual chit-chat on a paying basis. Because after you listen to this commercial he will be duty bound to listen to yours. And both of you get paid. But it will put a terrific strain on friendship, as talkers line up a long list of sponsors.

It will mean no escape from the TV commercial with a quick trip to the refrigerator. Now you will have to listen to your eager neighbors shouting through the open kitchen window.

Abe Mellinkoff

## Listen To Sweet Ol' Granny—



ROYCE BRIER

## Wallace Faces the Tide And as Usual Backs Down

It differs little if you are George Washington, Adolf Hitler or Julius Caesar—a crucial moment, a "tide in the affairs of men," arrives for you. You must either go on, or go down.

Governor George C. Wallace of Alabama, a man of somewhat lesser stature, faced the same tide, and found he could not go on. All his dreams of a heroic stand against what he holds to be tyranny crumbled. All his brave words of fighting forever turned hollow.

There is no doubt this man saw himself as the nonpareil of Southern resolution. Faus has failed, Barnett was licked. Wallace would go on. He would defy the United States. We would instill in his own people who were wavering new courage and determination.

Unhappily for him, his own people were unwilling to follow him into the unknown. Most of them believed as he did about integration. But to most he was not the invincible hero he had seemed to be.

At the University of Alabama last spring he had said Negroes would be admitted over his body. At the showdown he quit. At a little town recently he ringed a white

elementary school with State troopers, barring students and teachers. But other towns went ahead to integrate as school boards struggled to retain their lawful powers against the Governor's usurpations.

He turned his attention to Birmingham, where small integrations were imminent. Birmingham authorities wanted none of him, but he massed 200 troopers there. Then they failed to surround the schools, and at one school two Negro children were integrated. Birmingham police, instead of thwarting integration, thwarted a small crowd of white demonstrators.

That's twice Wallace has backed down when he said he never would. He will go on, again saying he won't quit, and again he will quit. They have his number. All across the South there were token integrations as school opened.

The whole official structure of the South has modified its view. It will no longer rally to Wallace's way. It will resist throughs of Negro demonstrators. But it will not automatically blockade the school against Negro children. School boards are grad-

## TALK OF THE WORLD

**A COLORFUL JUDGE**  
RIO DE JANEIRO — The most talked about of the Rio de Janeiro's criminal judges is Eliezer Rosa whose colorful and unusual decisions are the delight of the people.

Recently, a truculent bus driver who bawled out a traffic cop after disobeying the signal, was ordered by the judge to accompany the cop on his post every day in the evening rush hours for two weeks. The purpose was to show him that traffic cops are people who may have even more troubles than bus drivers.

A major inconvenience of the decision was an enormous crowd which jammed that particular street crossing when the driver showed up to undergo his punishment.

The cop and driver almost immediately became good friends. After a few days, the cop's wife gave birth to a child and the driver was invited to be godfather. All the persons involved, including the baby, were quite popular for a few weeks.

Opinions about the educational result are divided. The driver said after his term was over that the cop's job was easier than the driver's job. "It's more restful. Traffic cops need not get nervous, but bus drivers have to."

Judge Eliezer Rosa's next judgment aroused a lot of misgivings. He ordered a man with a background of several involvements in street

and tavern brawls, who was again accused of inflicting minor injuries, to take lessons in judo.

The judge contended that these fighting lessons would enable him to give vent to his aggressive instincts in an orderly and systematic way.

What if the aggressive instincts persist systematically, some people said. Instead of distributing blows and punches unmethodically, he may feel those who incur his dislike according to the rules of judo, which could be worse, especially for the victims, they criticized.

That's perhaps why the judge tackled the next case of corporal injuries differently. Finding again that the defendant suffered from excess of aggressivity, as he called it, he ordered him to spend every afternoon during the next few weeks with the three little children of another convict.

"The company of these innocent children, with whom he will take walks to the city's picturesque points, will have a softening influence on his temperament," the judge ruled.

In another case last week, Judge Eliezer Rosa ruled that the defendant, accused of petty theft, was quite a good boy except when he drank, which happened frequently. His drinking, the judge said, probably indicated lack of other interests in life.

ually regaining their control of education against the non-educational forces symbolized in Wallace.

Wallace is already fighting a rear-guard action His fanaticism is losing its force, and has no way to go but slowly downhill.

## A Bookman's Notebook

By WILLIAM HOGAN

The trouble with taking a vacation at almost any time of the year is that a major book appears just as a reviewer heads for the woods.

In my case, this season, the book was Mary McCarthy's long-awaited novel, "The Group." Since Aug. 28, its official publication date, this has been stirring editorial controversy in the big Eastern reviews. Almost everyone concedes that Miss McCarthy is a brilliant writer, and never more so than in this dry, revealing, very feminine and very tough account of what became of a group of young ladies after they left Vassar in 1933—the author's Vassar year.

As social historian, if not class historian, Miss McCarthy has been labeled everything from "the highbrow's highbrow" to "Nancy Mitford without an English accent." Her book has been variously described as "funny," "tasteless," "cool," "reasonable" and just plain "admirable."

I finished it with a sense of weariness. "The Group" is a long, episodic chronicle of eight ladies and how they did, or did not, grow up after finishing school. It is brittle; certainly frank in its sexual documentation and as precise in its analysis of America's social mores as anything J. D. Salinger provides.

On my return to the editorial wars, several alert young ladies assured me that "The Group" is the most devastating and honest American novel they have read in some time. And here, I think, is the point.

This is essentially a woman's novel in which grim, amusing and depressing feminine truths are laid bare and openly discussed without sentimentality (contraception, for example). In a sense, Mary McCarthy becomes the den mother of all our bright young women (Vassar or otherwise). She has enough feminine intuition, irony and good sense to make her fictional situation, ring almost truer than true, and in an obstinate feminine way.

Here is a fine feminine touch from a semi-rape scene: "As she struggled, the snaps opened at the back of her dress; a hook tore loose from her brassiere. Then she heard a fearful sound of ripping (Continued on Page 30)

## AFTER HOURS By John Morley

# Deplores Spending, High Taxes and Red Progress

"The best form of government teaches how to govern ourselves." —Goethe

WASHINGTON, D. C. — A disgusted congressman said on foreign aid: "We are spending money we haven't got . . . on people we don't know . . . to impress people who hate our guts."

President Kennedy just ordered two more helicopters for his private use. His present transportation pool now consists of twelve helicopters . . . four big jets . . . two yachts . . . six big cars . . . and a special railroad car. The most impressive White House travel pool in history is being organized for 1964

**Young Men Run Government**  
President Kennedy has gathered around him younger men, from his age group down to some in their twenties, like Richard Goodwin, formerly in charge of the White House "Cuba desk" at the time of the abortive invasion of the Bay of Pigs. Most of them are rich men's sons who never really had to work for a living.

President Kennedy was born in 1917 and was only 12 when the stock market crashed. His brother Robert was only seven when Roosevelt closed the banks in 1933. They and most of their White House associates were not around when the federal budget was \$2 billion and the public debt was only \$4 billion. They were raised in a "free-wheeling" Democratic generation of deficit spending.

So are many of their political supporters across the nation in the same age group or of the same economic theory. Just in the past 10 years some 15 million newlyweds started families and 42 million babies were born. That's one-fifth of all the families in the U.S. Rich or poor, they spend money more freely than ever before in our history, especially when their president says, "The hell with the public debt; people come first."

Many like the ring of such daring . . . and follow the leader. But the gray hairs in Washington are raising economic warning flags all the way across the Atlantic. One of them said to us: "It looks like a hell of a storm for the U.S. dollar ahead."

**Highway Tax Robbery**  
Here is a typical example of bureaucratic economics today on income taxes:

A married man owns 10 per cent of a partnership which earns \$200,000 a year . . . making his share \$20,000. His income tax on this is roughly \$5,300. He keeps \$14,700.

Another married man owns 2 per cent of the stock of a corporation which earns \$1 million . . . making his share also \$20,000. But in this case the corporation pays an income tax of 52 per cent — or \$10,290 — on his \$20,000, even before he gets it . . . and sends him a net \$9,710.

Now the government also considers this \$9,710 as taxable income all over again, and takes another \$2,023, leaving him \$7,687.

In other words, his man loses about \$7,000 by double taxation. And the present administration is even eliminating the 4 per cent credit on dividends, calling it "unfair to the public welfare."

**Who'll Win '64**  
Democrats are really worried about losing the solid Southern vote because of the race issue. Without it they have their political work cut out for them. Kennedy would have been swamped by Nixon in 1960 without it. In 1964 Kennedy can count on the Eastern states, and perhaps California, for a total of 192 electoral votes. That's 78 or so short of victory.

Republicans hold the Middle West, including Ohio, which they took in 1960, and lost Illinois by only 9,000 votes. If they win Illinois in 1964, and most of the South, they can lose California and all the heavy Eastern electoral votes and still beat Kennedy.

The experts say the 1964 race will be closer than people think. Goldwater is very popular with party rank and file, even though key Republicans like Eisenhower, Nixon, Rockefeller, Javits, etc., are cold or lukewarm.

Rockefeller's closest friends says his marriage has cost him the nomination. Goldwater must prove his popularity in the primaries by accepting Rockefeller's challenge. If he beats Rockefeller and is nominated, the Republican ticket will gain Democrats by the millions.

**Worthy Negroes Made Good**  
Private Washington whisperings indicate that the "March on Washington" hurt the Negro cause. Mounting pressure on the streets is condemned as unrelated to the aspirations of Negro citizens for vindication of their civil rights.

A director of the "March," John Lewis, said this week: "We will not wait for the president, the justice department or Congress, but will take matters into our own hands and create a power outside of any national structure that could assure us victory."

The truth is that Negroes have made greater strides in the U.S. than anywhere else on earth inside our national structure, in spite of many injustices. Opportunity, even if not always equal, has been available to our worthy Negro citizens in many fields. Like

Jackie Robinson, vice president of Chock Full o' Nuts corporation . . . Harvey Russell, vice president, Pepsi-Cola company . . . Kenneth Sherwood, vice president of giant Fleetwood Furniture company, New York . . . Mrs. Yolande H. Chambers, vice president, Davidson Brothers incorporated, leading Detroit department store . . . Charles T. Williams, vice president, Schenley Distillers company . . . to name a few. Many worthy, Negroes have made the grade without sit-ins, sit-downs, street mobs or "marches."

**Will We Ever Learn?**  
I saw an old house off Pennsylvania Avenue which reminded me of a building on Bahnhofstrasse, Zurich. Some 46 years ago in Zurich it housed in its attic the world communist apparatus. Today communism controls one-third of the world.

Farther down the street I walked by the White House. In it lives the President who also began 46 years ago. He is well aware of rising communism . . . but appears unworried. He puts through the nuclear test ban . . . while 15,000 Soviet troops remain in Cuba. He orders a quarantine on Castro, with on-site inspection as the price of removal . . . and then reneges.

These are among many examples of how the U. S. helped to move the Reds out of the Zurich attic.

## Our Man Hoppe

# Principals Need Sprucing Up

—Art Hoppe

Somebody hold my natural-shoulder coat. Stand back while I loosen my button-down collar. I'm fighting mad. Why, I demand to know, can't our school principals dress like me?

It's the gravest question our educational system faces. Hardly a day goes by that some principal somewhere doesn't send a child home for wearing his hair too long or her hair too high. In addition to being anti-hair, our principals refuse to educate young ladies who are long on the lipstick or too short in the skirts.

And the other day the president of San Francisco City College, acting in the name of decency, ordered a female student to remove her trousers. Subsequent to going home, I should add, and prior to putting on a dress.

So everywhere school principals have become the arbiters of juvenile fashion. And students have to dress the way principals like. If they want a free, public education, they do. Great. But I say if we're going to raise our children to look like school principals, we should first examine our principals.

Look at their padded shoulders! Look at their droopy dresses! Is this, I ask you, the American dream?

The fault obviously lies in the hiring of our school boards. And the traditional interviews must be drastically altered before it's too late. Like:

Q: Now as to your credentials, Dr. Critchendon.  
A: Yes, here is my Ph.D., my L.I.D., my Ed.D., my . . .  
Q: No, what we wished to see, Doctor, were your labels.

A: Oh, of course. My tweed jacket, you will note, is from Savile Row. My hat is by Borsalino. And my pipe—can you make out the engraving?—is imported meerschbaum.

Q: Excellent, Doctor. Now just a few questions concerning your education theories. What do you think of argyle socks?

A: I believe in argyle socks, gentlemen, but only at football rallies. And perhaps at class picnics.

Q: Good. And striped shirts?

A: Frankly, I would favor subdued stripes for the more mature student, but only for daytime wear. White, of course, would be de rigueur for night school.

Q: And double-breasted suits?

A: I would suggest remedial classes rather than outright expulsion for students who cling to such garments. For I feel that many of these handicapped children can be saved for society.

Q: Grand, Doctor. You're just the man we're looking for to mold the wardrobes of our little children and . . . Hold it! I see your jacket is double-vented in the back; I'm afraid, Doctor, that we want no radical progressivists like you at P.S. 81. Next!

Of course, under this system, our children would still be forced to conform to the principal's taste in dress. And they'd still grow up all looking alike. But at least their taste would be impeccable. Because it would be mine.

The only alternative is to agree that what I wear is my business, what you wear is your business, what our principals wear is their business, and what our children wear is their parents' business. I'm sure we'd all shine in our own eyes.

Because I've discovered the oddest thing: each of us has impeccable taste. It's the other fellow who hasn't got any.