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Ducking the Issue

Many people in Torrance may have had their representation canceled out on the City Council Tuesday night. One of the most serious matters which can be presented to the City Council, a decision on a Civil Service Board's recommendation on an accused employe, was handed to councilmen at their regular meeting, and because two members were in strong disagreement with the findings of the board, they abdicated their seats and shirked their duty to be counted yea or nay in the voting.

The matter before the City Council was the recommendation of the Civil Service Board, which had just concluded two days of official hearing, that police lieutenant Douglas C. Cook be reinstated with 30 days suspension as penalty for allegedly lying under oath to attorney general investigators.

The position of the City Council in receiving the matter was that of a review board—not a legislative body. As such, the City Council had limited choices of action. It could (1) approve the findings and sentence of suspension as recommended, (2) approve the findings and reduce or eliminate the suspension, (3) it could turn over the guilty findings and determine that the officer was not guilty of any offense.

The Council members, however, were without power by law to consider those charges on which the officer was found not guilty, nor to increase the penalty assessed by the Civil Service Board.

Councilman J. A. Beasley wanted to send the matter back to the board for "further work." He was ruled out of order. Beasley was joined by David K. Lyman, seated last month, who protested the Civil Service Board's findings, and at one point asked loudly if the Council could remove the commissioners from their office.

The call for a vote on a motion by Mayor Albert Isen to approve the findings but to erase the suspension sent Beasley and Lyman out of the meeting. The mayor's motion carried by a 3-2 vote of the councilmen present and voting.

Without considering whether the City Council was right or wrong in reducing the penalty, or, for that matter, whether the Civil Service Board made a proper finding and recommendation, it should be clear to most people that the refusal of two councilmen to participate in the voting deprives Torrance citizens of an accounting to which they are entitled.

There can be a number of reasons why a Council member does not feel he should vote on a particular issue. Because it isn't going to suit him shouldn't be one of them.

Opinions of Others

President Johnson reaffirmed the spirit of the Monroe Doctrine . . . when he declared 'the full power of the United States' is ready to assist any American country whose freedom is threatened from another continent. Unfortunately, that is not the way the game of freedom-threatening is being played these days. We have a somber illustration of that in Cuba, a former American republic that has become a satellite of a major power on another continent by infiltration and perversion. —Chester (S.C.) Reporter.

NEWS SPARKS by James Dorais

CTA Wins Approval For Initiative Bid

Are the vast majority of California's public school teachers who belong to the long established California Teachers Assn. guilty of a "grave disservice," as charged in the state legislature last week, by virtue of their sponsorship of a proposed initiative to ask voter approval of increased state appropriations for schools?

The CTA proposal would boost the state's share of school support by \$200 million over a two-year period, thus relieving the pressure on homeowners and other local property taxpayers, who have been absorbing an increasingly larger percentage of the total costs of public education during the past decade.

A legislative bill, granting considerably less than half that amount of state aid, was passed last week to the accompaniment of a shockingly vitriolic attack on the school teachers. Assembly Speaker "Big Daddy" Unruh, the bill's author, accused the teachers for example, of being "highly irresponsible."

Whether the amount provided in the legislative bill is too little and too late to be of sufficient help both to schools and local taxpayers is a debatable point, of course. What is not debatable, however, is the fact that legislative proposals for state aid had bogged down in disension until the teachers themselves decided to take the schools' case to the public.

—in 1944, 1946 and 1952 — the California Teachers Assn. carried similar propositions to the voters. On each occasion, the people supported the schools.

The ludicrous nature of the attack on the CTA was particularly evident in charges that the teachers had failed to support such needed "reforms" as smaller class sizes and school district consolidations. As everyone who has followed educational issues over the years is well aware, these and many other reforms have been initiated and ardently battled for by the CTA.

In terms of basic agreement on the need for improved education and financial support for schools, the position of the legislature and the California Teachers Assn. do not really differ. The surprising violence of the attack on the CTA may perhaps be related to the struggle for greater recognition by a small but stridently vocal minority of teachers organized as the Teachers Union. This group, while small in numbers, has considerable political potential through its affiliation with the State AFL-CIO.

The Teachers Union differs from the California Teachers Assn. in that where the CTA considers teaching a profession, with professional duties and responsibilities to the public, the Teachers Union approaches teaching as a trade and demands the right to strike to enforce its demands.

Psst-Better Turn Your Glasses 'Round



HERE AND THERE by Royce Brier

Red China Policy Shift Seen in Rusk Statement

In 1961, President Kennedy issued a policy statement on two Chinas which designated Chiang Kai-shek's regime on Formosa as the "only rightful" government of China. It further opposed, without delimiting phraseology, the entry of Red China in the United Nations.

Recently Secretary of State Rusk, visiting Chiang, made a pronouncement omitting the "only rightful" phrase, and saying the United States opposes any proposal to deprive Nationalist China of its "rightful place" in the United Nations, and seating Red China in its stead.

These two policy statements have not the same meaning and careful observers were not slow to point it out. The Rusk statement implicitly recognizes Red China as a political entity, and says only we will oppose any effort to void Nationalist China's position in the U.N. It explicitly does not oppose Red China's membership under all conditions.

The statement did not please Chiang, who considers the Mao regime an usurpation, but neither did it please Red China, which holds Formosa to be Red Chinese soil.

Red China, indeed, has persistently said it would not enter the United Nations while Nationalist China is recognized as a member nation. It seems improbable, though not impossible on practical grounds, that Red China will recede from this position, as it deems Chiang a rebel and traitor.

But in any case, the Rusk policy appears more realistic than the 1961 policy. It may set up a new American dilemma for the old, which has existed since Chiang fled to Formosa, but it is a more honest dilemma. It acknowledges some hard historical facts which have emerged in the past three years.

The old dilemma had no path of escape. It ignored the

existence of a de facto regime in Peking governing 700 million people. It presumed Chiang's reconquest of mainland China, either by force or by collapse in Peking, leaving a vacuum for Chiang to fill.

But hardly a responsible observer, expert, strategist or statesman in the world now believes there is a remote chance either of these conditions will or can be fulfilled in visible time.

The Rusk statement establishes not a change of policy, but a cautious relaxation of the rigidity of the old policy. It fits, however imperfectly, the positions of some sober critics of Far Eastern policy, such as Senator Fulbright. In effect it renounces Chiang Kai-shek's reconquest theory, which is obsessive in Taipei, and with a few American policy advocates. If nothing else it is a groping toward common sense in today's world.

BOOKS by William Hogan

Story of Army-McCarthy Episode 'Disappointing'

Who was McCarthy and what were the hearings? The question is often asked by youngsters of high school age. A whole new generation has grown up since the infamous Army-McCarthy episode of 1954, one of the great political spectacles of American history. For 36 days, a bizarre hearing before Senator McCarthy's own special subcommittee on investigations heard and reported on charges and countercharges exchanged between McCarthy and the Army.

This sinister Alice in Wonderland drama was played before the American people on television. Was the Army, as the Wisconsin senator suggested, riddled with spies, subversives and worse? The camera's eye watched the destruction of Joseph R. McCarthy as a political force. It also watched the fatherly Boston lawyer, Joseph N. Welch, special counsel for the Army, emerge one of early television's great heroes.

The youngsters have a chance to audit these hearings in the widely acclaimed documentary film edited from the files of CBS news, "Point of Order!" Now an original paperback book appears as "Point of Order!" (Norton; \$1.50), a transcript from the sound track.

I had been looking forward to this, but find it vastly disappointing. Except for the

first-rate introduction and epilogue by David T. Bazelon, which crisply explains McCarthy and the hearings, this is a sketchy, episodic, altogether inadequate handling of the great material available. True, there were millions of words of testimony recorded during this ugly business. But here, in a mere 108 illustrated pages, the drama is chopped up into little more than a trailer for the movie.

What is here does suggest some of the painful, tense moments of those times, and because of that it deserves a reading. But it is simply not enough and may, I'm afraid, only confuse the youngsters or others who now ask, "Who was McCarthy and what were the hearings?" We need a fuller, more adroitly edited version of the testimony. The film may be more exciting and more important than "Seven Days in May" and "The Manchurian Candidate" combined. Not so the book.

A curiosity piece, "Faulkner at West Point," does not suggest that the late Nobel Prize-winning novelist was ever a cadet at the Military Academy, like Edgar Allan Poe. It is an account of what went on one time when Faulkner dropped in to address the future soldiers; discuss the role of the writ-

er, and answer students' questions. It was a memorable occasion, and the result has been made into a permanent record by Maj. Joseph L. Fant and Col. Robert Ashley (Random House, \$4.95). This is an appealing item for collectors of Faulkner.

Faulkner on the writer's task: "What drives every poet and writer is that he knows in a short time, three score and ten, he must pass through the last and final oblivion into nothing, and that at least he is going to leave on that wall the scrawl 'Kilroy was here.'"

Within three months Faulkner was dead.

John Osborne's award-winning screen play for the Henry Fielding classic "Tom Jones," illustrated with stills from the picture, will appear as a Grove Press paperback during the summer.

The winner of the second annual Dutton Animal Book Award (\$7,500) is Robert Murphy ("The Peregrine Falcon") for his novel "The Pond." This adventurous story of a 14-year-old boy's discovery of the delights of the woods some 50 years ago, will be published during the autumn. Dutton's first Animal Book Award went to Sterling North's "Rascal," a very popular story of a racoon.

AFTER HOURS by John Morley

Reeling Reds Comforted By Softer Policy Hints

PITTSBURGH—This afternoon I sood a few feet away from President Johnson after his tour of the poverty stricken areas of Appalachia. In an off-the-cuff remark he disagreed with Senator Fulbright's proposals of "softness with Cuba," supporting Secretary of State Rusk's contention in another reply that "Cuba was a lot more than an annoyance," as the senator called it.

During the past few weeks in our forums across the country, Senator William Fulbright's foreign policy proposal of "unfreezing our policy toward Cuba, Red China and Russia" has been prominent in the question period following our talks.

Senator William Fulbright of Arkansas is among the best informed in the Senate on U. S. foreign policy. He has helped to write some of it. He is undoubtedly a sincere dissenter from the present official U. S. position of caution in dealing with Russia . . . and the hard position against Cuba and Red China.

Such notables as UN Ambassador Stevenson, UN Secretary General U. Thant and others are supporting the Fulbright proposals, which suggest, among other things, that "present U. S. foreign policy toward communist nations follows a myth." They called him "courageous" in his attempt to convince the nation and the Congress that our policy toward communist nations needs "unfreezing."

This reporter returned last February from another fact-finding trip around the world. What we saw and heard confirms our conclusions that communism is losing ground . . . and in some places beginning to tear apart in some of its strongest seams.

In Russia I saw indications that Khrushchev is fighting for his political life. His rift with Red China . . . failure of agriculture and civilian production . . . split with millions of Albanians . . . loss of the European satellite movement toward the West . . . the serious economic imbalance caused by huge investment in space . . . these and other causes have him hanging on the ropes. It is the worst political situation I've seen in Russia since 1957 when Marshal Zhukov came within a hair of upsetting the monolithic communist party with the support of the Russian army.

The word I heard in South America was that Castro is losing ground by the day. I covered the Venezuelan presidential elections that defeated his communist candidate in favor of anti-communist Leoni. This setback had a chain reaction on other South American countries, like Brazil, with the ousting of communist-leaning Goulart.

In the harbor of Victoria bay, Hong Kong, I saw the communist barges loaded with cattle and chickens from Red China being delivered to Kowloon, in a desperate effort to secure dollars and other hard currencies, while the masses in Red China are suffering from the lack of food. The Soviet aid cut-off since the rift has pyramided Red China's troubles.

Senator Fulbright's proposal of a "softer policy on Red China" has seriously undermined the heroic efforts of millions of Free Chinese on Formosa and other areas in

the Far East, at a time when their hopes were at the highest peak since 1949.

He has given Castro the biggest political lift since our defeat at the Bay of Pigs.

He is helping to bail out Khrushchev at one of the most critical moments of his uneasy career.

Senator Fulbright as much as told these communist leaders that U. S. policy has been wrong all along and that a change is needed.

The "softer policy" proposal must have the communists celebrating from Havana to Peking. For we appear to be offering smelling salts to an opponent hanging on to the ropes, instead of a hard sock

on the jaw to help finish him off. The time to let Reds stew in their own juice is when they're boiling.

We have put up over \$100 billion in foreign aid mainly to bring communism to a boil. So why help them cool off now.

The touch-and-go tragedy we recently covered in Vietnam could get worse with such soft talk on communism.

The "bury-the-West" fanatics in Red China are now calling for the "burial of Khrushchev." We have waited a long time for such a funeral.

This is no time for Senator Fulbright to be sending get-well cards.

OUR MAN by Arthur Hoppe

Elbie Jay Goes After Exposure

Howdy there, folks. How y'all, It's time for another visit with "Just Plain Folks," the rib-tickling tee-vee adventures of the Jay Family, starring ol' Elbie Jay, the friendliest wrangler ever to wrangle his way on to the front page. Daily.

As we join up with ol' Elbie tonight, he and his pretty wife, Birdie Bird, are just settling down to sleep.

BIRDIE BIRD: You look a mite tired tonight, Elbie. ELBIE: Well, I don't mind confiding that the very important affairs of state sometimes get a man down. And today I had a terrible setback.

BIRDIE BIRD (worriedly): Another coup in Vietnam? More threats from Castro? Or is that poverty's winning the war?

ELBIE (glumly): Worse. The afternoon paper used that picture of me crowning Miss Greater East Yonkers Prune Festival. On Page 37.

BIRDIE BIRD (aghast): No! ELBIE (dejectedly): Yep. That's a 36-page setback. A dog act is sure tough to follow.

BIRDIE BIRD: Well, you just got to try a bit harder to make news. Maybe if you had a new kind of press conference?

ELBIE: I reckon you're right. But they're getting a bit hard to think up. I thought all through my daily breakfast press conference, my daily follow-up press conference while shaving, and my daily mid-morning, lunch and coffee-break press conferences. And I couldn't think up nary a thing.

BIRDIE BIRD: Let's see. How about a press conference while doing seven laps around the house?

ELBIE: Now, you know I've done that a dozen times. And the fatter reporters are getting kind of petulant.

BIRDIE BIRD: Maybe in your car, then. Driving down the road . . .

ELBIE: You trying to pick a quarrel?

BIRDIE BIRD: I forgot. Well, you've tried holding them in your office, the Rose Garden, the press office, the State Department Auditorium, the lawn . . . I did like that one you had for the reporters and their children on the lawn with pink lemonade.

ELBIE: Wasn't that a dilly? It's too bad I had to chalk off that next one for reporters and their moms. But the orphans in the press corps started complaining about news management. And, leaping lizards, I didn't want to be mean to orphans.

BIRDIE BIRD: Well, Elbie, don't you fret. You know you think better when you relax. Maybe something will come to you tomorrow when you're skinny dipping in the pool.

ELBIE (elatedly): Skinny dipping! That's it! Talk about maximum exposure! You solved my problems.

BIRDIE BIRD: That's fine. Good night, Elbie.

ELBIE: Good night, Birdie Bird. And good night, Merriman. Good night, Scotty. And all you other fine newspaper fellows. Hope you're comfy there on the floor. But don't doze off. Like I told you at my after-dinner press conference, I talk in my sleep. And I don't want you boys to miss a word.

Will Elbie Suffer from Over Exposure? Will the Press? What next? Tune in again soon, friends. And meanwhile, as you mosey down life's long trail, remember what Elbie's ol' graddaddy used to say: "What if a man profited who gains the whole world? If he don't get good press notices."

Quote

A Russian who lives happily under the present system of government in Russia must either believe that he has no soul, or that, if he has, it is not worth developing.

—Oscar Wilde
Experience is what keeps a man who makes the same mistake twice from admitting it the third time around.
—Terry McCormick
The best things in life are free. It is the worst things that are so expensive.
—Changing Times

Morning Report:

Telling lies is one of the oldest and most popular sins. Before the Bible and since, there has been a running fight between the lie-tellers and the lie-detectors. Even nowadays when science has taken over from the witch doctors.

For a while it looked as if those blood-pressure machines would end lying—or at least take the profit out of it. But the experts say it can be beaten by a smart liar. So the Pentagon is working on a "wiggle chair" that tests a fellow's honesty secretly through the seat of his pants.

If this works out and we get the thing into mass production, it could end lying. Except at cocktail parties and political mass meetings.

Abe Mellinkoff