Service

By GEORGE E. HUNTER

Secretary, National Association of Letter Carriers, Torrance Sunshine Branch No. 2207 (Editor's note: This is the first in a series of provocative articles on the US postal service written by a Torrance Post Office employe. The article does not necessarily reflect the opinions of this newspaper.)

From the time of Benjamin Franklin, the first Postmaster General, to this day, many changes have taken place in our daily lives, in our Government, and in the Post

150 lbs. of Periodicals

Upon reflection, one can

easily see the problem of

handling and transporting

such bulky, weighty fare. For

pproximately the cost of a

first class letter an article

weighnig up to 25 times more

is given the same service and

sometimes even better.

These changes are a constant problem to all of us, including the Post Office.

come taxes.

The classical problem, "The service," is continually being suffers. argument for or against cuts in appropriations.

You may ask, why must Congress vote money; isn't the Postal Service a paying operation? The answer is no, for many and varied reasons which should be

Most important, the cost of the 1st of April? "Is the Post pay the three cents for mailing promote and aid business, all a letter, deemed adequate more well and good; let's call this the rost Office's duty to we are getting it, expensive for consideration by the Depart-though it may seem to be. than a quarter of a century ago. spade a spade and understand Now who among us could pos- our action. You are paying for

sibly exist on a depression wage it.

These have increased beyond the wildest dreams of the original the dissemination of culture and the dissemination of culture and inal planners. True, rates on learning, a service too few of inal planners. True, rates on learning, a service too lew of these categories have risen a us stop to consider. If you, the little recently, but they are the people, wish to subsidize the mass of today's mail and they spread of culture and learning

don't pay their way. actually taken precedence over expensive bill. valuable first class mail when it comes to service, contrary to the public belief and in spite of mailman is plagued with any tion in 1921 was 1800 and in

Cheap Circulars

Take the common circular, few ounces shy of being two 85,000. with which we are all too well pounds. Rapid calculation can acquainted. This little symbol show that the average daily of our time was too expensive weight of periodicals alone can uation was estimated at \$2,270, a means of advertising years be between 75 and 150 of dead 985. School officials have estiago. For a few dollars a day, weight. This can readily ac- mated the coming fiscal year's a bill peddler begged to dis-count for the high mortality assessed valuation at \$136,000, tribute two or three thousand, rate among postment's should- 000.

Today for only one and one ers, commonly recognized as a half cents a piece, every busi-distinct slope in the afflicted 1937-38 was 82 cents per \$100 of nessman avails himself of this member. cheap medium of advertising. Actually it is cheaper than

You must remember that the cost of advertising is a business expense, and as such is legally deductible at income tax time. It is reasonable then for business to appropriate this means

to recoup any income tax losses. tax, at the same time they get desirable. first class advertising for practically nothing.

The Postal Service becomes money consistently. Again we eral fund.

Post Office, a business or a the goat, and your mail service are subsidizing business, and the rural folk who must shop Our Uncle Sam is a twothrough the mail order houses. time loser. We realize that what is good for He provides service for business and our rural areas is cheap advertising and the cost

of this service is further used good for the nation. as a deduction to lower in-But if we are subsidizing let us recognize it and quit blaming Don't you wish you had a deal the Post Office for giving away like that to fall back on around its services. You may call it deficit, but in reality we have vastly increased, yet you still If it is the Post Office's duty to

> Next week's article will deal service so poor in comparison million. Next, consider the magazine to former years?

Next the bulk of mail con-all be lost without them, be-cause they have a particular City Costs, and the newspaper. We would function in today's life. The

you must pay. You cannot of government are discussing spector specialists is maintained In many respects they have blame the Post Office for the budgets and taxes, a look at in Washington, D.C. to coordiyears ago is revealing.

On a heavy day the average The city's estimated populawhere from 50 to 125 periodi- 1938 was 9500. At present, cals. Many of these are only a the population estimate exceeds

In 1921-22, the assessed val-

Torrance's general tax rate in assessed valuation. This year it will probably be \$1.

include such items as: fire misrepresented. house and jail site (1922), \$8000; city park (1934), \$800; municipal park (1934), \$15,000; civic formal action should be underauditorium site 1936), \$6000.

Buildings were purchased as charges of fraudulent misrepre-You the people are the only follows: civic auditorium (1936), sentation is filed with the Chief Huge deductions can there ones who can decide if rates are \$62,566; library (1936), \$32. Hearing Examiner. fore only lower their ultimate equitable, and if subsidization is 113.09; (old) city hall and jail The promoter is named re-

(1936), \$60,106.72. These proj-spondent, and arrangements Needless, to say, fourth class ects were paid for through made for him to appear with mail or parcel post also loses bonds, PWA, and the city's gen- his attorneys at a formal hearing at which both sides of the

Fake Cures Through Mails at Record High

Postmaster Clara A. Conner today urged residents of Torrance to report promptly to their post office any instances of medical frauds involving use of the mails, or offensive advertising material involving apparent medical quackery that enters their

All-Time High Mrs. Conner said her suggestion was prompted by newest

tor David H. Stephens that use General Counsel Abe Goff. of the mails for medical quackery is at an all time high.

The local post office, Postmaster Conner explained, under instructions from the Postal Inspection service, turns complaints of medical fraud, as well as all other complaints of other types of mail fraud - which are also welcomed-over to postal inspectors for prompt investigation.

So far this year, postal inment's General counsel which. conservatively, represent an an-

Fake Cures

are used. The most prominent every day?"

At a time when various levels so persistent that a unit of in- nal prosecution. Torrance twenty and thirty nate investigations of these rackets," Mrs. Conner noted.

> In addition to handling public complaints by the thousands, the local postmaster noted, inspectors take maaterials offered and submit them for extensive examination by medical and chemical experts. The Department has working agreement under which it contributes to the salary and expenses of doctors and chemists employed by the Food and Drug Administration for this purpose.

They make tests and examinations to determine whether Other figures which cannot medical materials and devices be equalled anymore nowadays offered through the mails are

Complaint Filed If the evidence indicates that taken, a complaint setting forth

reports she has received from is proven, a frauld order is is (bought at uncommon prices). Postmaster General Arthur E. sued for the Postmaster Gen- One device is an "electric" Summerfield and Chief Inspeceral by Post Office Department bracelet, an ordinary band of

> When a fraud order is issued, a promoter can receive no funds through the mail, and for all practical purposes his operations are shut off. All mail sent to him is returned to sender marked "Fraudulent," except that which on its face is clearly not connected with the unlawful enterprise.

In the past 12 months, 46 fraud orders have been issued in medical fraud cases. \$225,000 Daily

"However," Summerfield continued, "rather than attempt to defent the indefensible, 106 perwith the question: Why is the nual loss to the public of \$50 sons or firms signed stipulations agreeing to discontinue their questionable enterprise. Under Federal statutes, postal These phony schemes altogeth inspectors are charged with in er were known to be taking in vestigating any fraudulent ac at \$225,000 daily. It is any tivity in which the US Mails wonder new frauds spring up

If the United States Attorney agrees that there is a basis for criminal prosecution, he will present the evidence to a Federal Grand jury and if indictment is returned the case will be set for trial.

sive evidence.

The conviction rate in such cases going to trial is very high,

'Lost Manhood'

Some of the medical frauds most common today, in order of popularity, are dietless" reducing schemes, "sure cures" for baldness and "lost manhood." Bust development gimmicks are them in quantity. also on the best-seller lists.

In recent years, the style in cancer cures has been in devices that allegedly contain "atomic" material or that are "elec-

Usually these will be sold for hundreds of dollars, and will consist of impressive claptrap devices, such as flashing light bulbs, ticks and buzzes. Other styles in "atomic" medicines call for vials of water, olive oil, etc., supposed to contain atomic "curatives."

many, other afflictions. Witnesses Die

trade on hopes of the desperate- field pointed out. ly-ill often can not be successcalled up in court."

gets still bring in large amounts over to the postmaster or postal usually consist of useless succome and are promptly intion cup devices, creams, lo vestigated." tions, tablets and exercises.

and adorned with pink ribbons.

tic band exerciser, somewhat fancy prices through the mails, on the claim that it will "create elegant legs."

great therapeutic values in If fraudulent use of the mails wearing common metals copper which supposedly sets up "alternating currents" in the body to "cure" arthritis, neuri-

High Priced Pills

Another best seller of the redical quacks is so-called medical aids for "loss of manhood." High priced pills or salves are usually made up of material obtainable in drug stores at small

"Typical of the ingenuity of these promoters," Chief Inspector Stephens relates, "a scheme operated today from outside the United States is making a lot of money advertising in mail circulars a section of dry tree root about the size of a pencil, for \$15. An inch of this root soaked in a bottle of liquor for 7 days is said to provide a sure cure for impotency."

Big money makers for the quacks are so-called cures for fraudulent activity conducted In addition to administrative baldness. These usually are a through the mails today is in action in cases involving fraud, liquid, cream or tonic. Postal the field of fake medical cures, postal inspectors also present inspectors find not only are "Summerfield has reported cases to United States Attorn- such prepartions useless for the promoters and quacks are eys for consideration of crimi- growing hair, but they are often laden with bacteria and can cause infection. Inspectors have noted a strange coincidence. Almost all promoters of cures for baldness are, themselves, extremely bald.

Reducing Schemes Reducing schemes are perhaps the most lucrative of med-In these circumstances, the ical frauds today. Products are postal inspectors lend technical sold at high prices through repassistance and contribute exten. resentations making outlandish claims of weight reducing. Material that swells in the stomach, medicated chewing gum, or pills are offered with the implication that proper diet, the only

known remedy, is unnecessary. The pills offered in a current promotion are guaranteed to curb appetite. Massive doses of the pills given in tests have had cancer, arthritis, skin trouble, no reaction whatsoever. Nonetheless, a gullible public buys

> Several weight reducing promotions currently under investigation are grossing between \$2 million and \$3 million a year.

In addition to the actual loss involved in medical frauds, and the untimely deaths of persons with serious illness who pinned their hopes on useless quackery, Postmaster General Summerfield pointed out that the medical quacks are flooding homes and offices with offensive advertising relating to their prod-

These are often offered for are not subject to postal inarthritis, rheumatism and for spection and the Post Office Department is limited in what it can do to prevent such mail "Unfortunately," Chief In going into homes, until the mail spector Stephen notes, "the quacks are discovered and put prosecution of the ghouls who out of business, Mr. Summer-

Report Frauds fully prosecuted because the "However," he added, "the patients who are the chief wit- citizen can help protect himself nesses die before the case is and others by reporting susalled up in court."

Many bust development gad the matter received in the mails of money to promoters. These inspector. Such reports are wel-

One such device for milady was a set or ordinary 2-pound dumbbells painted a dainty blue In a related fraud, an elas- Assn. Head

similar to an inexpensive El Camino math instructor, garter, has been selling for Richard T. Haley is the new president of the southern section of the California Teachers assn., following elections con-People in all walks of life still ducted on local campuses apparently believe there are throughout the month of April.

SWIM SCHEDULE TOLD AT EL CAMINO COLLEGE

Swimming instruction, recreation swimming, and an outdoor recreational program for boys and girls will be featured in the summer program outlined today by Merl F. Sloan, director of student personnel at El Camino col-

In a similar program offered Friday, are 4-5 p.m., minimum for the first time last summer, age, 7 years; 7-8 p.m., family more than 1000 persons utilized hour, adults 18 years and over the college swimming pools with children under 18 accomdaily, Sloan announced.

periods will open on June 17, In addition, one-hour recrea-July 1, July 15, July 29, and tional swimming periods will be August 12. Instruction tickets offered each Saturday starting for the first three periods will at 8, 9, 10, and 11 a.m. and at 1 be available June 15 from 8 - 10 and 2 p.m. Minimum age for a.m. in the Campus Center. Saturday swimming is 7. Tickets not sold at this time may For all phases of the swimbe purchased thereafter in the ming programs, swimmers must Business Office at the college, furnish their own suits and tow-Prospective enrollees are cau-els. Bathing caps are required tioned, however, that enrollment for girls. for instruction is generally The outdoor recreation pro-

tickets for the final two periods as archery, softball, tennis, volwill be available. The sixth ley ball, track events, checkers, week of the swimming program badminton, and gymnastics. will be devoted to a swim carni- This program will be offered

cluded in a program outlining through Friday. recreational activities of the col- The over-all recreational pro-

mer swimming, Monday through ers.

panied by parents; 9-10 p.m., Five two-week instructional adults 18 years and over.

gram, for which no charge is On July 27, from 8 - 10 a.m., made, will include such activities from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon and Hours of instruction are in- from 1 - 4:30 p.m. Monday

lege, where the sheet may be gram will be supervised by college physical education instruc-Recreational hours for sum- tors and student recreation lead-

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Has rabies tag. Brown leather

& silver chain collar. Reward for return to 3312 W. 187th Pl.

LOST OR STOLEN—Female English pointer dog, Brown head, white body with brown specks. Answers to name of "Kit." Reward Call DA. 6-7192 or DA. 6-0518

FOUND — Boy's brown leather jacket left at library around Xmas, 1406 Cravens.

FREE PIANOS

WHITMAN PIANO CO.

TOP SOIL & FILL DIRT— Excavating — Leveling Clean up work FR. 2-3056

MENT SERVICES

• HOME AND

ANNOUNCEMENTS • LEGAL NOTICES Announcements Funeral Homes NOT RESPONSIBLE for bills contracted for or by anyone other than myself. Improvement Services. 1b Lost and Found 12 • ANNOUNCEMENTS 2 Transportation Sanitariums and Rest Homes

Restaurants Health Aids Do-It-Yourself SERVICES Professional Services
Income Tax
Building and
Remodeling
Building Materials
Equipment Rentals
Plumbing Services
Repair Services
Gardening and
Landscaping
Nurseries
Carpet Cleaning
Moving and Movers
Instruction

Open 7 Days

EMPLOYMENT Situations Wanted
(Men)
Situations Wanted
(Women) (Men) Jnemyolqma

(Men) 70
Employment Offered (Women) 71
Employment Offered (Men and Women) 72 FINANCIAL Susiness Opportunities __ 76 eal Estate Loans 80
oney Wanted 81

Mortgages
(Trust Deeds) 83
Stocks and Bonds 85 REAL ESTATE Homes for Sale 86
Real Estate Trades 87
Summer Cottages
And Resorts 88
Lots for Sale (Business
And Residential) 92
Income Property
For Sale 94

For Sale 94

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Acreage, Farms,
Ranches 102

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ENITALS

RENTALS REAL ESTATE Houses for Rent
(Unfurnished)
Houses for Rent
(Furnished)
Apartments for Rent
(Unfurnished)

Apartments for Rent
(Furnished)
Rooms for Rent
Room and Board
Rentals Rentals
Miscellaneous
Wanted to Rent MISCELLANEOUS

Furniture
Mattresses
Rugs, Carpets,
Floor Covering
Appliances
Radio, Television
Equipment

Swaps _____ 174 Miscellaneous Wanted ___ 175 AUTOMOTIVE

 Trucks for Sale
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 Trucks for Rent
 179

 Trucks Wanted
 180

 Motorcycles for Sale
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 Motorcycles Wanted
 187

 Auto Repairing
 193

 Auto Parts
 195

 Automobiles Wanted
 198

 Automobiles for Sale
 200

NOTICE

TO PLACE WANT AD DIAL FA. 8-2345

SAY: "I want to place a want ad." All ads taken before our Tues-day deadline of 5 p.m. will ap-pear in Thursday's paper.

Cancellations . . Ad must appear in paper one time before it can be cancelled.

Errors . . .

• RESTAURANTS

The Torrance Press will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion of any advertisement and reserves the right to rectify all errors by a corrected insertion of the advertisement the following Thursday

1746 W. Adams Blvd. RE 1-7319 Open daily till 5:30 p.m. & Sun. 23 RESTAURANTS DON'T

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DANIEL'S CAFE

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