

Opposes Airport Bond

Editor,
Torrence Press
We are being told by campaigners for proposition "A" that the major purpose of the proposition is to make our Airport safe. Has anyone ever known of a safe airport? The larger they become, the more hazardous they become. If our citizens and public officials, who are campaigning for proposition "A" were so interested in public safety, they would do everything within their power to execute every possible means to completely abolish the Torrence Airport!

Right now, in the City of Van Nuys exists the great problem of having to close the Havenhurst Elementary School because of airline patterns which have proven to be too hazardous to its pupils, the Los Angeles Board of Education has declared. The school will be sold to the Airport Commission after June, with the result that 4,500 children will be placed on half-day sessions. This school was built with public tax funds; this school will be demolished with public tax funds, and whatever is put in its place will probably be paid for by public tax funds.

Evidently this situation was permitted to occur because of poor foresight, poor planning or perhaps too many voters at that time did not fully consider a bond proposal. Many similar situations of this type could occur in Torrence, if proposition "A" passes. Any improvement or enlargement of runways or landing strips would only be an invitation to larger and heavier aircraft, such as two motor and four motor planes. Even now there are chartered flights available to Catalina and Las Vegas from the Torrence Airport.

Think of the location of the Torrence Airport! Think of the number of schools within the immediate area of the Torrence Airport! The schools in the direct flight patterns, and most endangered are as follows:

Meadow Park, Newton, Parkway, Riviera, Seaside, Tulita, Howard Wood, Walteria, and the proposed Calle Mayor; South Torrence High, schools in Lomita, and some parochial schools.

The City of Torrence, even if its boundaries were extended another 10 miles in any possible direction, could never constitute the necessity of a municipal airport. We, the residents of Torrence, should be thankful that we have access to what someday will become one of, if not the, largest airports in the world—the Los Angeles International Airport! We are only a few miles or a few minutes away from it.

The City of Los Angeles has spent millions upon millions of dollars to exercise every means of precaution in the construction of its airport. Yet it is far from

100 per cent safe. The people who live in Playa Del Rey bear the brunt of approximately 250 take-offs per day, and all dwellings, schools, etc. along Century Blvd. bear approximately the same amount of landings per day, not including jet planes.

The Los Angeles Airport, with its enormous amount of air traffic, and with all its precautionary safety measures, still must rely on tax funds to maintain its development.

Make yours a definite no vote on the Airport Bond Issue — Proposition "A"!

Richard E. Schroeder

Challenge Claim
Editor,
Torrence Press.
An unreliable statement, which might bring disaster to Lomita, if enough people fail to challenge it, is found on Page 4 of a propaganda booklet recently mailed by the Lomita Chamber of Commerce. It is to

the effect that Lomita would receive about \$120,000 annually in retail sales taxes if it incorporated. That would be 1 per cent of twelve million dollars, a million a month for taxable goods.

Dividing \$120,000 by the estimated population of Lomita, based on dwellings, you get a sales tax of \$9.62 for each man, woman and child annually, for taxable goods. Food purchased in stores is tax exempt.

Compare this weird estimate with the experience of other places. Torrence, with its manufacturing and its great shopping districts, collected a sales tax of \$7.04 per capita for the year ending June 30. The figure for the county is \$6.80 per capita.

I challenge any candidate for city council of Lomita to tell the public who will spend a million dollars a month in Lomita for taxable goods. Many of us buy our food (tax exempt) here.

(Continued on Page 9, Col. 8)

Letters to the Editor

Do Unto Others

Editor,
Torrence Press:
We are writing in reference to a letter by Mary J. Hulise, which appeared in your Dear Editor section the third of October.

Mrs. Hulise states in her first paragraph, "I am proud to know that there are still some Americans left who have integrity, and intelligence to fight for their rights." Apparently Mrs. Hulise feels that only those Americans who agree with her opinions "have integrity and intelligence."

We happen to feel that not only every American but every human being has a right to fight for his rights. In a democratic society, however, this right imposes the responsibility of respecting the fact that the other fellow has the same rights and accepts the limits society sets for the protection of these rights.

The Supreme Court of our land has issued a decision to enforce the Constitutional guarantee of democratic rights to all our citizens, regardless of color. The violation of this decision in the Central High School issue in Little Rock, Arkansas, a violation which deprives some of our citizens of their constitutional guarantees, has provided ammunition to those all over the world who wish to portray our United States as undemocratic, hypocritical, and not to be trusted.

It is this violation of democracy in action, which, we assume, has inspired Mrs. H. to seek Arkansas as her preferred place of residence. Mrs. H. has a right to move wherever she pleases in this country. It is also her responsibility as an American citizen to accord that right to every other American, regardless of whether she approves of him. We also think that Mrs. H. has a right to believe what she pleases, and to try to persuade others to share her viewpoint, provided that she acts in a democratic manner. Mrs. H., however, is deceiving herself if she regards her expressed opinion in regard to our negro citizens as democratic.

Implicit in the meaning of democracy lies a meaning that constitutes the basis of most great religions—that we are all equal in the sight of God.

Our country was founded by people fleeing the persecution of those who recognized only one way—theirs—to worship God. From this experience our founders incorporated into our Constitution guarantees to protect the right of minorities. Too often it is forgotten that the greatness of our Constitution consists in a large measure precisely in this feature: the protection of the rights of minorities!

In a world where democracy is the professed aim of Russian, Chinese, Syrians, Africans, etc., it is vital for us to examine carefully the meanings implied by democracy for minority groups. Whether we like it or not, sheer survival demands that we earn to live in peace together. Among the peoples of the world, all children of God, those of us with white skins are a minority. Some day our children will have cause to be grateful if enough of us now remember to "Do unto others as ye would they should do unto you!"

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Friedman.
Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Greenlee.

same desires for a happy life—yes, and the same faults, too! I am sure there are negroes with the same fantastic prejudices toward whites that this woman has toward negroes.

Perhaps the greatest error this woman makes in her letter is her lumping of all negroes into one wicked group. Are we to believe that all negroes go around "bumping" and shouting insults? There must be five million people in this area who have never experienced this behavior. Does this woman not know that white men have been known to shout insults at ne-

gro women? Does this mean that all white men are of that gutter type? To a reasonable person, the actions of a few do not condemn an entire race. (I must confess that I have never heard of her "Bump Days.")

Again, she says that the California negro denies his ancestry. No doubt a few do, but in 35 years in Southern California, the past 10 in the L.A. area, I have yet to meet such a one. I have met some who could easily have passed for white if they had chosen to do so, yet they did not. Where has this young woman been? These ideas must have been obtained over back fences or in the whispered innuendoes of the professional racist. I suggest two additional courses for this young college student: One in logic; one in anthropology.

Sincerely—JAMES R. ENGLE



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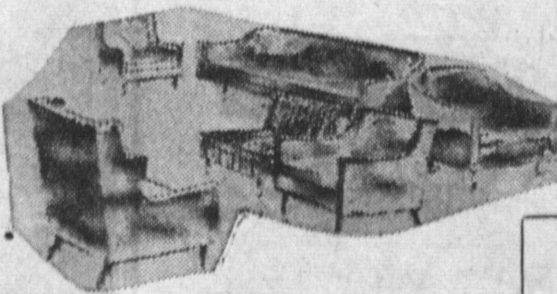
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