

The Press Editorials

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A Word of Praise

Summer, to youngsters in Torrance, is not an empty cup of time, waiting to be filled. Thanks to the Torrance recreation department, the recreation cup "runneth over."

In our opinion the activities offered to the children of this city surpass the fondest dreams of any youngsters with time on his hands and any mother looking for ways to keep junior busy until school reopens.

Despite the limited number of parks available to residents, excellence of programming and staffing have compensated activity-wise for what the city lacks facility-wise.

For the mother who is willing to do a little chauffeuring, it is possible to provide a child in this city with a schedule as full and diversified as that offered by any private camp—for pennies.

In the course of a single day a Torrance youngster might swim at the plunge, play golf at Sea-Aire Park, take a tennis lesson at El Retiro, do sand-casting at the Arts and Crafts Center and drop in at the nearest schoolyard for a round of caroms or a free cartoon.

Torrance young people are cooking in competition, writing and acting in original plays, and putting on concerts this summer.

They are taking trips to Disneyland, Chino, the harbor, Catalina Island, and the San Diego Zoo.

Last weekend Torrance youngsters performed in an aquacade at the plunge. This weekend they are putting on three productions: a dance-drama tonight, a concert tomorrow, and a play tomorrow. They will present a variety show at the Torrance Park Bandshell Sunday.

—And for those who yearn to get away from all this, a bus leaves tomorrow for Camp Clatswa, where they can enjoy a week of activity in the country . . . supervised by members of the Torrance recreation department.

Parents concerned over the welfare of their children can be thankful for the fine staff and splendid programs of the Torrance recreation department.

It's an outstanding antidote to some of the unfavorable publicity the city has recently received.

Hannah's Harpoons

BY HANNAH SAMPSON

Our older child had a birthday recently and along with her plan to have two friends sleep over and "stay up late and no one to tell us when to put out the lights," she decided to have ice cream on pancakes for her birthday breakfast.



Once the first shock has been surmounted, this request doesn't appear so ghastly. As my diplomat points out: "What's ice cream anyway except cream and other dairy products?" What indeed?

TV Gone

Both of our TV sets are on the blink now and thus far none seems to have noticed. For a while one set had the sound, and one, the picture. It was remarkably easy to become accustomed to turning both on and adjusting to the components. Well, everything has its compensations: the children have become members of the Henderson Library's Trail Blazers Reading Club, which is a summer inducement to reading. What's more, it seems to work. (That is: it seems to induce to read, so that one can get more stars on the map of California than anyone else has before school reconvenes.)

Another added feature of a TV-less domicile is that the evening seems to have a few more hours in it, which we love. When watching scheduled entertainment, the evening goes by all too quickly in half-hour segments; one finds oneself watching even uninteresting programs while waiting for something special. Without TV, there is reading, (check-

ers, last night!) planning, a little conversation, and a great deal of quiet.

I could learn to like this.

Greasy Spoon

On a recent trip to New York I was appalled by the hands out on all sides. For tips, that is. At the supermarket the boxboy tells you in advance that it will cost you 25c per sack (bag, they call it) to take it out to the car. The Postman leaves some kind of (more or less) subtle reminder that he expects to be remembered at Christmas time. Waiters in even the Greasiest Spoons, after literally throwing the food on the table after having made you wait until coma sets in, would trip you up if you neglected to tip.

What a pleasure it is, then, to return home to my friendly small city. Where the boy cheerfully carries the groceries out to the car, and then says with such charm, "Thank you m'am. Come back soon, y'hear?" By George, as Mago would say, it makes one feel cherished.

Quiet Cove

Chlorinated swimming pools are coming out of my ears. I long to go swimming in a quiet cove by the ocean; some protected place where there is no churning surf. Not a lake, either, but good, salty ocean. I wonder whether there is such a place hereabouts? (Like the one they show in that cigarette ad: where HE pushes the boat with HER in it and they wind up alone at last on the beach.) That's for me. Who knows of such a place?

IDEA FOR TODAY

Once the world is free, there will be no war or threats of war. Free men do not attack their fellow men. They want only to live in peace to enjoy the fruits of freedom.

IT'S AMAZING!



ALL THE CHICKS AND CHICKENS AT THE ELY FARM, ELY, ENGLAND, HAVE FOUR LEGS AFICE!!!

A CHINESE SWIMMER OF SHANGHAI STAYED IN HIS BATH FOR TWO MONTHS CONTINUALLY!!

IN MADAGASCAR, THE NATIVES USE THE YOLK OF OSTRICH EGGS IN LAUNDERING THEIR CLOTHES.....

A PERENNIAL PLANT GREW THRU THE SIDE OF A HOUSE INTO A ROOM, UP THRU THE ROOF AND OUT OF THE CHIMNEY!

(MONROE OREGON)

"HOW DO YOU SWEAT?" IS THE GREETING WHICH IS USED BETWEEN EGYPTIANS, BECAUSE PERSPIRATION IS A SIGN OF GOOD HEALTH AMONG THEM.

UNIVERSITY EXPLORER

Habit Is Linked With Behavior

Views or findings of a authority on a topic of University of California interest are brought to you regularly.

Few areas of psychological research are drawing as much attention as the study of early experience — the ways by which young animals and humans become aware of themselves and the world.

One increasingly productive and exciting phase of this work is known as imprinting," the study of how animals learn to behave socially towards members of their own species.

Paradoxically, the best way to study such social behavior is to isolate an animal from its natural mother and playmates immediately after birth and expose it to a foreign object or animal. In this way, psychologists can observe the precise, individual factors that influence social growth.

Imprinting has been demonstrated in a variety of ways, said Dr. William C. Beckwith, assistant research psychologist in the UCLA School of Medicine.

For example, isolated chicks have been hatched in an incubator and then presented with a plastic decoy duck wired for sound and driven mechanically around a track.

Within 16 to 72 hours after hatching, the chicks follow the decoy as they would a natural mother, making all the characteristic peeps of contentment.

Preferred His Keeper

A more striking example of imprinting involves a Dutch zookeeper who reared a male South American bittern — a subspecies of the heron family — and then tried to breed him with a female bittern.

It was soon apparent that the male bittern, isolated from other bitterns at birth, ignored his natural companion whenever the zookeeper was present. To force a mating, the keeper locked the two birds in a cage and lin-

ed it with gunny sacks.

It took some two years for the bitterns to mate, and only then, when the birds were nestling a clutch of eggs did the zookeeper make an appearance.

What happened? Immediately upon seeing the keeper, the male drove the female off the nest and performed a brief ceremony inviting his human friend to take over the hatching.

Almost every animal has been found susceptible to imprinting, said Dr. Beckwith.

Bizarre mother-substitutes in the form of cylindrical wire dummies have been imprinted on baby monkeys with such effect that in one experiment, no imprinted male was later able to mate successfully.

Dr. Beckwith himself has imprinted one species of fish on another, causing some imprinted fish to reject or kill their own young.

Most of the imprinting research to day is centered in two related areas, one dealing with "critical periods," the other with stimuli that affect imprinting.

The Critical Period

The critical period is the span of time in which an animal imprints the easiest.

While the duration of critical periods varies from species to species, even within the same species depending on the experimental technique used, most critical periods occur extremely early in life.

Among "precocial birds," birds that are able to run around immediately after hatching, chickens can be imprinted at the age of seven or eight minutes, while mallard ducks reach their critical period in 16 hours. Sheep kept in isolation for one or two months after birth will never mix with the flock, and the same applies to the normally gregarious chicken.

Among the stimuli that affect imprinting are light, sound and texture. Thus, the less light an animal is

exposed to, the longer his critical period can be extended.

Work by Dr. Harry Harlow of the University of Wisconsin on the wire-cylinder dummies mentioned before has revealed that baby monkeys prefer a cylinder wrapped in terry cloth to one that is uncovered, even if a feeding bottle is inserted into the uncovered dummy. Chickens have been imprinted on cuddlesome feather dusters.

How do all these findings relate to human learning and behavior?

'Joining' Human Race

Although experiments with humans similar to those with animals are impossible, many investigators believe in the possibility of human imprinting. In fact, they go so far as to say that babies "join the human race" and acquire lifelong social characteristics by a similar process.

It is believed by some psychologists that the critical period mechanism was evolved to enable infant animals to survive by forming quick, strong attachments within their own species and that the same may be true for human infants.

The findings of imprinters may have far-reaching effects, said Dr. Beckwith.

One would be in the handling of hospitalized infants and children. Through his work with the wire-cylinder some of the first experimental evidence that the need to touch and cling may be as fundamental for mediating attachment to a human as the sucking or nursing instinct.

In the area of education, many current practices would need drastic revision if it were experimentally proved that there are critical periods in which learning occurs "naturally" and without any need for reinforcement.

Wordsworth once wrote that "the child is father of the man," and modern day imprinters are busy proving that the statement contains as much truth as poetry.

The Cost of Longevity

A whimsical little item in the columns of one of our out of state contemporaries recently pointed a wry note of truth about our current politico-economic problems.

The item called attention to the fact that at the rate the medical profession is succeeding in lengthening our life expectancy we'd better be careful or we'll still be around to pay much of the immense tax burdens that would be built up by Medicare and the other social welfare handouts we're being urged to support.

Franklin Roosevelt's old reassurance that the size of the national debt isn't important since we merely owe it to ourselves, doesn't look so good if we can't palm the payments off on our grandkids, does it?

LIFE IN THE ROAR by WAINE



"THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT, MRS. BRADLEY—YOUR HUSBAND IS SUFFERING FROM AN INFERIORITY COMPLEX."

The Art of Living

By RED LOCKWOOD

Art of Living

The young wife wept quietly in the night.

Each sob tore the heart of the young husband who yearned to take her in his arms and share her sorrow but feared it would not be manly to show his fear.

"Why," he asked sternly, able to keep silent no longer, "do you weep?"

"Because," she said, "I am afraid."

"But," he asked, "why are you afraid?"

"You," she said, "would not understand. You are a man."

"I guess," he said, "men do not understand women and women do not understand men."

A sob was her reply.

"But," asked a voice, "why do you who in common bear the cross of hu-

manity not understand one the other?"

Who Are You?

"Who," chorused the young wife and the young husband, "are you?"

"I," said the voice, "am an unborn soul."

"Are you," asked the young wife, "ours whom I dread may not be born in health like the others?"

"That," replied the unborn soul, "is not for me to say."

"Is that," asked the young husband, "why you cry in the night? Out of fear for our unborn child?"

"It is," said the wife, "I guess, a woman's fear."

"But, a man, too, has fears," said the unborn soul. "Apart you are only man and only woman but, together, in comfort of one another, you are all of humanity."

LETTERS TO EDITOR

Unbiased Coverage

Dear Mr. Zappas,

I appreciate your attempt at unbiased coverage of the recent racial demonstrations in the Riviera Royale Southwood Tract of Torrance. Although the articles were brief, they were more in the spirit of the Los Angeles Times than was the very

biased news reporting of the local daily.

Please convey my thanks to your editor. I prefer straight news reporting — then I'll make my own judgments.

Sincerely,
Adele Cole
Torrance

Trees or Parking?

To The Editor:

May I take the liberty of making a suggestion?

I am no longer young, have been in business most of my life, and in my youth, I had slight connection with the newspaper field.

It has been my observation that public favor of a paper, with its acceptances voice (and consequently value to advertiser) is based on "for and against" stands.

In this I think we agree, if I noted correctly you blaze following last month's police scandal.

The recent upheaval of our street has left most of the papers mute — for reasons other than a "my city, may she ever be right" acceptance, I hope; but the public has been more outspoken.

I understand that the Fire Department takes a dim view of the narrow driving lanes we have now.

The bus company is disturbed that even a right turn to enter a street necessitates backing to avoid the islands created at street ends.

I have yet to meet the driver who prefers parallel parking.

Just a suggestion, Respectfully,
W. W. McCann
1327 El Prado
P.S. "A Tree Grows in Torrance."

It would run into higher mathematics to figure the cost per tree to the taxpayer; but the price per parking space gained is a bit simpler — just over \$3500 each. From what we have heard the public say about parallel parking, we believe trees could also be planted in the 30 spaces gained by the upheaval and perhaps in some of the others.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS	3. Rugged mountain crest	23. Greek letter
1. Male deer	4. Biological factor	24. Most effortless
5. Pecks	5. Cheerlessly	25. Gloried, as in victory
9. Portion	6. Melody	26. Ate sparingly
10. Angry	7. Musician	29. Spring
12. Eucharistic plate	8. Cubic meter	30. Periods of time
13. Tendon	9. Says	31. Flower branch
14. Choice group	11. Pitcher	32. Depart
15. Mother (Sp.)	17. Sloping roadways	35. Fish
16. Toward the sheltered side	20. Plainness	37. Bill of an anchor
17. Sun god	21. Yes (Sp.)	
18. Sea (comb. form)		
19. A knockout		
20. Light wood		
22. Modernized person		
28. Greek letter		
29. Things (law)		
31. Great quantity (colloq.)		
33. Hawaiian bird		
34. At home		
35. Variety of wheat		
36. Monetary unit of India		
38. Harangue		
39. Outer garment		
40. Washed		
41. Places		
42. Ogled		
DOWN		
1. Onionlike plant		
2. Potato (dial.)		