

Press-Herald

GLENN W. PFEIL

Publisher

REID L. BUNDY Managing Editor

Wednesday, October 21, 1964

Re-Elect Mr. Chapel

Charles Edward Chapel, one of California's colorful and quotable legislators, is seeking and deserves re-election to the Assembly from the 46th District.

An Assemblyman since 1950, Mr. Chapel has compiled a record of legislative accomplishment that should be the envy of each of his colleagues.

He was the author of California's first anti-loan-shark law in 1955; he authored the "Nalline" anti-narcotic law; has been in the forefront in the battle against smut, pornography, and salacious literature, and has been instrumental in fighting salt water intrusion of area water tables, protection of shorelines from offshore oil operations, and promotion of Redondo Beach's marina.

Off the floor of the Assembly, Mr. Chapel has provided some lively copy for newspapers through speech and action. He is one of the area's most popular speakers, and is called on often to explain some of the many ramifications of state government.

In addition to his legislative work, Mr. Chapel is the author of a number of definitive books on aviation, electronics, firearms, and police science.

He has had an active military career including service as a Marine Corps officer; Judge Advocate of the 5th U. S. Naval District, and has been decorated for service in Nicaragua and China.

Mr. Chapel's record is one of outstanding service to his district, and his re-election on Nov. 3 is recommended.

Assemblymen Endorsed

Two veteran Assemblymen who have represented the neighboring 67th and 68th Assembly Districts for more than 20 years are seeking election to new terms on Nov. 3, and the Press-Herald believes each has earned the right to re-election.

Assemblyman Vincent Thomas, representing the Torrance, Wilmington, and Harbor Areas since 1940, has been a prime mover in many undertakings on behalf of Torrance.

Mr. Thomas has been a strong booster of Harbor Area development and was so dissatisfied with the progress the City of Los Angeles was making in development of the area that he introduced and nearly won passage of a bill that would have permitted San Pedro to secede from the city.

The culmination of one of his most active campaigns came at dedication ceremonies a year ago for the Vincent Thomas Bridge spanning the main channel and connecting the mainland with Terminal Island.

An oldtimer in the Assembly but a relative newcomer to the Torrance scene is Assemblyman Clayton A. Dills of Gardena, whose 67th District was expanded to include a large segment of Torrance north of Torrance Boulevard at the last reapportionment. Mr. Dills has been an able legislator and deserves support of voters in his district.

As a large part of Mr. Dill's present district does include Torrance residents, it might be well taken to urge the Assemblyman to increase his awareness of this important area.

Re-election of Mr. Thomas and Mr. Dills is recommended.

Elect Congressman Bell

Republican Alphonzo E. Bell, whose 28th Congressional District represents one of the wierdest gerrymandered areas of the nation, represents a cross section of Southern California voters ranging from the Palos Verdes Peninsula to the far reaches of the San Fernando Valley.

The Republicans were practically handed the area on a platter when the Legislature carved up the state into new districts four years ago. The strongly Republican oriented areas were tied together loosely in one package, held together in one place by the width of the beach.

This is Mr. Bell's domain, and he is asking for re-election to Congress as the area's representative.

The Press-Herald believes Mr. Bell's re-election is needed.

Congressman Bell offers on behalf of his constituents the hope that his vote may be effective in stemming the ever pressing trends toward bigger and bigger government, coupled with more and more governmental control of our everyday lives.

Re-election of Mr. Bell could be a step against this trend.

Opinions of Others

"This whole spectacle of federal encroachment on the liberties of the individual pinpoints the fact that Washington is not solely responsible for the growing centralization of federal authority. States, cities, and individuals as well must share part of the blame. The really worrisome thing about it, too, is that so few people these days even seem to think about the likely destination of all these supposedly free rides on the gravy train."—Rosholt (S.D.) Review.

"I like newspapers that are extremists — newspapers that have ideals, newspapers that print what the people need to know and not necessarily what they want to read. Some day, it is hoped . . . newspapers will be so extreme as to be recognized for their strength of character. May we never be so liberal as to forget our ideals."—Humboldt (Iowa) Independent.



HERE AND THERE by Royce Brier

The Coffee Issue Appears Too Hot to Handle Today

Clearly rubber is more important to us than coffee — no rubber, no automobiles. But early in 1942, the furor over our rubber shortage did not surpass that over our coffee shortage. We could live and work without coffee, but we didn't think we could. As American housewives know, coffee prices on the grocery shelves have fluctuated rather wildly since 1958. Rises have affected the family budget a few dollars, but falls have affected the whole economies of Latin American coffee, and the United States is the chief Brazilian market, but Colombia, Guatemala and several other nations are large producers. (The United States imports over half of the world's coffee, and drinks 441 million cups a day.)

But with the problem of policing an agreement, using a complicated certificate-of-origin system, the House of Representatives narrowly defeated American participation last August, though the Senate had voted for it. Some Congressmen averred the agreement would penalize American consumers with fixed high prices, though coffee authorities deny this, saying it would put a floor under prices, but also prevent runaway prices. Nevertheless, coffee prices rose after the agreement went into effect in December, and earned an "I-told-you-so" for opponents. But coffee economists, north as well as south, assert prices rose, not because of the agreement, but due to major crop failures in several areas last year, and a chaotic condition of the Brazilian market with the political upheavals of last winter.

Latin American coffee producers are puzzled. They don't say so publicly, but privately they suggest the Administration held up the bill until after the election, lest housewives be confronted with a price rise. This intriguing idea is scoffed at by most coffee economists. Last month the Colombian Senate unanimously approved a resolution expressing "surprise" at the August vote, and the current delay. In Guatemala, newspapers are critical of anti-agreement congressmen, saying any rise in consumer prices would be negligible compared with the millions being allocated to the Alliance for Progress.

The Eisenhower Administration initiated a world coffee stabilization program, and the Kennedy Administration carried it out. An International Coffee Council convened in London, and is still in session.

Now there is a new bill before the House for American participation, but it has been subject to delays.

While biased, the argument seems to have substance. It appears obvious that a sound and profitable coffee production in Latin America, with stabilization fair to both producer and consumer, is likely to do more for the whole Latin American economy than the Alliance, which hasn't so far accomplished much.

BOOKS by William Hogan

Young Writer Recalls His Early Life in Louisiana

In the early 1940s, 10-year-old Ernest J. Gaines lived and worked on a plantation just west of Baton Rouge, La. It was then he started to write, he admitted during a visit to our office the other day. Not fiction, of course. As a bright student he was hired to write letters for the old folks in the community, some of whom could neither read nor write themselves. They paid the young scribe with sugar cookies and pralines.

Now 31 and a San Franciscan, Gaines is the author of a first novel, "Catherine Carmier," which Atheneum will publish this week. This is a warmly human story set in a Southern community like the one from which the author sprang. As a novel in progress, it won a Jackson Award in 1959, when Gaines was studying in Wallace Stegner's writing program at Stanford. It was neither at Stanford nor earlier at San Francisco State that he "learned" the craft of fiction.

This, he feels, grew directly from his role as a child letter-writer. "Although Catherine Carmier" concerns a Negro who returns to a Southern community following his California education, Gaines says it is not autobiographical. One of its supporters is the writer and teacher Walter van Tilburg Clark, a judge in the 1959 Jackson competition. Not noted for overblown or careless statements on the work of promising writers, Clark wrote of this: "A beautiful book — simple, direct, quiet, steadily and unfailingly moving — These are truly great people—all of them."

In a sense, Gaines is still writing their letters.

slave-holding society — a great theme for a novel.

Qualifications of a candidate are mainly reflected in where he stands on such limited issues, however important they may be, but hardly as important as the need for leadership involving 175 million Americans and the role of America as the defender of freedom throughout the world.

The recent Negro writers conference, at Asilomar turned him toward Negro history. Gaines had never heard about any of this in school, or college. Suddenly he was fired by what Horace Clayton, Saunders Redding and others had to say about it. Gaines is reading Frederick Law Olmstead, the 19th Century Connecticut author of "A Journey in the Seaboard Slave States" and other works on the

They are status symbols. After all, a guy who can't describe what's under the hood has to have something mechanical to brag about when he shows off his new car. — Jim Wessman, auto dealer about gadgetry.

Our consciences punish us less for neglecting to make any New Year's resolutions than for making some and breaking most or all of them."—Olin Miller, Portage (Pa.) Journal Mainliner & Dispatch.

"There is nothing wrong with a good political joke—unless it gets elected."

AFTER HOURS by John Morley

Ability Seldom A Factor In Presidential Election

Philadelphia, Pa. — Only history determines whether a President was great.

The judgment of history is that rarely have the American people selected a great President.

Unfortunately, history does not usually reveal why this is so. And this is probably why the nation continues to settle for less than the best.

Good men have been defeated—and mediocre men defied popular pre-election statistics and won. This is probably due to a mixture of popular indifference, unpredictable human behavior and the ability of a candidate to defy the laws of experience and qualification to high office.

Rarely has ability elected a man to the Presidency. The decisive decision usually rests on the national economy, real or imaginary, the popularity of the political party in power, the status of war or peace, and the personal image of the candidate himself.

In a world glued to the TV set, the personal image is of major impact, as the victories of Truman over Dewey, Eisenhower over Taft, Kennedy over Nixon, have clearly indicated.

Philadelpha, Pa. — Only history determines whether a President was great.

The judgment of history is that rarely have the American people selected a great President.

Unfortunately, history does not usually reveal why this is so. And this is probably why the nation continues to settle for less than the best.

Good men have been defeated—and mediocre men defied popular pre-election statistics and won. This is probably due to a mixture of popular indifference, unpredictable human behavior and the ability of a candidate to defy the laws of experience and qualification to high office.

Rarely has ability elected a man to the Presidency. The decisive decision usually rests on the national economy, real or imaginary, the popularity of the political party in power, the status of war or peace, and the personal image of the candidate himself.

In a world glued to the TV set, the personal image is of major impact, as the victories of Truman over Dewey, Eisenhower over Taft, Kennedy over Nixon, have clearly indicated.

row will have to be a rare combination of statesman and diplomat, conversant in the way of languages and world problems. He needs to be a philosopher-economist who would weigh human and economic necessity, without political expediency, but with practical balance between social compassion and sound financial practice.

He would defend principle, not pressure groups of majority or minority. And he would uphold traditional American freedoms as the most sacred endowment to be preserved at all costs.

Our Man Hoppe

This Spy Tale A Real Shocker

By Arthur Hoppe

HOW ABOUT THAT? Now the Democrats have caught a spy. They say one of their loyal workers was paid \$1,000 by the Goldwater forces to spirit away "campaign schedules and advance texts" of Mr. Johnson's speeches.

The Democratic national chairman, Mr. John Bailey, says righteously he is "deeply shocked and disturbed" by the whole episode. Me, too.

What if the plot had succeeded? What if the Republicans discovered exactly what Mr. Johnson was going to say in advance? Why, they could write speeches for Mr. Goldwater undercutting Mr. Johnson right and left.

Oh, I can just see the jubilant scene in Republican Headquarters as their master spy slips stealthily in and triumphantly draws forth from under his cloak the advance text of Mr. Johnson's address to the Muncie, Ind., Hog Lovers Association.

Head Strategist: You've got it! Master Spy (wearily): Yes. It's blood-stained here and there. But let us not think of the cost in human lives.

Head Strategist: We've only got three hours left before he delivers it. Tell our battery of speech writers to stand by. The Senator will make a major address on network tee-vee in two hours. Oh, we'll undercut him on every issue before he can raise them.

Chief Speech Writer: Wonderful! What an opportunity to change the course of history. What's he say? Head Strategist (reading): "Howdy, folks. How y'all? It sure is good to get down here and press the flesh of so many fine, friendly . . ."

Chief Speech Writer: Try the next paragraph. Head Strategist: Well, let's see. That seems to be a story about a Baptist minister down Texas way who . . .

Chief Speech Writer: Try the next page. Head Strategist (turning the page): ". . . and the minister says to this here fellow running for Congress . . ."

Chief Speech Writer Better skip a couple of pages. Head Strategist (leafing through the text): ". . . and the minister says . . . And this here fellow he says . . . 'Here we are! Listen. 'Well, now, that's enough funning folks. I know you came down here tonight to hear me talk about the issues.'"

Chief Speech Writer (eagerly): That's it, the issues! Head Strategist (reading on): "And I'm going to tell you all tonight right smack dab where I stand on the issues."

Chief Speech Writer: Hot dog, the inside stuff! Head Strategist: "I'm against poverty, shooting from the hip, wasteful spending, war, sin, the Ku Klux Klan, and infectious dandruff."

Chief Speech Writer (rubbing his hands): Great. We've got him cold. All we have to do is come up with a brilliant speech assailing his stand on these issues. Tell me, which do you think we ought to come out for more strongly, poverty or the Ku Klux Klan?

So I'm deeply shocked and disturbed as Mr. Bailey. If not more so. What disturbs me most is that I had four of Mr. Johnson's advance texts around here somewhere. And I can't find them. So there goes \$4,000.

True, three were advance texts of speeches he gave last month on his Western tour. And one was left over from his 1960 campaign. But I ask you, who'd know the difference?

We Quote . . . Morning Report:

The Internal Revenue Service never sleeps as a lot of people have learned to their sorrow. That's why next year the tax forms are going to be all different—easier to fill out.

And the reason why the forms are going to be simpler is so they can be fed into data processing machines. Any added comfort to the taxpayer is not planned—just a fringe benefit from automation.

This is a major breakthrough. Up until now it's been the other way around. Automation, where it has not tossed people out of jobs, has made life more complicated—like those new telephone numbers that nobody can remember.

Our consciences punish us less for neglecting to make any New Year's resolutions than for making some and breaking most or all of them."—Olin Miller, Portage (Pa.) Journal Mainliner & Dispatch.

Abe Mellinkoff