### B-10 PRESS-HERALD **JAMES DORAIS**

### NOVEMBER 10, 1965

# The Golden Age of Crime Noted by British Expert

Is crime a partisan problem

A man whose car is stolen can be either a Democrat or a Republican. A purse snatcher seldom inquires into his victim's party registration

Yet in California, Republicans tend to blame the sharply upward trend in crime statistics on the fact that Demograts held hoos; of state and local political of-fices. And Democrats defend the charge by denying that the crime statistics are valid.

In this kind of argument, causes of rising The causes of rising crime rates are effectively ob-scured. A helpful bit of per-spective is contained in a re-cent address by a prominent British attorney. Lord Shaw-cross. before the Chicago Crime Commission. Shaw-Cross who has held import crime cross, who has held impor-tant law enforcement posts in British government under both the Labor and Conser-

## Revolving **Fund Gets** More Study

Establishment of a \$2,000 revolving fund for the city of Lomita has been delayed at least until Dec. 13.

Lomita councilmen Morday voted to continue a public hearing on the proposal until their Dec. 13 meeting.

The revolving fund would be used to pay city bills dur-ing the month when the ccun-cil does not meet. Lomita councilmen meet only once each month, resulting in some difficulty when bills are predifficulty when bills are pre-sented, according to City Ad-ministrator Stanley Green.

Under the proposed revolv-ing fund, Green could pay bills up to \$500 provided Mayor Clyde S. Bernhardt first gives his approval A maximum of \$2,000 would be set for the month.

## **Carson** Area **Road Project** Is Under Wav

Work is now under way on two Carson area road projects which will cost total of \$24,850.

A major project, costing \$15,000, will be repaying a portion of Normandie Ave-nue hear Sepulveda Boulevard, according to the Board of Supervisors. The new pav-ing will connect with a curb and gutter project completed by a property developer.

The second street job will include new paving, curbs and gutters along a portion of Vermont Avenue in vicin-ity of 228th Street.

Road Department engineers designed the projects and will supervise the improvements

### TRAIL RIDERS

Twenty-five children from the Tee Pee Trail Riders Club of the Torrance YWCA will be guests of the 40th arnual Great Western Exposition and Livestock Show to open Ny. 17 at the Great Western 17 at the Great Western Exhibit Center, Santa Ana Freeway and Atlantic Boulecard Los An

vative parties, observes that the rules. In most foreign the crime problem is just as alarming in England as it is systems of law, he points out, the judge's role "is akin" here to that of a scientist in a lab

He cites several obvious causes, which he considers secondary: decline in reli-gious belief, breaking up of homes through divorce, the increase in working moth-ers, diminution in parental responsibility and discipline. oratory: to ascertain th truth by all proper means.

responsibility and discipline. increased mobility. All of these factors certainly exist here as well.

But the principal reason he gives for the increase in crime in England — also a reason that certainly would seem to apply here — is simply that crime pays. "The criminal," Shawcross ob-serves, "is living in a golden age

It is his contention that crime is booming because crime is booming because more and more people get away with it. The chances are good and the rewards are high. "There is no doubt." he declares. "that the probability of detection and punishment, rather than the severity of punishment itself, is one of the most po-tent deterrents, when it exist."

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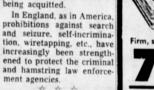
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**RUGGED BUNK** 

One problem, according t

Shawcross, is that in Eng-land the police are grossly undermanned and under-equipped. He points out that there are more points out that there are more police in the city of Paris than in all of England. Another problem is that criminal law is too heavily weighted in favor of the criminal and against the innocent. If a criminal is ap-prehended and pleade not prehended and pleads not guilty, the chances are over 50 per cent in his favor of



Lord Shawcross also ques-tions the age-old concept of the role of the judge under the Anglo-Saxon sy st em, which America inherited, under which the judge is like an umpire in a game of sport whose prime duty is to see that both sides play by

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