

Press-Herald

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National YMCA Week

In 1844 a young man of 22 named George Williams gathered with a group of friends in London and formed an organization designed to make life a bit more bearable for workers caught in the cruelties of the industrial revolution of that time. The organization was named the "Young Men's Christian Association."

Seven years later in Boston, a sea captain, Thomas V. Sullivan, read of this London society and set himself to the task of establishing the first YMCA in the United States. The rest is history. And during the week beginning today, this country will observe National YMCA week.

It is a thoroughly deserved tribute. The goals of the YMCA are all designed for a single purpose: To develop better citizens of the nation and the world—better in mind, in body, and in heart.

Torrance is blessed with a strong and active YMCA program. The number of families directly involved in the many YMCA programs would make a city of sizeable note and the number of individuals would make a welcome crowd at any Saturday afternoon football game.

In a stable community or in a troubled world, the YMCA performs a profound and needed service.

GUEST EDITORIAL

Morality and Freedom

(Editor's Note: During last Tuesday's meeting of the City Council, Mayor Albert Isen called for an amendment to the city charter which would prohibit topless attire in public places. Such an amendment, if finally approved by the City Council, would be submitted to a vote of Torrance citizens at the April 12 municipal election. In today's guest editorial, the mayor discusses his reasons for asking for the amendment.)

By ALBERT ISEN
Mayor, City of Torrance

In recent years we have witnessed a rising tide of pornography, nudity, and promiscuity. Much of this evil has been permitted in the name of freedom, and as moral values declined the crime rate went up. A relatively new offense is the current vogue of "topless" or "bare-bosom" waitresses, the obvious and only purpose being to entice customers by an exhibition of semi-nude women. The past two years have brought a plague of these "topless" establishments, which are a blight on this entire area.

This is a community of young residents of families with minor children. The average age is 26 years. It is essential that a high moral climate be maintained. Our young people are being constantly exposed to the ugliness and vulgarity of gaudy signs and suggestive advertisements of disreputable "topless" hangouts. They should be protected from the evil and corrupt influences that emanate from such peep-show establishments. A very real danger exists here in that stigmatization of sex offenders and other undesirables has resulted in increased criminality.

Your city government took action by enacting Ordinance 1584, which prohibits exposure of bare bosoms in public. Prosecution was ordered under this ordinance and under a California Penal Code section which prohibits any outrage of public decency. However, we still face the following questions:

• Has the state pre-empted the city's right of home rule in this type of case?

This is yet to be determined. The Legislature has so far consistently refused to take action.

• Does prosecution under our ordinance reflect our city's attitude regarding indecent exposure?

In order to have effective law enforcement, it is necessary to establish the moral standards of the community, so that it may be determined whether public decency has been outraged. A city charter amendment to this effect would reaffirm ordinance 1584 by a vote of the people. It would legally establish this community's moral standards against public nudity and indecent exposure. A city ordinance can be amended or repealed by a majority vote of the city council, but the city charter can be amended or repealed only by a majority vote of the electorate.

The city attorney has been instructed to prepare the proposed charter amendment, which will be placed on the council agenda for Tuesday, Feb. 1, 1966. At that time, I will request the City Council to place this measure on the ballot for your approval at the forthcoming municipal election of April 12, 1966.

This will afford an opportunity for the residents of Torrance to stand up and be counted on the issue of decency and morality. An overwhelming public response may shake the legislators in Sacramento out of their lethargy and arouse them to action.

Morning Report:

Communists in Peking keep on saying the nastiest things about Communists in Moscow. And rightly, too. Those Moscow Reds just can't always be trusted any longer to act as they used to.

For one thing, they invited the premiers of Pakistan and India to Russia to settle their differences over Kashmir. This is something the West had been trying to do for 15 years—without any success. Although Russia may eventually qualify for our loser's club, China, which wants fighting in Kashmir, can't even apply.

Domestically as well the two powers are at odds. Russia is trying to double its production of private automobiles and China is still short on wheelbarrows.

Abe Mellinkoff

Shortest Cut In History



JAMES DORAIS

Shriver Adds Negative Tax Plan to 'Rag-Bag'

One of the newest proposals of Poverty War boss Sargent Shriver is the so-called negative income tax, which would give people with an income of less than, say, \$3,000 per year an automatic government subsidy sufficient to bring them an amount close to the income level of those in the lowest taxable bracket.

The funny thing about Shriver's brainstorm is that it isn't original. He stole it. And from a most unlikely source.

The negative income tax originated with the conservative economist, Professor Milton Friedman of the University of Chicago, a Goldwater brain-truster during the 1964 presidential election campaign handily won by Shriver's boss.

Friedman described his idea as follows: "The rate of subsidies could, of course, be graduated just as the rates of tax above the exemptions are. In this way it would be possible to set the floor below which no man's net income (defined now to include the subsidy) could fall.

"The advantages of this arrangement are clear. It is directed specifically at the problem of poverty. It gives help in the form most useful to the individual, namely cash. It operates outside the market . . . it does not eliminate incentive entirely as a system of supplementing in-

comes up to some fixed minimum would. An extra earned dollar always means more money available for expenditure . . ."

The conservative economist pointed out that in 1961 about \$33 billion were spent on direct welfare payments, farm subsidy payments, social security and related programs.

"The 1961 expenditures of \$33 billion would have financed outright cash grants . . . of nearly \$3,000 per consumer unit to the 20 per cent with the lowest income . . . A program which supplemented the incomes of the 20 per cent . . . with the lowest income so as to raise them to the lowest income of the rest would cost less than half of what we are now spending."

The point of Friedman's negative income tax plan was to substitute it for the vast array of bureaucrat-manned, IBM card-ridden programs dealing with separate facets of the welfare problem. "If enacted as a substitute for the present rag-bag of measures directed at the same end," he argued, "the total administrative burden would surely be reduced."

This isn't Eunice Kennedy Shriver's husband's idea at all. In reactivating Friedman's negative income tax plan, he merely proposes to add it to the rag-bag.

Opinions of Others

Despite the Reserve Bank's repeated warnings, government economists still profess to see little or no danger from the pressure of high prices. Though they may be right, consumers get the uncomfortable feeling that the dangers to their pocketbooks increase each time they shop for food. —Harrisonburg (Va.) News-Record.

Been wondering what's happened to that extra money you are supposed to have in your pocket as a result of federal tax cuts? The Tax Foundation has the answer. Steadily rising state, federal, and local taxes will eat up about four fifths of the cut. States and local governments are scrambling to get revenues to match federal funds in order to qualify under many of the new programs. Social security-medicare taxes will add \$101.55 to most federal tax bills this year.—Huntington (Ind.) Herald-Press.

A bill to give private industry a break—specifically a tax break—on the costs of job training within industry, has recently been introduced in the House of Representatives. We find ourselves very much in agreement with the basic concept on which the bill appears to be based. With very few exceptions, the government-run job training programs have been noted for their lack of success. There's more definite purpose in private industry's program, and an interest in high-quality training because a company knows just what skills its workers need.—Littiz (Pa.) Record and Express.

Any man should have the right to change his mind; but when he does, voters should be especially careful in evaluating his reasons for his new position. This is particularly true when the issue at stake is one which involves freedoms. In the Herald-News' opinion, too many American rights and freedoms have been diluted, abridged, or withdrawn in order to serve the interests of special groups.—Hamilton (Tex.) Herald-News.

There is an immense market outside the United States for all the food this nation could produce. The market consists of around 500 million people in the world who are trying to get by—and generally failing—on a starvation diet. If a program were adopted whereby the United States would raise as much food as its farmers wanted to and sell it overseas, it would have a profound effect both on the buying countries, and the United States.—Alameda (Calif.) Times-Star.

HERB CAEN SAYS:

Bavasi's Gift to Feeney Gets Him Where It Hurts

GULLIBLE'S TRAVELS: Buzzy Bavasi, gen. mgr. of the L.A. Dodgers, really knows how to hurt a guy. His Christmas gift to Chub Feeney, Vice-Pres. of the Giants, was a set of drinking glasses inscribed "Giants vs. Twins — 1965 World Series" . . . Columnists Are No Dumb Good (cont'd): A few editions ago, I blabbed that Dorothy Rosen, co-owner of the House of Bars 'n' Stools, would be a contestant on "What's My Line?" — and now her appearance has been canceled. I'm sorry, Dorothy, and kindly put down that bar stool . . . Those "Make Love, Not War" stickers have sprouted an offshoot visible in the windows of the men's dorm at San Jose State: "Draft Beer, Not Students" . . . Ex-Stripper Gypsy Rose Lee, assiding to Mike Connolly: "I have a head cold — and that's the last place I expected to get one!" . . . Incidentally, did you know that men who like to watch topless dancers are called "Chestnuts?" I see.

the Italian sexpot who was discovered eating Pizza in a tiny Napoli pizzeria. She came up from L.A. because she'd always wanted to visit S.F. "and it's everything I heard." She didn't say what she'd heard . . . At the Buena Vista, here were this big guy and his pretty bride, she having a drink, he sipping water. When Claude Jarman, S.F.'s only Oscar winner ("The Yearling") offered to buy him a drink, he said, "I'm in training, and besides I can afford to buy my own drinks." True. Carl McAdams, All-American from Oklahoma, who had just signed with the N.Y. Jets for \$300,000.

OUT OF MY MIND: Any candidate who runs on only a single campaign promise — "TWO Street Signs on Every Corner!" gets my vote . . . Overrated pleasures: going backstage on opening night to meet the star, birthday cake, reading in the bathtub, a session with a fortune-teller . . . Wondering muse: What do people who don't like tea say instead of "It isn't my cup of tea?" . . . Ornithological note: Sturnus vulgaris sounds like the perfect Latin name for the pigeon, but actually it's the starling, a bird that isn't my cup of tea, either . . . California wine is fine, but can't somebody do something about the corny labels on the bottles? In that department, the French are miles, or kilometers, ahead (the numbered Mouton Rothschild label, for instance, is a minor work of art) . . . People who haven't got a chance in this world: Those who like their coffee cool, their drinks without a lemon twist, their hamburgers rare, their gas tanks filled not QUITE to

overflowing . . . Real San Franciscan: One who rides three blocks beyond his destination on a cable car, to make sure the conductor collects his fare.

YOU THINK those kids at Cal waste all their time demonstrating for peace, civil rights and those other dumb things? Wrong. New on the campus is the Royal Order of Spidermen, whose bible is the Spiderman comic books, and whose leader, the Imperial Black Widow, is Ron Gordon, a 20-year-old pre-med student. Who can fall to respond to their slogan: "Friend of all, regardless of race, creed, color or number of legs?" On their first demonstration: a mass protest against insect spray? "We plan," reports Gordon, "to organize 12,000 black widow spiders for a crawl down Berkeley's main drag, followed by a web-in in Sprout Hall." Through the sale of pickled spider webs, the Spidermen hope to raise enough money to send venom to anti-Communist Asian spiders. Let's all get behind these fine people.

ALAS, ALACK, ALASKA: There's bad news today, folks. A big-budget CBS TV series titled "Crooked Street" — a reference to our Lombard St. curlicue — that was to be filmed here has been switched to Miami Beach, with a change of title, of course. "We wasted a lot of time waiting around for the sun," reports Producer Herbert Leonard, who did the estimable "Naked City" series, "but San Francisco's unending bad weather, fog and dampness convinced us we had to move." The first nem Herbert I ever heard of.

SLIGHTLY USED CONFETTI: Bing Crosby and Ella Fitzgerald ad libbed "You're the Cream in My Coffee" in the Venetian Room the other night, and I do mean ad libbed. Neither one could remember the words . . . Up at Gen. Mgr. Pierre Bultinck's suite at the Mark Hopkins, Russell Nye arose to sing the ever-popular "I Wonder Why" and "Call Me Madam," the show in which he won everlasting fame. Russell performed because it was Bultinck who discovered him years ago, singing in a tiny Greenwich Village bar, and the rest is history. Isn't it? . . . Also at the Bultinck bash was Claudia Cardinale,

ROYCE BRIER

Mike Quill's Antics Lay Bare a City's Sick Soul

In the last century the English historian Bryce said the foremost weakness of American life was to be seen in its cities. He was speaking of political corruption, but he might as well have alluded to corruption of the soul.

The great city as a social organism is in a parlous state, not only in America but across the world. This has been evident for half a century, and possibly was true of ancient cities, but the sickness has been worsened by technological vulnerability. A city like New York, that appears to have everything, can lose everything in a hurry.

Three times in recent

months the city has been thrown into chaos, first by the communications crisis of a newspaper strike, then by a power blackout, then by a transport paralysis.

These disasters, extortionate in money and loss of energy, could have been prevented. But it is not the nature of New York or many another city, to prevent disaster by taking thought. A vast aggregation of people, tensely striving to live in a brittle economic structure, is not good soil for the growth of foresight and a reasonable give-and-take between men.

When you gather 8 million people in one commu-

nity, you develop a situation in which each individual is at the mercy of all other individuals, and also at the mercy of a condition. The socio-economic structure raised may thus contain small groups of a few thousand each, pursuing selfish ends regardless of consequences, can disrupt the entire 8 million. Or in the second case, a faulty switch in a powerhouse can produce the same disruption.

Attending the calamity in the strike case is a conspicuous side effect: attainment of justice is forgotten, and uppermost is a struggle of two opposing forces for power and victory.

For who knows if the transport workers are underpaid or overpaid? Few not directly concerned are interested in the wage question; hence it is minimized in the news. What was overwhelmingly reported: Can Mike Quill lick a new Mayor and the law?

This in itself is a sign of sickness, seated in a failure of a sense of proportion. The mentally healthy face reality; the sick retreat from it.

It is futile to exorcise Quill as some sort of demon because he tore up court orders for television audiences. Quill is a typical New York character who happens to be a labor leader who can roust his boys with a show of defiance.

He lost his sense of proportion and of his proper place in the gigantic community where he flourishes. The most ominous element of this city sickness is the apathy of its victims. They seem to feel they are fated to lead lives of uncertainty and frustration, to feel they have no recourse against greed and insolent disregard of their welfare.

Mike Quill's antics will be forgotten, but a sick city cannot recover until its people substitute reason and courage for mere huddled existence.

WILLIAM HOGAN

World's Pre-War Fevers Charted By Noted Author

Barbara W. Tuchman's "The Proud Tower" is a historical pageant rather than a formal history. The author is not so much concerned with the chronology of events in the period before the Great War, 1890-1914, as with the atmosphere of Europe, and to a lesser degree the United States, during that time.

In a previous book, "The Guns of August," Miss Tuchman focused on the first month of the 1914 war. Her new book is an attempt, as she puts it, to discover and analyze the quality of the world from which the Great War came.

However, the title is taken from Edgar Allan Poe: "While from a proud tower in the town Death looks ghanatically down." And there it is, always in the background, the guns of August which will shatter everything in the 19th Century world.

The author opens her work with an anecdotal look at the patricians of Britain at the zenith of the Victorian Empire. In June, 1885, the Conservatives won the General Election "governing from duty, heritage and habit . . . from right." All was well with the world, or at least that thin crust of the privileged few.

She cuts to the other side of the coin, Europe's vast proletariat, Anarchist action in France, where the upper classes lived in fear as in the days of the Commune; Chicago's Haymarket bombings of 1896; rumblings among the economic slaves

of Czarist Russia. We observe the world of Theodore Roosevelt and the Spanish-American war, and Prussian arrogance in the Kaiser's Germany. History is played as a symphony here: the effect of the Dreyfus affair on French politics, of the Oscar Wilde affair on English society, and characters, always characters, darting in the background: Yvette Guilbert to Freud, Edward VII to Einstein.

This is a vivid, unusual history, and the research Miss Tuchman has invested in it seems extraordinary. The books is successful in several ways, perhaps most as sheer reading pleasure. This is a large canvas that gives us a hint of the enormous clashing forces, the movers, shakers, heroes and imbeciles that helped shape our own uncertain world. Its appearance at this time is a bright beginning of a new publishing year.