

# Press-Herald

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Wednesday, March 2, 1966

## One Vote DOES Count

During an election campaign, voters are often exhorted to get out and exercise their right of balloting, and reminders are frequent that each vote is important. It's easy to be persuaded that your one vote couldn't altar the outcome of an election, but more often than not, your one vote plus that of a couple of votes here and there does alter the outcome.

One more vote in each precinct would have been sufficient to give Richard Nixon a victory over John Kennedy in the 1960 voting, someone has reported.

Several times in Torrance elections, the winning candidate was elected by a handful of votes—at least once only after a court-conducted recount.

Merton Gilbert was elected a city councilman in Torrance in 1944 by a margin of three votes.

Just two years earlier, Nicholas H. Cucci was elected with a margin of 37 votes.

In all of the city elections since 1940, the margin between the winning candidate and the first runner-up has averaged just over 214 votes—and that includes J. A. Beasley's margin of 827 (a record) in the 1958 election and David K. Lyman's margin of 629 over the next candidate just two years ago.

A difference of 214 votes would be less than one vote per precinct next April 12 when city goes to the polls to select a mayor, three councilmen, a city clerk, and the city treasurer.

The campaigns are opening, the candidates are busy making their views known, and public meetings are being scheduled throughout the city to bring the candidates before the voters.

We recommend strongly that the city's voters make a genuine effort to study the candidates and the issues, make a selection that in the voter's opinion would be best for the city, and then follow through with the vote on April 12.

That is the first step to full participation in community affairs.

There is no substitute.

## We Must Have Water

Nothing is more vital to the people of Southern California than water. Our continued economic growth and prosperity depend on an adequate supply of this precious item.

Proposition W, an \$850 million water bond issue on the June 7 ballot, sponsored by the Metropolitan Water District, will provide for our minimum needs for years to come.

And, it will do this in the most efficient and economical manner possible.

New pipelines, tunnels, treatment plants and other facilities to properly handle critical needed additional supplies of water will be built to hook into the State of California Feather River water project.

The MWD is a monument today to the dedication and vision of the public-minded men who were able to measure and foresee the constantly growing water needs for this 4500-mile-square area.

The Colorado River Aqueduct, which they built years ago, no longer is adequate to meet demands.

These demands increase constantly as the area's population, industry, business and commerce race toward new historical goals.

The MWD has demonstrated its ability to handle efficiently and economically the most remarkable water program, in collaboration with the State, in the annals of modern water history.

In the last 20 years its tax rate per \$100 of assessed valuation has been reduced from 50 cents to 14 cents, and it is anticipated that the water bonds will have little, if any, effect upon the future tax rate.

This is an example of competent management.

A YES vote on Prop. W will insure sufficient water for years to come. The MWD serves voters in six counties, including Los Angeles, Orange, Ventura, Riverside, San Bernardino and San Diego. A NO vote will hit your pocketbook where it will hurt since under the law a general property tax will be levied by the MWD to pay for our water should the voters fail to approve the measure.

## Keep a Proven System

The Chamber of Commerce of the United States points out that while the government is spending billions in attempts to reduce joblessness, legislation is now proposed that could cause more unemployment.

The legislation in question is a federal unemployment compensation bill which would drastically change the present federal-state system. And it is expected to be one of the major issues in this congressional session.

The bill would encourage states to abolish the experience rating system under which payroll tax reductions are given employers who reduce unemployment. Under this system, the less unemployment a firm causes the less state unemployment tax compensation it pays and vice versa. That is a long-established principle, and it works to the direct and lasting benefit of employer and employe alike.

As an example, the Chamber quotes a statement by an officer of a power company: "Recently our company revised its method of operating line crews with the result that over 100 employees . . . were no longer needed . . . As a result of advance planning, we were able to assign them to other work. If the incentive of experience rating had not existed, the company would have considered terminating the services of these employes."



STAN DELAPLANE

## Hawaii Is No Place for You to 'Take a Chance'

HOLOLULU—By advance indications, this will be another record year for tourists in the islands. Some hotels are booked solid for the summer already. It's no place to fly in and take a chance. If you plan Hawaii, make it definite now.

"Where can you buy books with 'easy-to-use phrases' in foreign languages?"

Usually a number of these on airport news and magazine stands—both here and abroad. Also on the newsstands in the big tourist hotels.

"In what countries of Europe must you neither eat fresh fruits nor drink the tap water?"

I don't know any European country that is dangerous on these points—though I'm for bottled water in southern Europe out in the country. On the other hand, I don't know any place you can say it is absolutely safe with the great flow of tourists from all over the world.

In recent years, we've seen typhoid in Switzerland and Scotland, countries with high health standards.

An armful of updated inoculations gives you a nice feeling of security.

"How long can an American citizen stay in a foreign country without losing his citizenship? How about the Social Security check? What if he marries a foreign woman?"

So far as I know citizenship isn't affected by any length of time outside the country. Nor by foreign marriage. But this is too important for my say so. Write the Department of State. And ask Social Security about the check.

Write the University of Arizona. They have a good summer school in Guadalajara.

Can we buy flashlight batteries while in Europe?"

"You can. But those I bought in Portugal, and Spain were pretty bad. Leaked acid all over the case."

"Can we get soap and Kleenex?"

Everywhere. A little high-

er priced than here in some places. But not enough to warrant packing a lot with you.

"Can we fly from piece to piece in England?"

Between all larger cities. BEA runs planes around England like commuter buses.

"How long will it take us from Paris to London?"

One hour if you fly. Eight hours if you take the train—the Golden Arrow—and the channel boat. This train trip is rather pleasant. You get on at the Gare du Nord in Paris at half past noon, a civilized hour. Have lunch en route. Have a British tea on the boat. And drinks on the train up to London in the late twilight.

"Where can we get tickets for the Folies Bergere in Paris? Can we understand it?"

Your hotel concierge gets them. The audience is 40 per cent American. So they slip in about 40 per cent of the jokes so you can understand them.

"I am interested in attending summer college in Mexico . . ."

Write the University of Arizona. They have a good summer school in Guadalajara.

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## Morning Report:

China is bound and determined to prove it is more Communist than Russia — no matter what the cost. The day after Moscow sent two writers to prison, Peking took similar action against two of theirs. Including the fellow who wrote the words for the national anthem.

But that wasn't enough. To prove how tough Peking can be — against Chinese — it announced that 160,000 "literary and art" workers have been sent to farms, factories and the army to learn the Communist Party Line. Hoing sweet potatoes for a year or so may not improve a literary style but it sure will get Peking's idea across to most writers.

Of course this shift in personnel may not do much for the sagging Chinese agricultural production.

Abe Mellinkoff

## HERB CAEN SAYS:

# Charlie Brown Presides As Actor Repeats Vows

DICK VAN DYKE, the TV screenstar, and his wife of 18 years, Marjorie, were married — "You won't believe this," grins Dick, "by a Reverend Charlie Brown" — at the Pacific School of Religion chapel in Berkeley. "That's because we never had a proper church wedding," he goes on. "In fact, I'm not too sure we had a proper wedding at all. We were married on that radio show called 'Bride and Groom' — remember? Meanwhile, they've been second-honeymooning at the Casa Madrona Hotel in Sausalito, sipping and sunning on the deck at the Trident, and acting as gay and giddy as any newlyweds could be expected to act after 18 years of marriage.

THE WORKING PRESS: Pierre Salinger's book about JFK, "With Kennedy," is almost ready for the publisher (Doubleday), and already there's a hassle, it concerns an unusually salty crack made by JFK to Pat Brown about Nixon — and if it stays in the book, it'll raise eyebrows from here to Hyannis Port . . . Dr. Belding Scribner of Seattle, whose contribution to the development of artificial kidneys is big news, was married in Honolulu a few days ago to the ex-wife of Author Bill Lederer, the late Eugene Burdick's collaborator on "Fail-Safe" and "Sarkhan." (Lederer, who also married again, now

lives in Carmel) . . . Brooks Atkinson of the N.Y. Times, dean emeritus of American drama critics (he's now in residence on the Cal campus in Berkeley), dined at the home of Director Rachmael Ben Avram, high in the Oakland hills. As he looked out at the far lights of San

Francisco, he mused: "When I was covering plays, I always had a hard time defining 'bored sophistication,' but since I've been here, I know what it is. It's the look that comes over a San Franciscan's face when you tell him how beautiful you think his city is."

CLICKS FROM THE CABLES: Princess Barbara Hutton, feeling a bit peaked at the peak of the Fairmont, has found herself a local physician "I simply adore — he makes me laugh." This paragon is Dr. Gunther Nashelsky, who looks like Allan Sherman and is just as amusing. (Barbara and her Prince have reserved their \$150-a-day Presidential suite for eight weeks — a nice tab of \$8,400) . . . Orlando Cepeda has been felled by something worse than a beanball: the flu bug . . . The talented Gary McFarland, headlining at the Matador, has flung a million-dollar suit at a major cigarette mfr., claiming the theft of his music as background for a TV commercial . . .

Bobby Christian, an old friend of Count Basie's, invited him to dinner here. "Can't make it," he rumbled, "but I could sure use some soul food." So she trundled a huge spread of fried chicken, candied yams, lima beans and corn muffins up to his hotel rooms, and now you know about soul food. It's fattening.

THE NOON BALLOON: Ex-Master Sgt. Donald Duncan, who quit the Army's Green Berets in disgust (his story, "It Was All a Lie"), is in the new issue of Ramparts, has challenged Rob in Moore, author of "The Green Berets," to a public debate here, there or anywhere—but so far, no word from Moore . . . Freedom fighter: Peter Howard, son of Anita Zabela Howard Vanderbilt, was arrested by the L.A. police for hurling a rock through a front window of the dept. store in which his friend Hedy Lamarr, was arrested for shoplifting. "This is for Hedy!" he was heard to holler just before his shattering fling . . . Producer-Director Mark Robson flew in from London with the first print of his newest film, "The Last Command," starring Anthony Quinn, for a sneak preview . . . Willie Mays, who has his home on the block for \$110,000 (but offer 90 and see what happens), hopes to move to something bigger and more elegant, as befits a man in his new salary bracket.

## ROYCE BRIER

# Viet Nam Reforms Should Include a Trial by Jury

Recently the American people got their first good television look at two Asian allies.

They are: Premier Nguyen Cao Ky, air vice marshal, and Lieutenant General Nguyen Van Thieu, chief of state of South Viet Nam. Both were small standing by the tall President Johnson, but of course Napoleon was small. We don't know, however, that these men share anything but stature with Napoleon, though we may make a tentative exception as to Ky.

You can imagine his ordeal, set down suddenly in one of the great luxury resorts of the Americans. The climate he understands, and he may understand the leis, but the soft yet hard and deep-deyed affluence might puzzle him.

At home he is a big wheel, a dictator of sorts—at least he has decreed and carried out the summary execution of subversives in the public squares of Saigon.

But you must recall that after the big sessions with the Americans, when the newsmen sat him down for an interview, he was not mealy-mouthed. Asked if he would negotiate with the Viet Cong, he said "No." Asked if he would NOT negotiate with the Viet Cong, he said "Yes."

So consider a possibility—Hanoi suddenly agrees to peace talks if the Viet Cong participate. What if Washington agrees, and Ky says no?

It was noted here the other day that President Eisenhower, in a 1954 letter to Saigon, said the United States expects Saigon to institute "reforms" in return for aid. Twelve years later, Vice President Humphrey is dispatched to oversee economic and other "reforms" we are still urging on Saigon. Mr. Johnson made a better life for the South Vietnamese half of his reason for going to Honolulu. He paired it, gave it equality with American military aims.

This suggests a query—did Mr. Humphrey include among "reforms" necessary, trial by jury? Marshal Ky has shown no interest in this aspect of government, and it may be doubted if he even understands it. When an implacable enemy falls into your hands you kill him publicly, without trial, as a presumed lesson to other enemies.

One is reluctant to bring up such painful matters, but they are inseparable from the alliance President Johnson endlessly extolled in his Hawaiian mission.

My Neighbors

"Don't you have a pill for . . . ?"

World Affairs

phers, as even Presidents often do. He seemed shy, and he seldom smiled as if he was enjoying anything.

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