On Being Number Three
By J. WALKER OWENS
Manager, Torrance Chamber of Commerce
There has been considerable talk about how much
Torrance has grown. How we have become the THIRD
largest city in Los Angeles County. How we have passed
Glendale and are now number THREE.
Well . . I've been thinking about this quite a bit
lately. And, while there is much to be said for growth;
for increases in population, for being larger than some
other town, I'm rather convinced that BIGNESS isn't

other town, I'm rather convinced that Bioriess is it enough.

Sure, you can bet I'm proud and pleased when we increase our population, erect new buildings, or secure a new industry; but I know that we anly half succeed—and therefore wholly fail—unless at the same time we are making some contribution towards the health, convenience, culture, education, prosperity, and general well-being of all the people of our city.

The point I'm making is that I firmly believe we have an opportunity to become number ONE. Number ONE, so far as the best governed, the best balanced, most livable, and most stable city in Southern California.

This is a good place to tell you that I'm a lousy loser. I can't stand to come in second. There is just no fun in being second, whether it's playing gof or aiming for the moon. To me there is absolutely no thrill in a second place finish. All of the cliches about "it's not whether you win or lose" give no consolation to me when in my own heart I know that my accelerator wasn't to the floorboard.

Champions — real champions — never become champions by setting second place as their goal. They, every one of them, were reaching for the stars, or they would never have become true champions in the first place.

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Most of us go through life without ever pressing our accelerator all the way down. And most of us go to our graves without ever really testing ourselves to see just what we are capable of accomplishing. We seem to avoid such a test in fear that we may fail when the competition becomes stronger, the going more demanding. Instead, we too often retreat to the comforts of going half speed, knowing that if worse comes to worst there is always a little extra that we are holding in reserve.

reserve.

If each of us had always given his best at all times, I wonder what changes might have been effected in this world of ours, and this dynamic city of ours. Perhaps cancer would no longer be a threat. Or heart disease. Or perhaps a cure could have been found for the common cold.

Sease. Of perhaps it we had always done our very best we would have found a way to live a peace all over the world, each man recognizing and respecting the rights of others. And if we had learned that, just think of the standard of living the entire world would be enjoying, free from poverty and ignorance.

ance.

And, just think, if we had always done our best we might not have traffic and parking problems, unemployment, building and zoning problems, or education problems. And, if our elected officials and civic leaders always did their very best.

But all of this is idle dreaming. And it will all remain a dream until all of us become willing to press our accelerators to the floorboard and keep them there, giving our best in everything we do, with no fear of failure and unwilling to settle for third — or even second place.

failure and unwilling to settle for third — or even second place.

We have a challenging opportunity to build a great city; not just another good place to live. We have a unique chance, here in Torrance, to prove to the world that citizens working together can accomplish total community development. Total development goals includes industrial and business development; but also includes commercial and residential beautification, improvement and increase of recreational and cultural facilities, and in general providing all facilities that make Torrance even more desirable.

No man ever ran into a ditch while reaching for the stars or striving to be best.

### **Opinions of Others**

Criticisms of the press in connection with reporting the war in Viet Nam have been refuted by Wes Gallagher, Associated Press general manager. ... Mr. Gallagher noted that criticism of the press by government rises in direct proportion to the amount of adverse news printed which may not be in line with government policy. Which makes up all grateful for living in America, land of free press. Government may criticize but it cannot halt the accurate reporting of the news whether it be good or bad for the administration.—Norwalk (Conn.) Hour.

Recent studies here and abroad indicate that the increase in heart disease and cancer among humans in the past 20 years corresponds to similar increases in those diseases among animals. Dr. H. Stunzi of Switzerland, for one, has found a striking increase in lung cancer in dogs and cats.—Somerset (Ky.) Commonwealth-Journal.

The community that sapires greatness and achieves its goal is one where every resident considers himself the head of that community. I am the community in which I choose to live. I am the generating factor for the progress that community makes. I am responsible for the conditions that exist in that community. I surrender that responsibility only when I assume similar responsibilities in another locality where I might elect to make my future home."—Clark (S.D.) Courier.



STAN DELAPLANE

# **British Bedrooms Kept** At A Cold 60 Degrees

LONDON, ENGLAND —
England has been having splendid warm and sunny weather, and it looks like it will go on into autumn. Very welcome here where the weather report usually says monotonously: "Occosional bright periods."

Winter travelers should

winter travelers should remember where we keep houses and hotels at 70 degrees, the British favor a chill 60. Bedrooms in country hotels are cold enough to hang meat in, British travelers often carry their own hot water bottles to warm that freezing bed. The maid may have one for you—but maybe not.

Maybe I've been lucky, but I've never seen a mosquito in these countries. Files in the bedroom are a problem. They don't screen. They close everything up with shutters. The maid opens them a crack and waves a towel around the room. The files head for the light — and out. However, I found it more practical to buy a local bomb called "Fly Killer." Very elegantly scented.

"We will be using travelers' checks for the first time. They say they can be cashed anywhere. Is this true?"

—I've had them take as chure. But I think you could much as \$2.50 a hundred get one through British dollars. Cash in banks. They Travel, 680 Fifth Ave., New take a percentage, but it's York City.

modest.
I'm talking about foreign countries of course. American hotels, banks or stores give you face value on travelers' checks.

I said recently I'd been hearing about this as an undiscovered Puerto Vallarta. (I had — from Mexican sources. Maybe the ones who own the real estate.) Three people have written me who've been there. They verdict: A nothing place. So let's scratch that one.

\* \* \*

Yes. These checks are a good value if you use them right. French shops will give a discount if you pay in travelers' checks. Don't cash them in hotels. Almost all hotels take a percentage hest.

### **Morning Report:**

I hope everybody enjoyed that snapshot of the Earth taken by our satellite 219,000 mile saway. Not because the picture was so clear — which it wasn't — but because it was so expensive.

That picture cost \$926,011.10—the ten cents being the price of your newspaper that printed it. Anything with a price tag like that must be good.

The scientists have my congratulations and my sympathy as well. As a vacation-time photographer, I understand their problems. Get the sun behind you, adjust all the gadgets, and then snap! It wasn't anybody's fault that the Earth was covered by clouds. A lot of my pictures — taken at 100 feet — look exactly like it.

HERB CAEN SAYS:

## **Angel Island: Resting** Place for War Relics

Early on a chilly morning, when San Francisco's slug-a-beds were logging extra sack time, I found my self aboard a Harbor Tours water taxi, bouncing across a choppy bay, I guess it was a beautiful morning on the bay, if you like that sort or thing, Fog shrouding the pridge, gray fingers creeping over the hills of Marin county, the city's towers lost in the mist—you know, Hundreds of sailboats were trooping off Belvedere Island, manned by people even crazier than i, they were out there because they WANTED to be.

As we passed Alcatraz—how odd to see people fishing so close to those once forbidden shores—I poked around in the picnic basket thoughtfully provided by the Fisherman's Wharf Association.

"Would you care to split a stuffed egg with me?" I asked the Captain. His reply was mercifully drowned out by the engine.

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### ROYCE BRIER

### **Civilians Take Beating** In Viet Nam War Effort

As is know to southern schoolboys, Stonewall Jackson was riding left with his staff at Chancellorsville to see how his corps was faring. It was dusk, he entered a field of fire laid down by his own brigades, and was mortally wounded.

These things simply happen in war, and they have been happening with some regularity in the Viet Nam war. The wrong village is statecked and friendly villagers killed.

We must lay this mostly to the nature of the war, where native friend and foe are indistinguishable, where jungle masks the terrain, where attacks occur at high speed from the air. It is all the more reason to exercise extreme caution.

But if some extenuation "Where can I find out about cheap travel in Eu-rope. I am a student."

Write Council for Student Travel, 777 United Nations Plaza, New York City.

Allow three weeks for direct mail answer from me. Your letter must be taped and sent to me. I must tape and sent back answers to be typed, file material looked up, etc. And blessed are they who enclose a business size, self-addressed envelope—stamped. For we answer them first.

WILLIAM HOGAN

is possible for the field com-mand, little extenuation can be seen for the devious manner in which informa-tion officers (under Penta-gon order) are handling these tragic affairs.

Sibanouk canceled it. Dispatches say the United States hoped its apology, given by Robert J. McCloskey, State Department spokesman, would clear the path for Harriman.

This, if true, is hardly an ethical reason for making whatever amends are possible.

The high incidence of blunder bombings has evoked a new warning from General Westmoreland's office. This resulted from a more recent error when 26 friendly civilians were killed and over 100 wounded in a raid on two hamlets not far from Saigon.

The Westmoreland order would preview present procedures "to minimize casualties to civilians to the maximum extent possible."

Charles Mohr, New York Times correspondent, is skeptical. A Westmoreland order of September, 1965, has already urged caution on field operations officers, such as prior warnings to village targets "consistent with the security necessary."

Role of H. L. Mencken

One forgets how powerful at writer Norman Mailer is a flouses, Ltd., in Piccadilly in condon. This is a chain specializing in remodeled old caching inns. Usually a title short on private baths out loaded with atmosphere.

Mencken was the tough fundy, uncompromising esspecializing in remodeled old caching inns. Usually a title short on private baths with me when I asked if they would send their brothere.

Mercury days. Recently we moted that Mencken's cold publisher, Alfred A. Knopf, stated that there are no Menckens in the 1960s because most journalists do not enjoy their work, an amusing oversimplification, but in a new collection of casional pieces, "Cannibals and Christians," Mailer, and the fact with the saves comes closest to the saves comes closest to the saves comes closes to the saves condens. It is not casional pieces, "Cannibals and Christians," Mailer, the rear elittle "Poems" that printed it. Anything is that printed it. Anything that printed it. Anything is that printed it. Anything the printed it. Anything is the good.

Y congratulations and my atton-time photographer, I Get the sun behind you, then snap! It wasn't any was covered by clouds. A at 100 feet — look exactity.

Abe Mellinkoff

Abe Mellinkoff

Role of H. L. Menckens is districtic, a fact emphasized in this book. There is Mailer the rething his best — and his best at this book. There is Mailer the should his book. There is Mailer the stabling this book. There is Mailer the stabling this book. There is Mailer the printed is at his best — and his best at this book. Alone The his best — and his best at the bis best on filed operations of filed operations of Raise High the Roof Beam, Rai



**Norman Mailer Inherits** Role of H. L. Mencken

