

Press-Herald

GLENN W. PFEIL Publisher
REID L. BUNDY Managing Editor

Tidings of Great Joy

And here were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.
And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid.
And the angel said unto them, Fear not; for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.
For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.
And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.
And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, goodwill toward men.—From the Gospel according to St. Luke.

GUEST EDITORIAL

On Human Qualities

By J. WALKER OWENS, Manager
Torrance Chamber of Commerce

People who buy new automobiles have many options from which to choose. In fact, any one of our auto assembly plants could, if it wanted to, run for a year, around the clock, and still never produce two cars exactly alike.
It's too bad people can't order our own options when we are born. There are so many qualities that each of us would like to possess that to ask for them all would be selfish.
But what if we had a choice of only four? Or five? Which ones would you choose? Think now. Among those that you would have to consider would be ambition, charity, common sense, compassion, conscience, courage, determination, drive, faith, gratitude, hope, humility, imagination, moderation, motivation, self discipline, sense of humor, strength of mind and body, thirst for knowledge, thrift, tolerance, and understanding.

That's quite a list as a starter. But your choice, remember, is for only four.

As for me I would first choose *conscience*. Conscience is that quiet, small voice that tells us that which is right and wrong in our thoughts and deeds. Without conscience all of the other qualities would be of limited value.

Second, I would choose *common sense*. This quality would help me chart a course of action which could best carry out the dictates of my conscience.

Third would be *courage*. What good would it be if we knew what was right, and what should be done, if we lacked the courage to act? Courage is a quality which, alone, doesn't mean too much. A bank robber can have courage. But courage, properly channeled, is essential.

Fourth (and this is a most important choice), I would choose to have a *good sense of humor*. A man who doesn't possess the capacity to laugh with others and at himself can't possibly make a lasting contribution to the well being of mankind. On occasions when I think that I have done something especially clever I begin to feel pretty smart and important. It's then that a sense of humor returns things to their proper perspective. Such a quality helps us to realize that we, as individuals, are but as grains of sand on the beach. A sense of humor is vital.

If there were a fifth quality that was being offered in lieu of trading stamps, I would then choose *humility*. Humility helps one to remember that others are also climbing hard, difficult hills. Money, position in life, or outward appearances make no difference. No man is without his own individual cross.

Others would choose a different set of qualities, just as they would choose different options on their automobile. But to my way of thinking, if a person had a godly amount of *conscience*, *common sense*, *courage*, and a *sense of humor* (with a touch of *humility* thrown in for good measure), all of the other qualities would then fall into place.

If only we could command the qualities we would like to possess, what a wonderful world this would be. But, alas, man isn't able to start life with such options. He must use the qualities with which he is endowed by his maker.

How well we use those with which we are endowed is the test of our worth and the justification for our having lived.

Quote

The two great bulwarks of individual freedom are freedom of speech and its corollary, freedom of the press; plus the independence of a strong judiciary to see that these rights are protected. — Attorney Seth M. Hufstедler.

Our civilization cannot survive materially unless it is redeemed spiritually. — Woodrow Wilson.

The person who is willing to admit that he was in the wrong is wiser today than he was yesterday. — Frank Bridges in The Smithville (Texas) Times.

If destruction be our lot, we must ourselves be its author and its finisher. As a nation of free men we must live through all time, or die by suicide. — Abraham Lincoln.

Government is force and should be watched like fire. — George Washington.

Religion is on trial as it has never been. Government is on trial. So is education, science, and every other human pursuit. — Dr. Preston Bradley, Chicago cleric.



Return From Orbit

RES-MANNING

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

DISTRICT ATTORNEY REPORTS:

Legislature Sure to Act On Home Rule, Obscenity

By EVELLE J. YOUNGER
County District Attorney

There is every indication that, when the 1967 State Legislature convenes next month, it will give top priority to two vital issues—home rule and obscenity.

The District Attorney's office also will give top priority to bills in this area. In fact, our efforts to restore to cities and counties some of their lost powers of law making, and to keep pornographic matter from juveniles, are of long standing.

The public clearly wants action and is prepared to support sound legislation. Particularly, we believe, this is true in the field of obscenity.

The defeat of the CLEAN amendment in the election, contrary to arguments we can expect from some quarters, does not mean the public is for licensing smut. It means that they heeded warnings from respected officials about the measure.

The District Attorney's office opposed the CLEAN amendment because it was poorly drawn. We were not against its basic principles. Its goal of keeping obscene matter from teen-agers was, in our view, highly commendable.

There have been three important proposals for legislative action fixing penalties for those who ply this ugly trade among our youth. All of them—one from a statewide committee formed by Attorney General Thomas Lynch, one from upcoming Lieutenant Governor Robert Finch, and a third from our office—are quite similar. A good measure surely will come of these.

Changes in law made possible by recent U. S. Supreme Court rulings also will be sought. Methods of preparing and advertising something would be considered in determining whether it is obscene. And the rules would be changed covering matter designed for distribution to sex deviants.

Our position on home rule is that the burden of determining whether we shall or shall not have local ordinances is lodged in the wrong place. Lawyers have taken the question to the courts. The judges have felt obliged to infer (i.e., guess) from the laws whether the Legislature intended to occupy a particular field.

It was in this manner that Los Angeles—to cite one spectacular example—lost the privilege of enacting ordinances to deal with the problem of prostitution. Yet, crime obviously is far different in metropolitan communities than in rural ones.

We favor a law that will require the Legislature to state whether it wants to occupy a field. That way, cities and counties will be free to write some ordinances tailored to their own problems while the state's position as a sovereign power remains intact.

The District Attorney's office will seek introduction of other measures during the 1967 legislative session. Agreement has been reached on the content of the following:

• Search and seizure—This would restrict the defendant to one challenge on the legality of the physical evidence and fix its timing early in the lower court proceedings. It would also give the prosecution the right to appeal. Appeal privileges

are now permitted only the defense.

• Kidnaping — The penalty for kidnaping to commit a sex offense, where the victim is injured, would be increased to death, or life without possibility of parole. It would then be equal to the sentence of kidnaping for robbery or ransom when the victim has been injured.

• Practicing medicine without a license—This measure would make it a felony to engage in medical quackery seriously endangering somebody's life or health. Under present law the quack faces state prison only if his fee exceeds \$200.

• Grand Jury — In larger counties, where there is too much work for one Grand Jury, we favor provisions to create two or more for the handling of additional criminal cases.

• Juvenile Courts — This would permit the District Attorney to appear at all proceedings involving minors where the interests of the people might be threatened.

WILLIAM HOGAN

Writer Blends London's History, Legend, Lore

Short takes: London again — For every autumn publishing season, there is an aficionado who cannot collect enough on this thundering old capital. "London on the Thames" is an affectionate, informed investigation by Blake Ehrlich, the American journalist who a few seasons ago published a similar work, "Paris on the Seine."

Illustrated with old prints and drawings, this is a series of tours through the London of Sir Christopher Wren (St. Paul's, the blitz), of Samuel Johnson (Fleet street, Newgate Prison), of Bertie Wooster (Piccadilly, Pall Mall), of Oscar Wilde, Sherlock Holmes, Keats and Geoffrey Chaucer among others.

While one cannot hope to improve on "London Perceived" (Evelyn Hofer's photographs with text by V. S. Pritchett, published a few seasons ago), Ehrlich's work is a blend of history, legend and London lore that ranges from Clarendon's to the Elephant & Castle, from Putney Bridge to Tooting Bec. There are even some melancholy English jokes: "The bars in St. Stephen's

HERB CAEN SAYS:

Summer Festival Turns Into a Winter Carnival

Freezing on the Hudson—I don't know whether New York was the summer festival Mayor Lindsay had promised a few months ago, but it is definitely a winter carnival.

The lighted Christmas trees are sparkling up and down the park-like dividers that make Park Avenue one of the world's most distinguished boulevards. Red neon snowflakes dance across the facade of 666 Fifth Ave., icy pinpoints of light cover the CES building, the trees in the pool outside Mies van der Rohe's Seagram tower shimmer in the night.

Geysers of steam from the manholes, clouds of perfume from the ladies in the crowded stores, the smell of wet dogs in the subways. The temperature is in the teens. In Central Park—lucky Manhattan, to have this wonderland in its heart—you buy hot roasted chestnuts to warm your hands and insides, as the fat squirrels cluster around for a handout. In the enchanting Children's Zoo, a gift "To the Children of New York" from the late Gov. Herbert Lehman, the kids frolic in their great winter outfits, frost and laughter on their lips.

New Yorkers talk about the weather and dress for it. Men in Russian-style fur hats and fur collared coats, those marvelously bony women in furry cocoons. Best-dressed of all, as Writer Tom Wolfe points out: the hotel doormen in their caped greatcoats, the police magnificently double-breasted, buttoned up to huge col-

lars ("The heavy hand of Europe is still on this city," he adds).

In tiny Gay St. in the village, the great poet, Robert Graves, was being photographed by Nancy Holmes for a magazine spread. He was wearing a Russian fur commissar's cap ("I have royalties there, have to spend them on something") and a long vicuna coat he bought 30 years ago "in a

San Francisco

fit of extravagance." A tall, handsome man in his 70s, humorous and chatty. "I was walking down the street yesterday with a millionaire," he said, "and he was very annoyed. People kept stopping me for my autograph and nobody asked for his. Nobody wants millionaires' autographs except on checks, and they won't give them — if they did, they wouldn't be millionaires."

The New York winter carnival: fast, hard, sharp, brilliant, brittle. At Arthur, Sybil Burton Christopher's discotheque, the music is loud enough to make your nose bleed, the dance floor is so crowded you can barely squeeze aboard — but it's impressive, big-time, beautifully run. And the leggy girls, some of them in dresses that barely cover the essentials, are something to see. The Arthur operation is smart: the kids who can really dance get in, and the wilder the attire the better. The squares wait outside the velvet rope, hoping.

ROYCE BRIER

'No-Win' Policy Draws Complaints from Women

Senator Lausche of Ohio, member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and vocal in support of the Johnson policy in Asia, says his mail on Viet Nam reflects two viewpoints.

He said: "A majority of those who write to me complain that we are following a no-win policy—they think we should go all out to win the war or find some way of getting out. On the other hand, I am getting letters, mostly inspired by women's groups, demanding to know why we are in Viet Nam at all."

Mr. Lausche apparently wanted to temper your judgment when he mentioned "women's groups."

But as women have suffered equally with men in all wars ever fought, it is not surprising they are prominent in wanting to know what the Viet Nam war is all about.

The Senator did not say if he explains to those who write him why the United States is in Viet Nam. Doubtless he feels he has already explained his position in many public state-

World Affairs

ments, and if his listeners are not satisfied they can go to the frequent explanations of the President and Secretaries Rusk and McNamara.

All these explanations put together, however, have not satisfied a large segment of the American people.

You can say, of course, that we are there because in the mid-1950's, John Foster Dulles thought we should be there, and we are saddled with the work of his dead hand. But a great many are not content with this explanation, because it looks like a poor way to run a great country in a precarious world.

Or you can say we are there because we want to establish free self-government and independence in South Viet Nam, and to halt Communist expansion in Indochina, because it is to our vital interest to do so. This is what Mr. Johnson and all his agents and supporters have been saying since he took office.

But here again many are not content — they have never been persuaded our vital interests at this time lie in Indochina.

At this point the anti-Viet Nam position curiously interlocks with the pro-Viet Nam position voiced by the other category of Senator Lausche's correspondents.

For if you complain we are fighting a no-win war in Viet Nam, then is it to our vital interest to fight a winning war there? If so, you must define what a winning war is in Viet Nam.

We are fighting a no-win war because nobody has yet found a formula for winning. On the face of it 360,000 combat troops and the Seventh Fleet should be able to win in a military sense. Conceivably a million combat troops could do so.

But so far there is no convincing evidence that such a victory would be more than occupation of the land. If accomplished, this would have little, if anything, to do with meeting Mr. Johnson's goal — a free self-governing independence in South Viet Nam.

Such a military accomplishment would not "win" the war for anybody — the Americans, the Vietnamese or the concept of freedom and security in southeast Asia.

Morning Report:

In this splendid age of the common man, it's a lot easier for Washington to tell off a half dozen auto moguls than millions of auto drivers. After all, how many votes can the president of General Motors swing?

That's why the Department of Commerce is moving so gingerly against unsafe drivers. It's a lot easier to lay down the law to the assembly lines in Detroit.

I'm honest. I couldn't tell an unsafe car if I were driving it down a freeway at 65 miles per hour. But it takes no genius to spot the wacky drivers. As it is now, we are operating on the rough principle that if a citizen is sane enough to vote, he is sane enough to drive. As anybody who has ever met a car coming up a one-way street knows, this is not necessarily true.

Abe Mellinkoff