

Points in Gamesmanship

Councilmen apparently achieved a new plateau in the art of gamesmanship this week before they got down to selecting a seventh member to serve with them.

In this case, most of the game was played behind closed doors and the public would have been spared the horrible details except for a reopening in a public council meeting.

Discussion of possible appointments to a City Council vacancy in public brought cries of anguish from some of the principals and their camp followers who seem to prefer the star chamber method. Without the public discussion, however, we might never have known that as many as two dozen (nobody kept a list, apparently) may have been nominated for the spot.

All this was done, we have been told, to fend off any accusations by a prospective candidate. His friendly councilman could assure him that he did, indeed, put his name in nomination before his colleagues.

It is easy to assume that names were placed on the list without regard to the possibility of their approval, even by those doing the nominating.

Despite the seeming overabundance of nominees, the councilmen must have gone quickly to the two strong candidates and only when a 3-3 deadlock threatened did they settle on the new councilman. All this, of course, is reconstruction. There were no reporters at the 6 a.m. closed-door meeting.

We hope his selection under such circumstances is not a handicap to Ed Talbert, our new councilman. He comes with high credentials and a background of business and finance which should be of invaluable assistance to the city. We congratulate him and wish him success as a councilman.

For his sake and for that of the community.

End of the Line

Wonder where your money is going these days? The growing level of federal expenditures carries a clue for most of us.

As an example, the federal civilian payroll has grown 25 per cent since 1960.

In that same period, the cost of federal payrolls, civilian and military, has grown by 75 per cent.

Spending for non-defense purposes is nearly doubled, going up 97 per cent.

And the cost for federal welfare and health programs has shot up 210 per cent.

If you've checked the deductions column of your paycheck lately, and have been reading of the new tax demands in Washington, you have a good idea of where the money is coming from. The individual, working taxpayer is the end of the line.

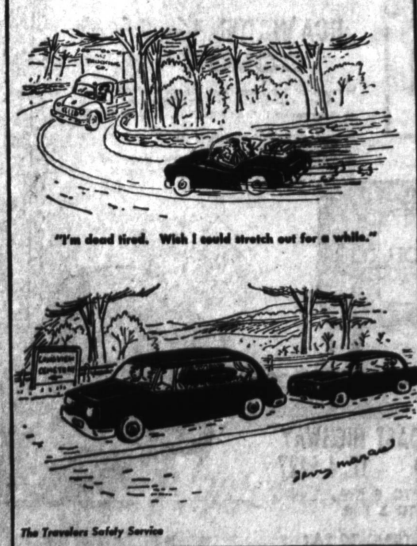
Opinions of Others

Juvenile shoplifting is a gigantic business, which all of us are paying for. Between seventy and eighty per cent of all shoplifters caught in the United States are under 18. This year over a billion dollars in merchandise will be taken. Strangely enough, only about ten per cent of the juveniles caught shoplifting are from low income families. . . . Shoplifting has become such a big "business" that stores who previously did not prosecute juveniles now simply can't afford not to prosecute.—Cushing (Okla.) Citizen.

The issue of tax exemptions for all kinds of commercial properties owned by churches is fast becoming one of the most pertinent in the nation — for the federal government is missing billions of dollars in tax collections because of these exemptions at a time when the nation desperately needs money. . . . Of late several church groups have been forthright enough to admit that churches' commercial enterprises should pay taxes.—Le Suer (Minn.) News-Herald.

Freedom does not confer financial security, only the opportunity to work for it.—Benton (Mo.) Democrat.

Was It Sudden?



Driving while tired and sleepy slows reactions and results in accidents.



SACRAMENTO SCENE

Does State Legislature Really Have a New Look

By EDWIN S. CAPPS
Capitol News Service

SACRAMENTO—Now that the record-long session of the California legislature has ended, one of the big questions is whether the taxpayers fared better because of the new full-time, higher-paid status of the lawmakers.

There likely will be as many different answers to this question as there are persons giving the answers. But many legislators of both parties will be quick to agree that the session showed marked improvement and was a vote of confidence for the people's vote of confidence for the legislature last November.

Approval of Prop. 1-a in November, 1966, provided for the full-time sessions and permitted the lawmakers to set their own salary. Accompanying legislation last year provided for a raise to \$18,000, if the proposition was approved.

Perhaps the best answer to the question of the effectiveness of the "new look" legislature is that 1967 just wasn't the year for the new system to prove itself or fail to do so. There were four main reasons for this:

• The new administration and the legislature were faced with the need for the biggest tax increase in the state's history. This, along with the need also for the state's first 5 billion-dollar-plus budget, made it certain that all other considerations would take second place.

• For the first time in recent history, the state found itself with an administration of one party and a legislature controlled by the other. In addition, the party split in each house was very close, with neither side having the muscle to ram programs through as was done during the early days of the administration of former Governor Edmund G. Brown.

• The 1967 session found the biggest turnover of members in history. In the assembly, 24 of the 80 members were new and, before the session ended, the 35th new member was added. In the senate, 22 of the 40 members were new, although 14 were former members of the assembly.

• The new membership in

Quote

No law is very good or enforceable if the majority of the people are against it.—Assembly Speaker Jesse M. Unruh (D - Inglewood), on the need to modify the Rumford Housing Act.

the senate was the result of the 1965 reapportionment bill, which broke the control of the upper house by the more sparsely populated northern counties.

Any one of the above reasons could have been sufficient to produce a hectic session but the combination of the four certainly made it impossible to assess fully

Sacramento

the effectiveness of the new status of the lawmakers.

These reasons also resulted in a very slow start. Governor Ronald Reagan submitted a budget within the 30-day constitutional deadline but it was only a framework, with the details not forthcoming until March. The tax legislation also was not presented to the legislature until March.

The legislature met for only four days a week — from Monday afternoon through Thursday morning — for several months. But there was little else they could do as bills could not be heard until 30 days after introduction.

Was the logjam of bills at the end of the session, with a self-imposed adjournment time, as massive as in former years when the constitution set the adjournment time? Probably not, but this didn't mean there were not many hectic days. Important bills were being pushed through houses in less time than opening debate on much lesser bills would have taken earlier in the year.

The volume of bills was reduced slightly this year—down about 1,000. Most leaders hope the total number of bills can be reduced further in time. There were still many identical bills introduced by a number of members.

Such leaders as Assembly Speaker Jesse M. Unruh, D-Inglewood, hope the trend will be toward having a single bill on a subject area introduced by a committee rather than several dozen bills by the various members of the committee and others. At least one bill was introduced this year with no individual author, but merely by a committee.

The third house, the several hundred lobbyists who help guide legislation in the capitol, generally prefer to have the present system continued. It's much simpler to keep track of one member who is the author of a bill than it is to keep track of, and control, a whole committee.

When the official totals are in for the 1967 session, they probably will show fewer

pieces of legislation passed. But many take this as an improvement rather than a failure.

The official record won't show in detail how many major pieces of legislation were included in the total. This is probably where the 1967 session will not compare too favorably with some others in the past because it was not the year for many big programs.

WILLIAM HOGAN

One chapter of the "new look" under the full-time legislature is still to be written next month. The lawmakers will return to the capitol on Sept. 4, Labor Day, for a five-day session to consider vetoes of the governor. This will include the 43 items which he deleted from the budget before signing it on June 30.

It takes a two-thirds vote by both houses to override a veto or to restore a budget item. The Democrats are 12 votes short of two-thirds in the assembly and seven votes short in the senate. Thus the overriding of any vetoes is considered only an outside chance.

Short Cholera Epidemic Testimonial for Weather

Silver Lining: The other day I was browsing in the massive "Annals of San Francisco," which Lewis Osborne, the Palo Alto publisher, recently reintroduced. I was struck by this paragraph:

"Cholera visited San Francisco in the fall of this year (1850), but its ravages were slight. The greatest number of deaths in any one day did not exceed ten or twelve. The epidemic began in October, was at its height in November, and disappeared by the close of the year. Notwithstanding the filth and rubbish which naturally collected around the scene of so many busy operations by a vast population which had hitherto adopted no pro-

The Old Timer



HERB CAEN SAYS:

Physician to the Hippies Frets About Drug Problem

Lunching the other day in San Francisco's Fairmont Hotel was a young (28), troubled, good-looking doctor named David Smith who can tell you there's nothing amusing about the real hippie world. He runs the Haight-Ashbury Medical Clinic at 558 Clayton street with an assist from volunteer medical students, and it's tough going.

"The drug problem is getting out of hand," he believes. "These kids need help and understanding — they just don't realize what LSD is doing to them. They take any kind of drug they can get — some of them are stoned all the time. LSD, if it has any virtue, is something you work up to with a good deal of serious thought, take once, and then think about and reflect on. There are bad trips going on all over the place, with nobody but us trying to help.

"I'm not judging them. I'm a doctor — it's my job to help the suffering, whoever they are, and they're suffering. They're beginning to trust me and I think I'm getting through. Sure we need money. Otto Preminger gave us some, and Hume Cronyn, the actor, made a really large donation, but even a little is of assistance. I understand the scene pretty well, though I'm still basically a straight.

I went through the whole straight scene at Cal—straight As, Phi Beta Kappa, medical school. I was an activist in the Free Speech Movement — a really legitimate political movement—but this is something else."

"The Haight-Ashbury is the hippie capital of the world; it can no longer be ignored. I'd say the popula-

San Francisco

tion is between 10,000 and 20,000 with maybe 700 coming in and leaving every day. There's definitely a health and mental problem, with not enough help. The drug scene started out as something meaningful, but most of these kids can't handle it. They're having 'any kind of drugs' parties — LSD, STP, heroin, methedrine—it's unbelievable. Do I think the syndicate or the Mafia is doing the pushing? I doubt it, except maybe for the heroin. It seems like mostly amateurs, and the syndicate doesn't fool around with amateurs. All these children — stoned. But I'm still hopeful."

So says Dr. David Smith, one of the dedicated people, a young man with short hair, a clean white shirt, a troubled brow. He needs help, too. He deserves help. The

enlightenment has fallen on dark days.

Grace Hubbard, who lives on Sixth Ave. here, answered the doorbell the other morning to find two small boys standing there with a list. When I say they were standing there with a list I don't mean they were leaning to port or starboard — I mean they had a list of THINGS they needed for a treasure hunt.

"Ma'am," said one of the boys, "do you have three grains of wheat, a sheet of purple toilet paper and a pork chop bone?" Grace: "Say that's one difficult treasure hunt. What's it all about?" Boy: "Well, it's a contest between us and our sister and other brother. Whoever gets all the things first wins a dollar each." Grace, a persistent lady: "And who gives you the dollar?"

Boy: "Our mother's boy friend."

Mrs. Antigone Bassel, at the Carlin Placement Agency, phoned Mrs. Nouveau Riche out in Presidio Heights last week and reported: "We finally found a cook-housekeeper for you—if you don't mind taking a neophyte." Mme. Riche: "Well, I'm not prejudiced, but I'd just as soon have a white person."

ROYCE BRIER

Something Usually Wrong With Flying Saucer Tales

Last year a man and wife were driving a New England highway about 2 a.m. when they thought they saw a flying saucer.

By their story it failed them for miles, finally landed athwart the highway ahead. It then discharged some humanoid figures who questioned the couple closely before departing.

This yarn was importantly publicized by a national magazine, which engaged a psychiatrist who was impressed by the couple's answers to many questions.

One question did not come up: How come the couple met no other motorists in the hour or so consumed by the incident? For all of us have been on the road at 2 a.m., and even on the lon-

eliest we see the headlights of another motorist every few miles.

But this lack of vital, confirmative elements is characteristic of the narrations of saucer encounters.

In Michigan, more recently, two boys, 17 and 14, saw what the Air Force calls an

Unidentified Flying Object.

They took pictures, one distant, one close. It was "Gray," had the familiar long ovoid, or galaxy shape. A dark band separated the upper and lower segments, and there seemed to be an antenna at one end.

Major Raymond Nyls, Self-

ridge Air Force Base, said the pictures looked "pretty authentic. . . . the type of person and the type of camera used would lead me to believe this is not a hoax."

But there was an oddity in the described maneuver of the craft. The younger boy said it was about the size of a helicopter, circled the area for 10 minutes at 50 feet, was noiseless and faster than a plane.

The trouble with photographs of flying saucers, so-called, is that the objects are always aloft, and never sitting on the earth's crust. Without pointing to the case in question, a picture hoax in this circumstance is child's play. Yet a good proportion of saucers reported, are also reported as landing.

What skeptics need in flying saucer phenomena is a series of good pictures of a saucer sitting in a field—say, picture as good as television occupants have been. As the occupants, when reported, are usually reported as amiable creatures, some pictures of them would be in order, and of the interior of their vehicle, if they will permit.

This would be the greatest illustrated new story in human history, and the skeptics would curl up and die. So far, no dice, and the skeptics live on.

Books

a high testimony to the extreme salubrity of the climate. . . ."

In the wake of George H. Harlan's extensively illustrated historical survey, "San Francisco Bay Ferryboats" (Howell-North) appears "Narrow Gauge to the Redwoods," a similarly excellent account of the North Pacific Coast Railroad and San Francisco Bay's paddle-wheel ferries. This is the result of some 20 years of research by the late A. Bray Dickinson and Roy Graves, who has been collecting pictures of the railroad and the people who ran it since he first went to work on the line more than 60 years ago. This was a narrow-gauge

line that ran along the coast from Sausalito to the Russian River region.

Following Dickinson's death in 1958, the author's widow entrusted his manuscript to Ted Wurm and Al Graves, who added additional material to the history. The result, published by Trans-Anglo Books of Los Angeles (\$6.95) is something for collectors of Californiana and especially collectors of railroad and steamship data. The Roy Graves photographic collection is especially valuable.

Notes on the Margin . . . "Guidebook to Campgrounds" contains sectional maps covering more than 10,000 campgrounds in the United States and Canada. The publishers say every one of the areas was given an on-the-spot inspection by a Rand-McNally representative (\$3.95).

"National Park Guide" offers thorough coverage to each of the 32 national parks; maps, photographs, description of activities and facilities, historical background, (Rand McNally, \$2.95).

My Neighbors

