

Press-Herald

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A Job Well Done

South High School's journalism faculty and students are justly proud this week that their student newspaper, the *Sword & Shield*, has been awarded an "All American" rating by the National Scholastic Press Association. The selection of school newspapers for this award is not done lightly, and South High has reason to be very proud of the honor.

Instructor Tom Rische and those whose vision and industry were responsible for the production of the award winning newspapers have our unqualified commendation.

They have performed a difficult job well and we salute them.

Storm Afterthoughts

We said it one rainy weekend last year and it bears repeating:

The millions of dollars which have been spent and are being spent for flood control channels and feeder systems throughout this great area are sparing residents of Torrance and its adjacent communities a lot of grief.

Rains such as this area experienced early last week would have marooned much of the community a few short years ago. Despite the cloudburst proportions of the rains, there was little talk of isolated areas, very few homes were threatened with storm waters, and most roadways were clear within minutes after the downpour eased.

The storm drain system is proving to be all that its designers said it would be and is a real blessing to this motorized generation during such storms.

Much Is Right

Those who like to criticize often downgrade the accomplishments of our economic system on the grounds that it has made us a nation of materialistic gadget collectors with a diminishing capacity to pursue or appreciate things of the mind. But, if this were true, why is the educational level of our young people on a constantly rising curve? Why is it that the best-trained minds in medicine, the sciences and the arts come to the United States from other countries to learn and perfect their abilities in their chosen fields? How is it that this country is concerned with improving opportunities to those now living at substandard levels.

The fact is that the competitive enterprise system produces the material necessities and luxuries of life so efficiently that it does not take all the average family's income just to pay for food, clothing and shelter. There is much left over for a stereo sound system. There is an insurance policy or a savings account for the youngsters' college. There is time to read and learn. There are increasing opportunities to travel. There is political freedom, and the constitutional system that guarantees individual rights and liberties.

Yes, there is much right with the United States. Because of all the things that are right, we have a far better chance of solving the problems and correcting the inequities that remain with us than any nation of people the world has seen before.

Morning Report:

Good old Yankee inventiveness has revealed itself again in the latest peace demonstration. I refer to the recent blood-in at the Baltimore draft office. It is another step along the escalator from march-in, sing-in and sleep-in.

In Baltimore, the protestors poured blood into 16 drawers of records. Some of it was their own but most of it was duck's blood, used to make those wonderful Polish sausages—excellent with veal and cabbage.

No doubt the protest was novel but it could be disastrous. There are a lot of Federal programs unpopular with groups of Americans. Internal Revenue, farm-support, tariff, auto safety, billboard control come immediately to mind. The nation could become anemic or at the very least it would mean a terrible shortage of Polish sausages.

Abe Mellinkoff

WRONG NUMBER!



It's Not Exactly A New Idea



HERB CAEN SAYS:

Bloody Mary Gets Credit For Skateboard Slaloms

Hilarious Hermione Gingo, who only has to say "Hello" to crack me up, wandered into the Gilded Cage on ready old Eddy St., and received a roaring ovation. As she dabbed her eyes, Charles Pierce said: "You must be deeply touched." "Naaah," snarled Hermione, "I've got my eyelashes on upside down."

Ah November, when spring is in the San Francisco air: The other morning, around 9:30, two businessmen on skateboards and balancing with ski poles did an expert slalom all the way down Nob Hill, from California and Powell to Montgomery. I can attribute this only to the weather and one too many Bloody Marys at the University Club. . . . Jim Bacon, the hottest H'wood columnist, had dinner at Sally Stanford's Valhalla in Sausalito, at her invitation, and was given the works: the best of everything, including vintage wines and cognac, followed by the check. When he commented mildly that he had eaten with Dave Chasen and Mike Romanoff in THEIR restaurants with no check presented, Sally shrugged: "Once a madam, always a madam—we never give away what we can sell."

Before the Haight-Ashbury Medical Clinic benefit

ROYCE BRIER

Terms of Mideast Peace Could Be Coming Closer

King Hussein of Jordan, a young man in a peck of historical trouble, is the only Arab leader Americans can understand, and other Arab leaders seem to sense this.

In a televised interview in New York recently, he said Arab states were prepared to negotiate a peace with Israel acknowledging Israel's sovereign existence, though he conditioned this on Israel's agreement to withdraw from some parts of conquered territory. He later said he reflected the view of President Nasser, United Arab Republic.

As the offer is the primary condition of Israel for an attempt to settle the Mideast problem, no immediate obstacle to negotiation appears.

*** Hussein said: "Our offer would mean that we recognize the right of all to live in peace and security in that area, and this represents a

tremendous change from earlier positions."

"Tremendous change" is hardly an overstatement. Hours after the beaten military forces of the three Arab states had reached sanctuary from Israeli pursuit last June, all three echoed with

Opinions on Affairs of the World

threats of new mobilizations and of resumption of the war to destroy Israel.

At the time these threats were idle. The Israeli forces were deployed at a hard front at the Suez Canal and on the east shore of the Gulf of Suez, the west bank of the Jordan river, and on the Syrian heights northeast of Galilee.

Four months later this was still intact, as was manifested recently by Israeli demolition of major Egyptian

oil installations at Port Suez, in obvious reprisal for Egyptian sinking of an Israeli destroyer.

Despite stories that the Soviet Union had partly restored lost Arab air and ground gear, the Arabs would not be in a position to resume warfare short of a year. The mere organizational and command requirements, aside from accumulation of war materiel, insures that.

Therefore, King Hussein's position is informed with realism. The Arab states have no choice but negotiation of frontier settlements, and recognition of Israel as a de facto sovereign among them.

To withhold recognition in hope of fomenting a sort of inter-state guerrilla war, is only to invite Arab losses more extensive and permanent than they have already suffered.

CAPITOL NEWSMAKERS

Budget Watchdog Skips The Popularity Contests

By EDWIN S. CAPPS

Capitol News Service
SACRAMENTO — He is often referred to as the legislature's financial analyst or financial watchdog; actually, he's the legislature's financial conscience as well.

That would be Legislative Analyst A. Alan Post, the man who advises the state's lawmakers how they can make reductions in the budget and what the effects of such cuts would be. With his staff of about 40 experts, Post makes studies of operations of state departments, with recommendations for increased efficiency.

Post has been in his job since 1949. Considering that he serves strictly at the pleasure of the legislature's joint budget, his 18 years on the job attest to his capabilities and his non-partisan performance. However, Post seldom is in a position to run in any popularity contests.

Sometimes it's the governor who disagrees with the analyst. Both Governors Goodwin J. Knight and Edmund G. Brown have, at times, been very upset with him. At one point, Governor Brown described Post's recommendations for budget reductions in the adjectives he usually reserved for former Senator Barry M. Goldwater. Sometimes it's a department director who feels his knowledge and judgment in operating his department should not be questioned.

Sometimes it's the legislators themselves who disagree sharply with Post. For his recommendations don't follow any party line and he may be calling for some reduced spending when the majority party in control of the legislature doesn't want reductions in that area for political reasons.

The budgetary process in Sacramento is a year-around operation. Shortly after the new budget year begins on July 1, the various departments and agencies begin preparing budget requests for the next year. As these requests are made to the department of finance, cap-

ies are given to Post's office. A liaison is maintained between Post and the director of finance. Normally, when a budget is introduced by the governor in late January, it holds few surprises for Post.

Post's analysis, a thick book which goes over the budget, item by item, recommending that no change be

The Men in Action on the Sacramento Scene.

made or that changes be made, and giving the reason for them, is released about 30 days later. Once his budget analysis is in print, the committees begin hearings on the budget.

At least one member of Post's staff is present at all hearings of budget committees or their subcommittees.

Budget analyses in the past have called for up to \$60 to \$80 million in reductions.

"We don't expect, or receive, full compliance with our recommendations," Post said. "Some of them take more than a year to accomplish and others require changes in the law or in the constitution."

"Frequently, the legislature will act on part of the recommendation," he said. "And the department of finance or an agency may accept part of the suggestion for change in their next budget."

"But, in looking over recommendations made over the years, we're sometimes astonished to find how many ultimately are approved," Post said.

Many of the suggested reductions in Post's budget analyses are a matter of policy decisions by the legislature.

"We call these policy options," Post said, "as they are not essentially just efficiency or economy. But we point out the way the legislature can go."

"We say, in effect, if you want to balance the budget, here's a way: here's the price tag and here's an as-

essment of the effect," he said.

As an example, Post had been recommending for years that the schedule of fees for visitors or users at state beaches and parks be revised upward. Such fees in the past had paid for only about 25 per cent of the cost of operation of the facilities, not to mention the original outlay.

Some progress was made but it was slow until the administration of Ronald Reagan took over this year. This year, fees were raised to provide about 40 per cent of operating costs, which was as high as Post had recommended.

Not all recommendations have been so successful. Post has been calling at every session of the legislature for some reform in the way money is allocated to county and district fairs. However, few changes have been made because of the "sacred cow" nature of fairs.

Post has been giving the legislature the facts of life on bond issues every year but, aside from admitting they know he is right, the legislature has continued to take the easy way out and avoid tax increases by use of bonds for state building programs. It may do the same thing in 1968.

"In 1956, when some taxes were accelerated and the alcoholic beverage tax increased, we said that \$150 million more should be put into the tax base to provide for capital outlay," Post said. "Had this been done, we could have avoided all the bond issues and continued on a pay-as-you-go plan."

The big tax increase bill of 1967 earmarked \$90 million a year toward capital outlay. The bill also requires expenditure of \$155 million a year in relief for local taxpayers. There's a good chance that both of these can't be accomplished without a tax increase and the legislature already is talking about another \$200 million bond issue.

They can't say that A. Alan Post didn't warn them.

WILLIAM HOGAN

Dayan's Daughter Writes Vivid Account of Battle

Remarkable piece of military reporting, perhaps a classic in the genre, appears as *Israel Journal*, June, 1967. This is a spare, tense, underplayed report from the Sinai from a soldier's point of view, the dust and oppressive heat of the desert, the flies by day, mosquitoes by night, the tension, tragedy, and meaning of the campaign. It suggests Hemingway in his military scenes rather than a young woman still in her 20s, a lieutenant in the Israeli army.

"I was holding an Uzi sub-machine gun, Dov was driving, Katz was at the front machine gun and Itzik was pointing a Russian automatic gun . . . Corpses lined our way. We went down to pick up their guns, those

hiding in bushes engaging us were shot at and groups (of Egyptians) were running in all directions."

This is a report by Yael Dayan, daughter of the Israeli Minister of Defense, Moshe Dayan. She is a novelist ("Young Face in the Mir-

Browsing Through the World of Books

ror"), linguist, and unofficial spokesman for the committed young Israeli, who was attached to a division in the Sinai during last June's engagement.

Much of her small book is based on a diary she kept during that period. It projects the drama and tension of the Arab-Israeli war as seen from the field, rather than its grand strategy.

As a military specialist,

Miss Dayan is informed and illuminating in her analysis of the tactics of the situations in which she was involved; as a writer, she is selective and emphatic in her vignettes—Israeli tanks "playing" the enemy's defense game; trying to find water in a God-forsaken place called Nahel, the only water being "smelly, sickly sweet and greasy"; a small transistor radio offering The Hit Parade as the hooded artillery awaited the signal to fire.

Miss Dayan's new novel, incidentally, titled "Death Has Two Sons," is published simultaneously in this country with her "Journal." Written long before last June, the novel has already appeared in England, and is about the "generation gap" between a modern young Israeli and his immigrant father. (McGraw-Hill; \$4.95.)

Alan Grey

Says . . .

We've had our annual Thanksgiving . . . The day has been complete . . . With lots of roasted turkey . . . And other things to eat . . . But during the day's activities . . . And the festive celebration . . . Did you pause awhile in silence . . . For a little contemplation . . . To think about the reasons . . . Why we celebrate this day . . . Then give thanks for your blessings . . . In a quiet humble way.

