

## The 'Silent Middle' Rises

There appears to be a growing awareness among many of us that the activists who are busy cluttering our streets and campuses in their frenzied efforts to obstruct authority in all its forms represent a smaller segment of the population than we may have been led to believe in recent years.

What Police Chief Thomas Reddin of Los Angeles called "the silent middle," when he spoke to students in Torrance last week, may be an awakening giant that may soon reassert the leadership it has lost by default to the unwashed freaks.

Some heartening signs of a growing opposition to the disruptive rabble of the weird set were in evidence during the past week.

UCLA students, in a two-day poll on questions of the day, were overwhelming in their rejection of the principal points espoused by campus rebels and their leaders among the ranks of professors.

Closer to home, the Torrance city government has stuck by its guns in denying a parade permit for a group of so-called peace advocates who wanted to tie up Hawthorne Boulevard, a state highway, for an anti-war demonstration during the height of the Christmas shopping season. The city's license review board has suggested the group hold its outing on Christmas Day.

What could be more appropriate than to demonstrate against war on a day set aside to celebrate the birth of the "Prince of Peace."

A Christmas Day observance also would be less likely to prove a major inconvenience for thousands of commuting and shopping residents of the area, and for that reason alone could be turned down by promoters.

During the past week, officials of our state's higher education system have been told strongly that insurrection cannot be allowed to continue on the campuses of the state. And top college and university officials are beginning to draw a line between dissent and rebellion.

The signs are hopeful, but the battle against the demonstrators has not been won. Many skirmishes can be expected before loyal Americans get their universities and boulevards back from the Vietnicks, beatniks, and weirdos.

Chief Reddin's "silent middle" may well have the last word, however.

## Help Needed for Float

Torrance is back in the world-famed Pasadena Tournament of Roses this year, and preliminary details of the float indicate that it will be one the community can back with pride.

Sponsored by the city, the Chamber of Commerce, businesses, industries, and individuals, the community's entry should reflect the spirit of the area and its residents. It's early California rancho theme is one which is most apt for Torrance.

The float does take more than spirit, however. It also costs a few bucks. Much of it has been raised through city and community sources, but more is needed.

May we suggest, as we have before, that the community show its support for the efforts made by the float committee and contribute to the financing. Just send along the funds to the Tournament of Roses Committee at the Chamber of Commerce.

When the community's float goes down Colorado Boulevard on New Year's Day, you'll know you had a part.

## Opinions of Others

Another example of the government's inconsistency can be noted at the Tennessee Valley Hydroelectric plant, where because of greater costs of operation the government is boosting power rates 7 to 9 per cent. . . . Private business feels the increase in operation (costs) just as much as the government. One would think and expect the government to set an example of holding the line rather than hiking it up and at the same time denying private business the same privilege. —Litchfield (Minn.) Review.

A recent rummage for something in the back of a desk drawer turned up a letter bearing a first-class mail stamp at three cents. Know what the date on the stamp was? 1957.—Odessa (Tex.) American.

## Morning Report:

Dow Chemical Company is getting the big play on our campuses this month. Bigger corporations, like General Motors and General Electric, send recruiters to college who are virtually ignored. But Dow draws wildly enthusiastic students by the hundreds every time.

Dow is big in modern fertilizers, the latest insecticides, and has a small old-fashioned sideline in napalm, a jellied gasoline used in the Vietnam war. It's the napalm, however, that brings out the crowds.

These illegal performances, somehow being repeated on campuses across the land, are an indictment of the quality of American higher education. What are they teaching in those classrooms anyway? Any informed opponent of the war in Vietnam should realize that napalm is among the least of our military weapons.

Abe Mellinkoff

## Look At The Beautiful Sunset!



## HERB CAEN SAYS:

# Bugsy Seagulls Bothering Monkey Island Residents

Ban the Bombers: Fleishacker Zoo—known as the S.F. Zoological Gardens to latecomers and officialse—is turning into a seagull sanctuary. It's becoming almost impossible to feed the animals: you throw a handful of goodies to the gang on Monkey Island, for instance, and a dozen of those screaming, scavenging birds come swooping in, snatching the food out of their mouths. (I'll admit it's partly the monkeys' fault. They're slower than the Giants' infield, whereas the gulls gobble up line drives like Willie in his prime.) If there ever was a bird that made a pigeon look good, it's those voracious, ill-tempered, bugsy seagulls. Why don't they stay where they belong — out there in the Bay, looking picturesque?

Dr. Robert K. Gardner of San Carlos, a dentist, chortles: "I guarantee my work for five years or 50,000 meals, whichever comes first. Of course, the customer has to bring his teeth in every six months for a checkup." Or send them in . . . I don't know why I said he "chortled." A chortle — a word coined by Lewis Carroll and combining chuckle and snort — is an exultant chant. Dr. Gardner really just sort of grickered (grin plus snicker), showing his excellent teeth.

The pound may be devalued but England carries on (item from the London Telegraph): "A Surrey correspondent complained to a gramophone company about the poor quality of one of its records. 'The only possible fault we can find,' the company replied, 'is that the sound is not as good as it could be.'"

Culinary Dept.: Hotelman Charlie Mapes of Reno, who,

Report From Our Man In San Francisco

a few days ago, bagged the second largest elephant in East Africa (a monster measuring over 30 feet from stem to stern) is hoping to bring his huge prize back to Reno — and on the chance that he succeeds, we submit this rare recipe for Elephant Stew, found among the effects of the late Clement Paddleford. Ingredients: 1 elephant, 2 rabbits (optional), salt and pepper to taste. Directions: cut elephant into bite-size pieces (allow two months). Add enough brown gravy to cover. Cook over kerosene fire four weeks at 460 degrees. This will serve 3,800 people. If more are expected the two rabbits may be added, but only if necessary as most people do not like to find hare in their stew . . . Charlie's exploits

in Africa, by the way, have earned for him the sobriquet "Tarzan of the Mapes."

Sammy Davis Jr. announcing his separation from Mia the same week that Frank split with Mia was a touching demonstration of the loyalty that permeates The Clan. We expect to read that the Dean Martins are breaking up any edition now . . . Does George Wallace know he has a fink in his retinue? A KRON-TV newscaster here asked this guy, off camera: "How is Lurline making out as Governor?" Replied the fink, jerking his thumb at Wallace: "A helluva lot better than HE ever did!" . . . Exciting new deal at fancy Cabana in Palo Alto. If you get drunk in Nero's Nook (that's the bar), management will provide a free room overnight plus a free Bloody Mary served bedside in the morning. So you can start getting loaded all over again . . .

## WILLIAM HOGAN

# O'Hara Is Still Efficient But a Predictable Writer

This is a report on one reader's long association (mine) with John O'Hara. It has lasted almost a third of a century and over some 30 books. For the most part the association has been pleasant enough, even exhilarating, such as the first time, in "Appointment in Samarra," I met Julian English, a prominent young figure in a small Pennsylvania town, and his wife Caroline, and those who surrounded Julian and knew him and lived with him. And again in the "Pal Joey" stories and the subsequent musical show, and in some of the later sociological entertainments like "Ten North Frederick" and "Ourselves to Know."

There were lesser moments, "The Big Laugh," for one, and some of the plays ("The Champagne Pool"). But O'Hara usually knew what the score was, and how the people of Hollywood, Broadway and Gibbstville, Pa., lived, most always managing to foul up their personal landscapes with a genius peculiarly American.

He was an expert on American sexual mores, among other things, probably the most accomplished since Kinsey. He still is, as wit-

## AFFAIRS OF STATE

# State Officials Uniting Against Racing Monopoly

By HENRY C. MacARTHUR  
Capitol News Service  
SACRAMENTO—That the current bitter battle between the administration of Governor Ronald Reagan and the California Horse Racing Board headed by Edgar A. Hills of San Francisco will have some far-reaching effects before it is over is virtually a certainty.

Briefly, the row is over the board's denial of additional racing days authorized by the State Legislature to the new California Fair and Exposition.

The action may involve secrecy in government and alleged violation of the Brown Act and amendment to that act by Assemblyman William T. Bagley, R-San Rafael.

Secondly, it involves what General Andrew R. Lolli, director of general services for the state, describes as a "looming monopoly."

Thirdly, conflict may next year challenge the very existence of the California Horse Racing Board, as Senator Albert Rodda, D-Sacramento, has announced he will introduce legislation to abolish the board and put its function under the Public Utility Commission.

Lolli, who is carrying the ball for the Reagan administration, appeared before

the board with the full support of the governor, and demanded full investigation of the monopoly phase, which stems from the fact that Hollywood Turf Club is in the process of acquiring the stock of Bay Sports Enterprises, which controls Bay Meadows, Tanforan, and Golden Gate Fields.

"I have previously asked that you inquire into what

News and Opinions  
On Sacramento Beat

appears to be a looming monopoly in horse racing in California," he told the board. "To date no response has been received. Since I have not heard from the board on this inquiry, I wish it to be known that I am asking for a thorough investigation."

Regarding secrecy in government, Lolli said

"I feel it is important that the Board openly review its basis for allocating racing dates with all interested parties. It is difficult to speculate on what basis the Board denied Sacramento a share in more racing dates at its new plant, unprecedentedly authorized over-lap in thoroughbred racing, and unnecessarily denied quarter horse

racing date. The Bagley bill, which was signed by the governor on Sept. 2, imposes open and public deliberations on the Board in such matters."

In asking reconsideration on denial of the dates for Sacramento racing, Lolli declared:

"The State of California cannot afford a czar (racing), nor a monopoly, nor vested greed, nor bending of the law."

The General Services Director also presented the board with a copy of a letter from Senator Rodda which stated emphatically that he will introduce legislation to abolish the board and turn its work over to the Public Utilities Commission.

"The Commission," Rodda said, "will be in a position to evaluate all aspects of the operation of the racing industry, including the rate of profit to the industry, and return to the state as a share of pari-mutuel wagering."

"Many citizens would feel much better if the Commission maintained a close scrutiny over this newly expanded industry and placed it under the same regulatory standards it applies to other industries under its jurisdiction."

## ROYCE BRIER

# Reds Seek to Slow Down Their Population Growth

Around 1640, when European immigration began to swing, the Americans in the opening west went about bragging about their community growth. For decades after, they were impressed by population bigness, Chicago? There was a city that couldn't stop growing about 1900, and in mid-century it was California that swarmed, to the delight of the unthinking.

The Russians didn't catch this fever from us, they found it with the Revolution. More and more Russians were needed to keep their awkward society staggering along, or so thought the philosophers of the Stalin regime.

In this they only followed a world trend, to which dictators were peculiarly susceptible. Benito Mussolini

offered bonuses for babies, and all the way west from Tokyo to San Francisco everybody wanted to be bigger and presumably better.

But in due time it turned out that to be bigger was not necessarily to be better, but to create insoluble problems involving food supply, the well-being of the individual and social and political stability.

Yet the Russians were in an ambivalent position re-

Opinions on Affairs  
of the World

garding population growth, starting with the Industrial Revolution 150 years ago. Marx held that overpopulation was a disease of the capitalist system. But Soviet managers were compelled to abandon this when it proved

to be a delusion right under their noses, and they succumbed to the biggest fever because they thought more Russians meant more power and wealth.

This, too, proved to be a delusion, as demographers in the past 20 years have established that a high rate of population growth does not confer a social benefit but an imbalance and spread of evils inimical to power and wealth.

Last month the Bulletin offered a historical discussion of Soviet population theory, and noted a marked change recently. This was manifested in an increase of output from the Soviet Embassy in Washington of translation of Russian demographers. The Russians also changed their attitude in votes in the United Nations involving world population problems.

Instead of seeking unlimited Soviet growth, the Soviet managers now seek restraint, and cooperation with other nations in the world population problem.

On the heels of the Bulletin article comes a survey by the London Observer in effect that the Soviet Union and other nations in its orbit have recently lifted a ban on contraceptive pills. This change is attributed to an unwanted rise in the abortion rate, but it is likely to be a subterfuge. Other evidence is strong that the Russians have become disillusioned by indiscriminate population growth as a solution for their difficult food and economic problems.

## Alan Grey Says . . .

Robert McNamara . . . Will head the World Bank . . . And for this change in duty . . . There's LBJ to thank . . . In this new position . . . He'll have to give his all . . . When dealing with the world . . . Especially Chuck De Gaulle . . . The problems of this office . . . No one really knows . . . But De Gaulle will do his utmost . . . To keep him on his toes.

## Browsing Through the World of Books

make his readers over 45 feel right at home.

O'Hara is still the most efficient literary cabinet-maker we have, and he should be after all these years and all that success. But somehow the toughness, the sexual athletes, the inside-show-business atmosphere strikes a familiar echo: We have heard it all before, probably in some O'Hara book or other.

There is this theatrical star Zena, and the playwright Yancey (Yank) Lucas, whose talent really blooms when he writes for Zena; Zena's husband, who masterminds her career; the agent, the cast, the people of East Ham-

mond, Vt., where Yank goes to escape Broadway, or Zena (or Dorothy Kilgallen) and write. Yank is the instrument of corruption, and those country people aren't immune to him. Yank is a dreary fellow who places a certain tattle tale grey around the edges of this familiar tough-guy prose.

O'Hara hasn't changed over the years so much as the reader (this reader) has; or maybe the times have changed, leaving the O'Hara hero, indeed the whole company, both obsolete and offensive.