

Press-Herald

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Self-Help Plan Lauded

Efforts of the downtown businessmen and property owners to breathe new life into the city's first retail center should be commended.

Under the prodding of a steering committee, the Downtown Torrance Association has taken positive steps to assure that their approach to the project will be more than the general "fix-up" drive usually associated with such efforts.

Employment of an expert in the city planning field coupled with a stated determination to follow through with the needed physical improvements with private funds could well bring a much needed resurgence in the importance of downtown Torrance as a shopping area.

We think the leaders in the downtown area deserve the best wishes of the community in their undertaking. Their efforts at self-help could have a wide ranging benefit to the area.

Those Phony Campus Riots

There seems to be a worldwide spontaneous movement among young people to resort to violent demonstrations on university campuses as a means of resolving any grievance that disturbs them. Many look upon these demonstrations as a legitimate rebellion against the shortcomings of the established order of governments and societies. Each generation is said to be wiser than the preceding one, thus we assume the dissident students are groping for a better order with a vision not given to parents and college authorities.

During the months of October and November of 1967, students staged 71 demonstrations on 62 college campuses. Were these demonstrations based upon deep philosophical and moral premises? There is reason for doubt on that score. Only two demonstrations were attributed directly to the war in Vietnam. It ranked with college social rules and safer road crossings.

At the bottom of the list of causes for the demonstrations were campus building programs and the quality of higher education. Only one demonstration was attributed to each. Indirectly, the war was a factor in 27 demonstrations against a chemical company manufacturing napalm. Three demonstrations each were attributed to compulsory ROTC and the quality of cafeteria food. The foregoing is taken from a tally made by the National Student Association which is based upon student demonstrations in the U.S. only.

George F. Kennan, former Ambassador to Russia and currently a professor at the Institute of Advanced Study, writing in The New York Times Magazine, presents views concerning the radical left on campus that may well stir misgivings in the minds of even the most tolerant. Among other things, he says, "Never has there been an era when the problems of public policy even approached in their complexity those by which our society is confronted today. . . . The understanding of these problems is something to which one could well give years of disciplined and restrained study, years of the scholar's detachment, years of readiness to reserve judgment while evidence is being accumulated. And this being so, one is struck to see such massive certainties already present in the minds of people who not only have not studied very much but presumably are not studying a great deal, because it is hard to imagine that the activities to which this aroused portion of our student population gives itself are ones readily compatible with quiet and successful study."

Mr. Kennan finds the greatest fault with the student protesters on the grounds that they offer no constructive program. As he says, ". . . if you find a system inadequate, it is not enough simply to demonstrate . . . anger. . . . If the student left had a program . . . many of us . . . could view its protests with respect"

On the current notion that civil disobedience is acceptable if the perpetrators are willing to accept the penalties, Mr. Kennan has this to say: "Some people, who accept our political system, believe that they have a right to disregard it and to violate the laws that have flowed from it so long as they are prepared . . . to accept the penalties established for such behavior. I am sorry; I cannot agree. The violation of law is not, in the moral and philosophic sense, a privilege that lies offered for sale with a given price tag, like an object in a supermarket, available to anyone who has the price and is willing to pay for it."

And in all, Mr. Kennan's views will strike a lot of people with the force of bedrock logic at a time when our permissive society needs such logic in heroic doses.

Morning Report:

If the purpose of a Presidential campaign is to learn all there is to know about the candidates, I'd say a promising start was made the other day in Kalamazoo, Michigan. There, a truth-seeking voter managed to pull off Senator Kennedy's right shoe. The candidate was unmasked.

The Oxford was size 8½, had an arch support, and was made in England. This is genuinely basic research, and probably more important than his position papers on NATO and SEATO combined.

It proves the candidate is a man of unlimited courage and weak arches. Anyone with the latter needs the former to play touch football in his bare feet. And for a candidate to wear English shoes when the shoe manufacturers of New York are crying for tariffs shows courage even of almost a higher level.

Abe Mellinkoff

Does Nixon Have the Nomination Sewed Up?



HERB CAEN SAYS:

If There Is No Answer, Call the Other Number

Atty. Melvin Bellicose, upon receiving a bill for \$80,000 from his ex-wife's lawyer, Jack Berman: "Who the hell does he think he is—ME???" Sign spotted on a parked truck in San Jose: "God Is the Answer! Call 378-9611. If no answer, call 268-3111." All questions in writing, please. . . . To distinguished visitors, Mayor Joe Alioto no longer hands out those corny keys—he presents books about S.F. his latest favorite being Lately Thomas' "A Debonair Scoundrel," the story of Abe Ruef. Only in this enlightened city would a Mayor proudly give away a book about the king of S.F. grafters.

Caenetti: Summary of Assembly Bill 886, introduced up there in Sacramento: "Prohibits sales of new cars after July 1, 1970, unless they have ignitions that don't turn off the motor unless the key is removed." What wrote that, Casey Senegal? . . . Having completed 20-day sentence for demonstrating against the draft, Novelist Kay Boyle, 65, is out of jail and back at her typewriter; she's still trying to complete the book on Germany she's been working on for five years. . . . Vernon Kaufman, the Mayor's special asst., addressing a neighborhood meeting on redevelopment: "You people have two problems. The first is to

find an answer to the your problems." He never got around to stating the second, and that's another problem. . . . Monopoly! Joe Kearns, owner of Meaders Cleaners, is building a spaghetti-meat sauce parlor called Luigi's, right across the street. "Since half the suits I clean have gravy stains," he explains, "I figure I might as well supply the gravy myself."

Godfrey Cambridge, commenting on the "Peyton Place" decision to allow a

Report From Our Man In San Francisco

Negro family into that TV "Neighborhood" next season: "The father will be a doctor nine feet tall with a constant smile on his face as he goes about fixing knees, and in his spare time working on a cancer cure." . . . Capsule film critiques: "Elvira Madigan" is a beautiful bore, "Poor Cow" is an ugly bore, "Dr. Dolittle" is a baby bore. (Signed) Papa Bore.

Barrel's Bottom: It's brain-bogger time again, fans! Here's Jim Day, on educational TV, making a pitch for the station's annual fundraiser auction: "So make a mental note of it on your calendar. . . . And there's Senator Fulbright confessing all on the "Today" show: "Well, I misunderstood the President's statement due to

my own lack of inattention." . . . E. C. Chen, the former Chinatown designer who's now at 20th Century-Fox, is designing the big N.Y. parade set for "Hello, Dolly!" and since he was born in China and has never been to N.Y., how can he swing it? "Simple," he explained last week. "Just draw big city—little more big than San Francisco only not so pretty." I believe he's got it.

The cheery "Hello There!" in the blue psychedelic lettering—that smiles out when you open the lid of a mailbox in The Bernal Heights district; goes well with the hippie girls delivering the mail in that neighborhood . . . The reverberating chimes of London's Big Ben (recorded, but authentic) peeling out from the revolving clock outside the Pacific National Bank on Montgomery St. . . . The two Little Old Ladies who are driven downtown for shopping daily by a chauffeur even older than they; youngest member of the group: their 25-year-old limousine, as polished as they. . . . The muttering tourists at Bay and Taylor, plotting how to board the cable cars ahead of everybody else but forever standing on the wrong side of the turntable—and losing out every time to the crafty natives. . . . The fresh fruit salad at Enrico's that contains (surprise!) only fresh fruit.

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WILLIAM HOGAN

Bullfighting Can Be Fun When You Know the Rules

La Fiesta Brava: What I remember from Hemingway's "Death in the Afternoon" was not the bullfighting part, which was most of it, but the author's strange and amusing literary asides where he talked with a mythical Little Old Lady. "Madame, all our words from loose using have lost their edge," he told the Lady at one point, and it seemed to the non-afficionados in the audience that Hemingway proved that in "Death in the Afternoon." For the uninitiated in that sport-ritual, the words had no edge.

The North American either cares or does not care for what goes on in the bull rings of the Latin world. Barnaby Conrad, of course, is not only an admirer of this sport-ritual, but a graduate student in the bloody art. Some years ago when

SACRAMENTO SCENE

Proposal to Split State Hits Legislature Again

By HENRY C. MacARTHUR
Capitol News Service

SACRAMENTO — Almost every legislative session, some solon comes up with a proposal to make two states out of California. This year the proposal is made by Senator Richard Dolwig, R-San Mateo, who tried it last year and managed to get no place with the proposal.

Dolwig thinks there should be a Northern California and a Southern California for some unclear reason and, therefore, is trying to push division through the legislature.

While his chances are exceedingly slim, there appear to be a few reasons why this might be beneficial, at least to a small group of politicians, but hard on the taxpayer.

For instance, state division would mean the setting up of a new legislative bureaucracy in Southern California. Northern California already has its legislative bureaucracy established with \$16,000 per year plus many fringe benefits for its legislators, such as \$25 per day expenses while they are in session, leased automobiles paid for by the most part by the taxpayers, and a plush retirement system.

Why this should be duplicated in Southern California is a good question, and in all probability, voters in that area, and there are more of them down south than up north, might look with jaundiced eyes on supporting their own set of lawmakers, which could do nothing more for them than is being done at the present time.

In fact, division of the state would benefit the north more than the south in a good many ways. Southern California will in a

Review of Major News On the Sacramento Scene

few years have control of both the assembly and the senate, by reason of the long-standing representation in the lower house on the basis of population, and the newer court of the state supreme court that representation in the senate is required on the same "one-man, one-vote" theory.

Thus, division would give the northern counties an empire to play with, unhampered by what some have termed the voraciousness of Southern California.

On the other hand, the north would have less tax money to dispense, for it is a recognized fact that where the people are, the money is.

In times past, talk of state division was somewhat on the serious side, especially during the long battles over division of water, which is the heart-beat of Southern California.

The claim was advanced that the south sought to appropriate the water that belonged to the north, a move which eventually would lead to the drying up of the great valleys of northern California.

Although it took a good many years, some equitable agreements were made, and the California water project is progressing to the point where surplus northern California water will be pumped into the southern counties.

Consequently, there appears to be at the present, no cogent need for state division, a move which would rob both areas of much of the wealth and prestige that California now enjoys, both as the leading state in the union in population and progress in many different fields.

However, it does no harm to talk about the subject, even if division is highly improbable in the foreseeable future, as discussion will readily bring out the reasons for the uselessness of two states when one can do the job.

☆☆☆

Hunting seasons for 1968-69 have been recommended by the department of fish and game and will be considered by the fish and game commission, with final adoption set for late May. The department proposed a deer hunting season almost identical to 1967 which will please some and displease many others. The deer kill in 1967 dropped 40 per cent and many have felt the season should be shorter this year. Others said the short season last year resulted in the lower kill and it should be lengthened this year. The department did cut back considerably, however, on its proposals for special antlerless hunts, recommending only 14,960 permits this year, as compared to 28,990 a year ago. The department also proposed a one-day wild turkey hunt in San Luis Obispo county for Nov. 23, the first such hunt to be held in the state.

ROYCE BRIER

U.S. Reaction to Pueblo Seizure a Sorry Episode

It is now twelve weeks since the USS Pueblo, the spy ship, was seized by the North Koreans, and retrospect reveals it as one of the sorriest episodes in American history.

It was sorry because at almost every stage of the affair, American public officials acted in a sorry manner. They first reacted with a thoughtless and dangerous impetuosity which was tinged with undignified bluff. Then they indulged in repeated equivocations quite devoid of any forthright character, before their own people and world. Last, they accompanied this dubious conduct with an extraordinary touch of hypocrisy.

Consider the impetuosity. President Johnson's first act after the initial shock was to call up the reserves, as if at the behest of others of

the mindless who said we should lunge in there and recover the Pueblo and crew by force. Naval craft, including a carrier, streaked to the scene only to sit there fatuously.

It was the kind of world-crisis stuff the old Kaiser used to pull early in the century until sensible courtiers could cool him off.

Undoubtedly what cooled off the Washington Adminis-

Opinions on Affairs of the World

tration in this case was the icy thought that it already had a bum war, and sure didn't need another. Or maybe it was that the American people soon arrived at half a mind that they were being hoaxed.

Secretary of State Rusk began his convoluted ma-

neuvres. First, we were on the high seas, and it "possible act of war," though our radio reports were fragmentary. But it slowly seeped out that mayhap we were not on the high seas when

Mr. Rusk required two weeks (to Feb. 6) to decide that it was "possible" the Pueblo was at some time within the tough 12-mile limit imposed by North Korea.

Interweaved with these major equivocations were suspect interpretations of this and that, including a thundering Washington silence as to why the Pueblo and its crew of code clerks were there at all, unprotected, since even a successful probe would have brought no appreciable benefits.

Then when the people began to sag in doubt, and to question the whole affair, the Washington chorus piped up a defense, saying intelligence probing is a universal practice of the great powers. Have not Russian spy ships, disguised as trawlers, been dogging our fleet movements for years in the Pacific, Atlantic and Mediterranean?

So they have. But note that when one of these trawlers is unmasked, it is held up to us as reprehensible conduct. Yet we can't have it both ways. If it is reprehensible in the Russians, it is reprehensible in us. The least we can do is plead vital security, and to plead our own piety is a hypocrisy corroding to the American character, and unbefitting to Washington statesmen, however commonplace in history.

Now all Americans but a few freaks want the men back (and the ship as a secondary consideration. In due time we will get them, perhaps after the Russians have taken the electronic gear to Moscow for study.

Not that the electronic gear is any killing matter. If the espionage geniuses in Washington of the stamp of the CIA can't do anything with ten-million-dollar machines but lose them in a goof-off, the fewer they have of them, the better.