



COLLEGE REPORT

By ROBERT M. BERSI

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Lately, in the magazines of the facts and to tell the and newspapers that I regu-people what the leaders of larly read, the repetitious society think they ought to enumeration of the nation's hear. In short, the molders of troubles and of the inadequa- public opinion, when they cies of Americans threaten to think it necessary, Plato coun- hypnotize me into despondency. A few writers have some good things to say about the United States and its people, but not many.

My despair, however, has Jeremiahs haven't entered begun to give way to scepti- into a conspiracy to suppress- cism and, in turn, my scepti- facts. They have, however, ficism to irritation. I remem- neglected a good many perin- bered a passage from Plato's- ent ones. They list national "Republic" wherein he states- debits but neglect to cite the what scholars call the concept- credits; they detail weakness- of the Royal Lie. It may be- es but omit commenting upon desirable on occasion, Plato- strengths; they point to ad- proposed, to hold back some- mitted dangers but say little

THAT AS A people we face enormous problems, every alert America knows. That we have successfully met other hardly less menacing difficulties, everyone familiar with our history knows. Beyond question we need to attend vigilantly to our present troubles, but no less certainly we need the strength that comes from a continuing awareness of our historic achievements. They have been magnificent; and unless the Prophets of Doom bewitch us into weakness, they will continue to be.

American higher education illustrates our national accomplishments. Scores of intricate difficulties confront it, but a survey of its history yields the comforting knowledge that in the past it has effectively met comparable complexities. Indeed, its triumphs have been spectacular. Many of the topics explored in this column have dealt with those exciting achieve-

ments — the change in American students, the growth of great American universities. I talk a great deal about the past in these columns, not because I am an historian, because I am not, not because the past holds any particular fascination for me, because it does not, really; but because the past holds in its grip answers to present problems and glimpses into the future.

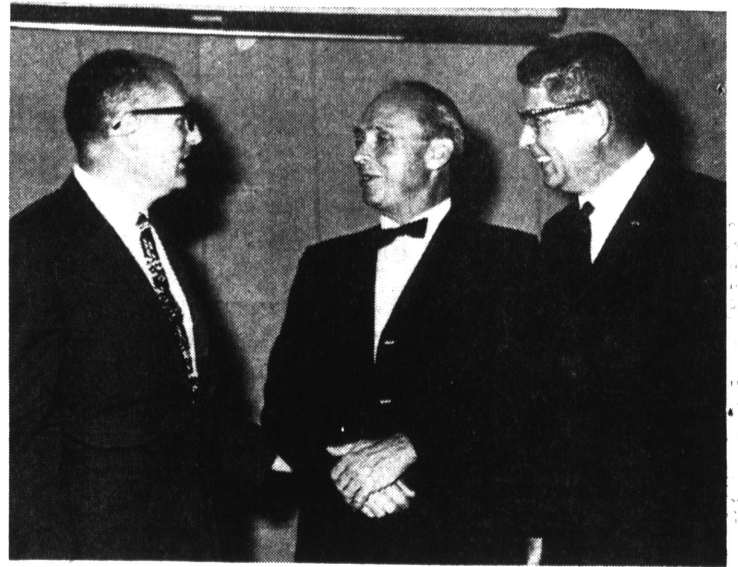
OVER THE main entrance to the United States Archives Building in Washington appears a line from one of Shakespeare's plays engraved in stone. It reads, "What's past is prologue." As one who gives considerable time to the study of academic history, I often think about that line, and also about a statement that Walter Lippmann made in one of his columns during the Second World War. It expresses the point of view I have tried to maintain in writing these columns, and so I end it by quoting it: "When shall we recognize the truth of our situation?"

Okay Granted

Mr. and Mrs. Martin Harris, 28115 Monterey Dr., Los Angeles, have received permission from the Regional Planning Commission to subdivide Parcel Map 576, a one-acre site with two single family lots, located west of Western Avenue and south of Monterey Drive in the Harbor Heights Zoned District.

Only when we see ourselves and the events of our day as one act in a drama which began long before we were born and will not be played out until long after we are dead. We shall never manage the present or make any sense of it, unless we have explained our past well enough to imagine our future.

The truth of the situation in American higher education is that we face huge problems but that we have successfully met comparable problems in the past and, hence, can take strength from this knowledge in meeting those of the present.



HEAD HOSPITAL . . . New officers of the medical staff at South Bay Hospital were installed during the group's annual dinner at the Los Verdes Country Club. Installed were (from left) James C. Roberts Jr., M. D., treasurer; John M. Wasserman, M. D., chief of staff; and Paul D. Yates, M. D., secretary Don John, M. D., the new assistant chief of staff, was unable to attend the ceremonies.



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