



HERB CAEN SAYS:

This Guy Has Some Mixed Emotions About Boycotts

Things have been aboil on the boycott front. Take the radio newflash that "A leading San Francisco women's store has canceled \$100,000 worth of French clothes as a protest against de Gaulle's policies!" Fascinating, but not true; Bill Keeshan, Pres. of I. Magnin (the only S. F. store that does that kind of business in Paris) says "Our policy on French clothes is unchanged. Most of the French people I know are anti-de Gaulle too. All this will pass, hopefully." On the other hand, Winemaster Hank Rubin, owner of the Pat-Luck in Berkeley, has bought half of Chateau Le Fleur Bécade in the Bordeaux wine country. On the other hand, Ed Clausen of Oakland has shaved off his big handlebar mustache so he won't have to buy any more French wax (74c a tube). In support of LBJ's travel restrictions, station KRAK in Sacramento is offering free air time to the tourist bureaux (a French word) of all 50 states — and don't miss a chance to visit Minco Okla. A lament from Tom Cara, S. F.'s importer of foreign cooking utensils: "Since we cannot get paniers a nid, poissonnières or fettuccine machines from Des Moines, Ia., must San Franciscans change their haut cuisine habits to conform to the national policy?" Right: Let 'em eat hush-puppies. However! Ski instructors at Sun Valley must go through an "accent school" so they'll sound authentically foreign to the crazee Americans. To name our favorite French tenor saxman: Zoot Alor!

Writing the wrongs: As for me, I'd hoped to start the new year with a clean slate, but I've smudged it already. . . In that clever item about the Arthur dis-cotheque, I wrote authori-

tatively that its name stemmed from the time a reporter asked the Beatles' Ringo Starr what he called his hair, and he replied "Arthur." All true, except it was George Harrison. For this I have the word of Geri Walker, who has seen "A Hard Day's Night" 31 times . . . As for Semantiscist Don Hayakwa, he says he didn't say what I said he said about the food at the White House ("Is Texas food the reason our policy is in such bad shape?"). "I found the dinner excellent," he snaps, "and I especially enjoyed the California wines." Slate clean for now.

All in all, I think it's going to be a fine year for brain-bogglers, mine included. Here's Glenn Dumke, Chancellor of the Calif. State Colleges: "San Francisco State is not a can of worms that can be stepped upon with a baseball bat." Defense Secty. McNamara, on rumors of the Chiefs of Staff resigning: "You couldn't get those guys out of there with a shoehorn." And the UPI from Jerusalem, in the San Jose News: "Chanukah also celebrates the victory of Judas MacAbee over the Greeks." Who were frightened off by Mac's fierce bagelpipers?

A prominent San Francisco business executive, invited by a group of Texans to join in a heavily financed propaganda campaign to boycott French goods, has decided against it. "After due reflection," he reports, "it occurred to me that I don't like Texans any better than I like de Gaulle." . . . S. F. Chapter 3 of the California State Employees Assoc., gathered in Stonestown the other night, heard

a speaker ask, while discussing crime: "Do you know that in New York City a woman is raped every four and a half hours?" The stunned silence was broken by Chapter Pres. Lou Tripodi, who ventured: "She must be the happiest woman in the world." . . . Don Clark, who owns a service station here, has been robbed so often that he bought an eight-foot boa constrictor, name of Herkimer, and left him coiled in the window at night. Worked fine, except that during this cold weather, poor Herky contracted pneumonia and died. Now he has a stuffed rattlesnake in his window while he shops for another boa. "Boa constrictors are great watchdogs," he says. "I had a real watchdog for awhile but all he did was wag his tail when the burglars came around. When a boa wags his tail it means something."

R. A. Baum, the weather forecaster at S.F. Int'l Airport, must be feeling silly these days. In his official weather summary, he referred to Los Angeles as "Low Sangeles" . . . Phil Strong, exec. director of Fontana East, rec'd a holiday note from Louis Nizer, the noted N.Y. lawyer, as follows in toto: "I send you reciprocal greetings and wishes that the New Year will enable us to consume more happiness than we produce." That's the New York attitude, all right.

Beaucens to S.F. Judge Gerald O'Gara for cooling off the eager-beaverish Asst. D.A. who wanted to send a mother to jail for 30 days — on the day before Christmas — for unpaid traffic tags (she had already served two days in the cooler.) The Judge dismissed the charge, and Scrooge slunk away as dozens cheered. . . . Our award for the best two-faced headline of the past year to the Stockton Record for "Bakersfield Man, 98, Seized as Moonshiner; Still Smashed" . . . Brain bog-gler culled from the San Francisco Chron.: "Mayor Lindsay appeared tense but outwardly calm" — the sure sign of the consummate politician.

The current California newsletter of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, composed exclusively of wounded veterans, contains this cheery message from Vice - Commander Alfred Lawrence: "I am happy to report that every chapter is increasing its membership at a greater rate than was anticipated." Does this man know what he's about?

Morning Report:

While we are worrying about the threatened extinction of the condor, the elk, and the whooping crane, a little concern is also required for another form of disappearing American life—the corporation president. Mergers are killing off corporations and every time a corporation dies, there goes another president.

The anti-trust people often turn wrathful if a steel company buys another steel company, but it's O.K. for steel to buy a cosmetics outfit, or cigarettes to buy drugs, or computers to take over a bakery. It's called diversification by merger.

Any reading of the financial pages leaves only one impression. The day is not far off until the once-great land will be down to The Sorporation President.

Abe Mellinkoff

Another Newcomer Greeted

If anyone needed confirmation that Torrance was coming of age, the gala opening here this week of offices for E. F. Hutton and Co., one of America's leading stock brokerage firms, should be the capper.

The impressive looking offices opened in one of the Del Amo Financial Center satellites is something new for Torrance, and ushers in the flashing lights of electronic stock quotations, the clicking of stock market news wires, and the most modern equipment available to check on stock market information.

We welcome this national firm to Torrance and wish them well.

A Leaky Gravy Boat

Warnings to our lawmakers, local, state and national that we can't fight a growing war and continually ride on the gravy train at home are growing stronger. Some of the political spending programs are going to have to be cut to a "no dessert basis." You see this every day when the people get a chance to vote on a local tax-boosting measure.

On the national scene, the people can't vote directly on spending, but at election time they can vote for or against the spenders who dish out tax funds as if they were on a perpetual picnic with an inexhaustible supply of ice cream cake and soda pop.

In Oregon, the people are rebelling at property taxes, and in the two most populous states, California and New York, taxation is a critical issue. Maybe this is a sign that many people are beginning to think they have about all the government they can afford.

OTHERS SAY In an Editor's Ear

- Newspaper editors are also people—we are told on good authority. If they sometimes appear cantankerous, there is a reason. A friend of ours in the business recently took time out to list some of those stock phrases he encounters every day which give him ulcers. Such as:
1. 'Please use the story as I've given it to you. We want it for our group's scrapbook.' (They'll do it every Time.)
 2. 'How come it wasn't in the paper?' (In 95 per cent of the cases it was in the paper—the reader just missed it.)
 3. 'You're invited . . . and bring your camera.' (The greenest cub reporter knows better than to fall for this trap. Besides, a free rubber chicken dinner won't get you any more publicity.)
 4. 'Are you busy?' (No, we just put in a 60-hour week because we like our work so well.)
 5. 'I know it's Saturday, but would you . . .' (We like to work on Sunday even better.)
 6. 'We want you to be our publicity chairman and . . .' (Oh no, we won't. You can grind your own axe.)
 7. 'My uncle is one of your big advertisers, and he'll . . .' (If he quits advertising, it'll hurt him more than the newspaper.)
 8. 'For \$25, would you keep my name out of the police report?' (Sorry, we can't. If the editor gets pinched, his name will appear, too.)
 9. 'You should have known about it.' (No newspaper employs a mindreader. The city blows the fire whistle to alert firemen, and any newspaper needs advance notice, too.)
 10. 'Our publicity chairman sent you . . .' (This is the oldest dodge in the book. What this means is that she forgot to send it in.) — Bradford (Pa.) Era

More than ever, this country needs trained educated people to continue the progress America has made. Much of the poverty and unemployment that exists today is directly related to the lack of education and preparation by previous generations. Right now there are two million youngsters in this country in the 16 to 21 age group who dropped out of school before earning their high school diploma. Nearly a fourth of them are unemployed. Most of the rest are stuck with dead-end jobs, without any real future. Large gains have been made in the fight against ignorance, unemployment, and poverty during the past several years. You can serve your country best by helping to insure that tomorrow's leaders are educated today—Magee (Miss.) Courier.

The proud tradition of America is that there always have been free men willing to risk all to keep alive the spirit of freedom. It would be foolhardy to forget the sacrifices they made, or to think that present and future men are immune from similar sacrifices. Tyranny may change its form, but not its nature; and there must be men willing to resist the tyrant.—Newark (Calif.) Argus.

Being on relief is becoming so respectable and dignified that it's soon going to be demeaning and degrading to go to work. Blairsville (Penn.) Dispatch.

Inflation is when you have money to burn and can't afford to buy matches.—Editor Harold S. May in the Florence (Ala.) Herald.

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover says there are no winners in a riot. "The losers include everybody—the rioters, the victims, law enforcement, the community, the state, and the nation."—Ocala (Fla.) Star-Banner.

AFFAIRS OF STATE

Welfare Shift Called a Phoney Baloney Measure

By HENRY C. MacARTHUR
Capital News Service
SACRAMENTO —Another piece of phoney-baloney the legislature will have to struggle with this year is a proposal by Assemblyman Leon Ralph, D-Los Angeles to transfer administration of welfare from counties of the state to the state welfare department.

Ralph, one of the Negro legislators from Los Angeles picked up the time-worn proposal from Assemblyman John Burton, D-San Francisco. Burton has the reputation of being an ultra-liberal. The San Francisco legislator handled the same proposal in 1967, and it failed to get out of committee. He is a co-author of the Ralph bill.

The co-authors claim tremendous amounts of money would be "saved" if the transfer were made, upwards of \$240 million, to the county taxpayers of California.

The so-called "savings," they said recently, would be enhanced by cutting down the volume of red tape connected with administration and the communications between Sacramento, Washington, and the county seats.

The fallacy of their arguments on behalf of state administration can be seen readily. While the costs

might be cut down as far as county taxpayers are concerned, they no doubt would be enhanced as far as state taxpayers, which include everyone, are involved.

For instance, taxpayers in a small county, with a now relatively small load as far as welfare is concerned, would be assessed more money in state taxes to meet the costs of welfare in the larger counties, where the recipients live and spend the welfare checks.

The Ralph-Burton program would assume that the state is going to shoulder all of the present state-county costs, which eventually would mean an increase in state taxes to meet the bills.

Opinions on Affairs of the World

Although county administration costs admittedly are high, they at least have the effect of keeping down total welfare cost, for the simple reason that home administration has been shown in the past to work efficiently in program of this type than would a huge bureaucracy dedicated to seeing how much of the taxpayers' money it could disburse, than to spending the amount actually necessary to take

care of those who are unable to care for themselves.

The bill is sponsored by two liberal Democrats and comes in the face of the expressed intent of Governor Ronald Reagan to leave as much home rule to local governments as possible, both as a matter of efficiency and economy.

The people of California decided at one time to transfer welfare administration from counties to the state, and so voted.

The trail, however, was found to be exceedingly wanting, and at a subsequent election the constitutional amendment was revoked and welfare was returned to the counties, where it rightfully belongs.

Welfare administration cannot be compared to any other program in which the state participates, such as unemployment insurance, which in fact is an insurance program, paid out on the basis of a claimant's earnings over a period of time.

Welfare, however, is based on need of each individual case must be established. The home ground of the recipient would appear to be the best place to establish this need rather than at a bureaucracy in Sacramento.

WILLIAM HOGAN

'Field Guide' to Romney The Man Sparks Interest

That hard-working Presidential aspirant George Romney has been sounding off under some strange date-lines lately (Moscow, Saigon). He certainly will be in the news this year. And if you're interested in keeping up with major players in this game of politics, a book called "Romney's Day" is a sparkling field-guide to this particular candidate. It is less a campaign biography in the usual sense than it is a forthright, unbiased effort to find out what makes George run.

book; no censorship, no control. Harris seeks not to promote his subject for the White House, but to analyze him and the Vietnam "brain-

Browsing Through the World of Books

washing" incident, or the view of him as a politician a little too close to God for comfort. Harris feels Romney has had a less sympathetic press than he might have, from the unorthodox business practices of his Rambler days to the point where he confused everybody by bringing an unorthodox Republican leadership to predominantly Democratic Michigan. Harris sees Romney as a political thinker far ahead of "standard brand" thinkers in this area. He is an "Urban Populist" who, like the rural populists of the late

19th Century, reasserts the fundamental need for people to have more direct control over the institutions of daily life.

One feels that the author likes and admires his subject as a man and statesman. He finds few skeletons in the Romney family closet beyond what Harris frankly calls the "demonic quality" of "Mormon racism." The Mormon background here is a particularly absorbing part of this profile of an American — even the anecdotes the Governor, for example, wears a peculiar set of drawers, the kind of long Johns that Mormons call "temple garments."

Harris' genuine enthusiasm for Romney and the Romney story becomes infectious in this ambitious journalistic portrait. This, in some measure, makes the "campaign biography" after all.

FROM THE MAILBOX

League of Women Voters Oppose Council Pay Hike

Editor, Press-Herald,
The League of Women Voters has historically supported adequate compensation for legislators at all levels of government. However, the consensus of our local study of the Torrance City Charter favored a complete charter review and suggested several areas for specific consideration by a well-represented citizens committee. Since 1966 we

have opposed piecemeal revision of the charter. Since the charter was adopted in 1947, Torrance has had a period of tremendous growth. In view of the changes brought on by this growth, we feel that it was a wise decision of the council to establish the charter review committee. The committee is in the midst of its work. The League feels that it would be best to await the result of this review before placing any charter revision issues on the ballot. On this basis we oppose the proposed charter amendment dealing with the compensation of the members of the city council.

tested in the betterment of society in Los Angeles County and specifically in the Harbor Area.

Through your cooperation and publicizing of United Crusade needs and deeds, you have encouraged the volunteers in their roles and have prompted innumerable financial contributions from among your readers.

The goal of the 1967 Harbor Area United Crusade was increased over last year, and your support has helped us raise more money than ever before, for 110 per cent of 1966's production.

As the 1967 volunteer Campaign Chairman of the Harbor Area United Crusade, I personally have appreciated the support you and your staff have given to our appeal.

United Crusade Chief Grateful

On behalf of the more than 3,700 volunteers who have worked untiringly in all divisions of the Harbor Area United Crusade, I thank you and the Torrance Press-Herald for your valuable support and genuine in-

Please accept also the deep appreciation of the thousands of healthy, infirm, needy, well-off, young and old alike who benefit from this annual United Crusade.

H. H. HOLLAND,
Chairman,
Harbor Area United Crusade

My Neighbors

RETURNS COMPLAINTS

"...and furthermore I don't like your studied air of indifference..."