



COLLEGE REPORT

By ROBERT M. BERSI

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A colleague of mine, Tom Bullock by name, had much of the responsibility for planning the new campus before it was built. Two summers ago, I would often pass his office and notice him gazing out his window at the gently rolling pasture across the street. I remember kidding him about this apparent day-dreaming. One day, his secretary showed me something he had written during these summer reveries.

For most of us who live and work in this latter half of the 20th Century, the pace of life has become so frantic and so filled with activity that the sight of a man calmly sitting and gazing out a window at an empty field boggles the mind. We accuse him of useless daydreaming when, in fact, he may be caught up in the most legitimate of philosophical reflections: creative thinking. Such was the case with my friend Bullock.

I QUOTE from his notes of that summer when the field was yet an empty field and the rolling pasture land had not yet felt the touch of the giant earth movers:

"These days, when things slow down and I take a few moments to enjoy the view from my window, I am treated to a sight fast becoming unique in urban Los Angeles: a cowboy. I used to think of him in a proprietary way as 'our cowboy.' When we first were looking at the land across Victoria Street as a possible college site, we used to drive through the site and be greeted by a nod or a wave as we passed him and his cows; but now, with eviction facing him, he looks the other way and keeps to his herding."

"The growing apathy of the Dominguez Cowboy has gone to the point where he is becoming a litter bug. Not to be outdone by those who leave stolen cars or old sofas on our land, the cowboy has left his own unique mark in the form of a dead bull. This creature, forgotten by the cowboy, lies among the tumbleweeds and over-stuffed chairs south of Carson No. 16, an old well long abandoned by the Union Oil Co."

"THERE are several rough roads leading onto the campus site, one of which goes past Carson No. 16 and on toward the old geranium farm which can be seen as darker colored plateau on the skyline as one looks toward the site from the old campus building. This road, leading as it does into the center of our 347 acres, serves as a main route for the local sofa dumpers as they search for ways to avoid paying the dollar to leave their trash at the Main Street Dump. There is a sparse but regular stream of traffic down this road, each driver moving a little farther away from the original ruts in an ef-

fort to avoid the hazards left by his predecessors.

"Boxes of cuttings, bed springs, dead puppies, broken furniture, newspapers, books, tin cans—all the excreta of our culture—lie exposed on the future Dominguez hills college site awaiting cleaning up by the state or gleaming by the citizens."

"OCCASIONALLY, one sees a car go out and park without bringing a load of trash. A person, usually a woman and usually alone, but sometimes accompanied by children, gets out and looks around hopefully. Sometimes, a piece of refuse, more valuable than the rest, will be lugged to the car. Finally, when the possibilities of the previous weekend's leavings have been exhausted, these people will leave. They, like the sofa dumpers, tend to park behind the trees or in the swale. One suspects that they, too, feel necessarily furtive as they violate the mores of our society and comb through the trash of others."

"Throughout this daily cycle of trash dumping and picking, the Dominguez Cowboy moved aloof until the insouciance of approaching eviction came upon him and he too left his mark upon the land. His sign lay for some time in the new-growing grass, stiff-legged and sightless—the symbol of a vanishing era on Dominguez Hill."

The trash has been removed long ago. The land is clean and bears the results of the earliest giant earth movers. The cows still occasionally graze in certain areas, but not for much longer. There isn't much room left for the cows and, soon, there will be none at all in the necessary expansion that characterizes progress. The first campus buildings have arisen. Parking lots cover the ground trod not too long ago by the Cowboy and his wandering herd. The latest era in the history of Dominguez Hills has begun.

Elks Seek Donors for Blood Bank

Elks blood bank chairman Ronald Brack has designated Friday, from 2 to 6:30 p.m. as blood donor day for Harbor and Peninsula Elks and their families.

Four times a year Elks contribute to their special account at the blood bank in the Red Cross Building, First and Western, San Pedro.

Brack said the reserve is in urgent need of replenishing and reminds Elks that anyone 21 or over may contribute. Prospective donors are asked to call either the Elks Club or the Red Cross for a reservation.

County to Hold Third Annual Drama Festival

Twelve community theatre groups from throughout Los Angeles County will compete for the chance to perform in Monaco during the 1969 Adult Drama Festival to be held Saturday, April 19, in Beverly Hills.

Amateur non-union actors and actresses will perform their comedy, drama, and musical scenes in the Hawthorne Elementary School Auditorium, 624 N. Rexford Drive. The admission-free festival will begin at 9 a.m. and continue throughout the day, according to Supervisor Burton W. Chace.

Winners of the festival, sponsored by the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation, will be awarded trophies.

Teen Fair Tickets Available

Thrifty Drug and Discount Stores have begun distributing Discount Tickets to the Teenage Fair in their stores throughout the Los Angeles area.

The fair, double-billed as "Pop Expo '69," will be held at the Hollywood Palladium starting Friday, and running through Easter vacation.

Customers can obtain tickets from any employee in a neighborhood Thrifty Drug and Discount Store. The tickets are free and result in 50 cents off the fair's regular admission price.

phies in categories of best dramatic scene, comedy scene, musical scene, actor, actress, director, supporting actor and actress.

IN ADDITION, the group that wins the county's best production sweepstakes award, will compete in a regional festival to be held by the American Community Theatre Association in Stockton May 3 and 4.

From five regional festivals to be sponsored by ACTA, one theatre group will be chosen as the United States entry for the World Amateur Theatre Festival to be held in Monaco.

The international competition to be held in August will be sponsored by ACTA, the International Amateur Association and Prince Ranier and Princess Grace.

ADDITIONAL information may be obtained by phoning the County Parks and Recreation Department, Social and Cultural Section.

Groups participating in the county's third annual drama competition are:

Showcase Theatre, Hawthorne; Fernwood Theatre, Hollywood; La Mirada Playhouse and Phoenix Theatre, La Mirada; Chapel Theatre, Lomita; Forum XI, Long Beach; Donnybrook Players and Metro Players Guild, Los Angeles; Palos Verdes Players and Theatre Palisades, Palos Verdes; and TRW/SEZ Satellite Players, Redondo Beach.

Contract Cities to Pay More for Sheriff's Cars

By BURTON W. CHACE
County Supervisor

Charges and countercharges have stirred much controversy and discussion over the rate which contract cities pay the county for Sheriff's Department services.

The contract cities contend they are paying a fair price—maybe a little higher than "fair"—while the independent cities claim the county's charges are too low.

Frankly I view the problem as strictly a bookkeeping matter—one which must be reviewed constantly to carry out the

Board of Supervisors' wish to charge an accurate, fair price.

I WAS on the Board of Supervisors when the policy of contracting sheriff's services to cities was originally spelled out. The concept is a good one, since it allows a city to economically enforce the laws without the expense of establishing a police department.

At the time—and to this day—the board's position and my position have remained unchanged. Cities contracting for the services should pay the exact

cost of these services, no more or no less.

There should be no "free rides," nor should there be excessive charges. It's just that simple.

WITH THIS policy in mind, supervisors have unanimously approved a new agreement with the 30 cities which contract with the county for law enforcement. The cities will be charged an annual base rate of \$132,741 per Sheriff's patrol car. This provides a car with one deputy during the day shift and two on the evening and morning

shifts, seven days a week.

This is an increase of \$13,255 over the last contract. The hike was necessary to meet increased salaries and fringe benefits which have been accorded the Sheriff's Department.

ONE OF the problems with the old contract was the lack of a provision for hikes in the salary and fringe benefit factors. The new contract allows for the price to be increased July 1 if these factors are increased.

Another of the drawbacks of the old contract was that it was

written for a five-year period. When it came time for renewal this year, the cities were faced with a massive jump in costs, rather than a gradual increase.

To correct this, the new contract was written for one year. Meanwhile, the Grand Jury has been asked to make an independent audit aimed at determining if the contract is as fair as we believe it is.

IT IS OBVIOUS that the contract must be kept under constant scrutiny by county and independent auditors to keep them in line.

One thing is clear. Supervisors want the successful contract cities program to continue to thrive but not at the expense of the independent cities.

Therefore, the bookkeeping involved must be accurate and just. Contract cities should pay no more or no less than the actual cost of these services.

GROCERY BILL

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