Medi-Cal Mess Could Provide Next State Scandal

By HENRY C. MacARTHUR SACRAMENTO — (CNS) — In all probability, the next big statewide scandal too erupt in California will be over the Medi-Cal program.

The suspicion that all is not well in either the adminis-tration of this multi-million dollar addition to government welfare, or in the execution o its objectives, has grown ever since it was inaugurated.

It was more than two years ago that the legislature author-ized Medi-Cal aid as a means

Your Right to Know Is the Key to All Your Liberties

Comment and Opinion

A-4 PRESS-HERALD

Realtors Saluted

Realtors this week are celebrating Realtor Week under the 1969 theme of "Home Ownership-Fundation of the Nation.'

Joining in the observance are the 700 members of the Torrance-Lomita Board of Realtors serving the communities under the direction of L. Milton Isbell,

Torrance Realtor and president of the group. Communitywide programs have been planned throughout the week to direct attention to the professional services rendered by Realtors and their efforts to help solve major problems in our communities.

The 1969 slogan merits particular attention, Pres ident Isbell has reported, as a stabilizing force in an era marked by problems ranging from riots and a sag-ging respect for law and order to soaring housing demands and interest rates.

Home ownership is enjoyed by more than twothirds of the families across the nation, a statistic which has been enhanced measurably by Realtors.

The term, Realtor, is an indicator of particular qualifications because only a member of the National Association of Real Estate Boards and one of the more than 1,550 local boards can identify himself by that term, according to Isbell. To be eligible for membership, a candidate must demonstrate a superior knowl edge of the business. possesss a record of business in-

tegrity and subscribe to a strict code of ethics. We salute this community's Realtors for their ma jor role in development of one of the Southland's finest

An Old Bogey Man

An official of the National Newspaper Association remarked, "'Advertising' with a Capital 'A', has taken an unmerciful beating at the hands of consumerists in recent years." The consumerists, he points out, say advertising provides the consumer with no useful information. The truth is that advertising contains a staggering amount of useful product information, beginning with such elemental facts as where an item is for sale, during what hours and at what price. Newspaper advertisements are usually filled with detailed information that enables purchaser and seller to come to a meeting of minds, and thus keep our entire free mar-

ket economic system rolling along in high gear. The Association official touched on a phase of advertising with which the public has little familiarity the policy guides which determine acceptance or rejection of advertising by newspapers. In practice, the self-regulation of advertising content by the news papers is a more effective safeguard against fraud or deception than a mountain of laws. Yet, it is carried on without impairing the basic function of advertising or the fluidity of the marketplace. Newspaper self-regulation of advertising, as the official observes, is pragmatic and direct, and based upon the ". . . knowledge and experience of the publisher and his staff."

It should never be forgotten that advertising is the underpinning of a free press

Other Opinions

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could not afford to meet the rising costs of medical, dental, hospital, and other expenses necessary in time of need. A good part of the criticism has been leveled at physicians, dentists, druggists and others, including nursing homes, and

of providing more and better

medical aid to the people who

MAY 23, 1969

including nursing nomes, and it has been answered to the ef-fect there is always a certain amount of chiseling by some unscrupulous persons more in-terested in their private profit than in the overall good result-

ing from a new experiment. designed in good faith to be a benefit to the people. Recently, disclosures that U.S. investigators have found

what may be millions of dol-lars worth of fraud in Califorlars worth of fraud in Califor-nia's program, led Jess M. Un-ruh, Democratic leader of the assembly, and former speaker of the house, to ask Bob Mona-gan, R-Tracy, the present speaker, to undertake new in-vestigations of Medi-Cal in all fields of its activity, and deter-mine whether the charges of mine whether the charges of

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Public Killer No. 1

defrauding the public are true or not, and if they are, make satisfactory provision for pun-iant of the provision for pun-bas refusing to do business with them in the future. But it might be pointed out here, that apparently not all of the chiselers. Some of the trouble is being cuased by the unit apparently not all of the trouble is being cuased by the chiselers. Some of the stration, in that payments to are supposed to be getting prompt payment for their ser-vices, are being delayed in receipt of their money to the

I'M DEADLIER THAN EITHER OF

YOU- YET I DO MY SLAUGHTERING

JUST "FOR FUN"

point where it is hurting their

businesses. In fact, last week Spencer Williams, secretary of the Hu-man Relations agency, an-nounced that Blue Cross of Southern California had sus-pended six of its employes pending investigation of pos-sible irregularities Blue Cross sible irregularities. Blue Cross is the state's agent for receipt, verification, and payment of claims for Medi-Cal services. The snafu in claims payment resulted in two former employ-es forming a billing agency on a private bases to expedite

HERB CAEN SAYS:

Caenfetti: Ex-Cop and hippy

Richard Bergess, more cele-brated as "Sgt. Sunshine,"

rec'd his \$5,300 pension check

to a Mission Dist. rock group

called the Free Conservatory

of Music "because I like to

hear people make beautiful sounds." He adds: "And now

that I'm flat broke, I need a

job. How do I go about becom-

ing a columnist?" I might have

told him for about \$5,300 .

Melvin Belli is suing Sirhan Sirhan for a million dollars on

behalf of Irwin Stroll of L.A.,

one of the bystanders shot by a

wild bullet on that awful night

in the Ambassador Hotel.

Since he has pleaded guilty,"

observes Bellicose, "we've al-

ready won the case, except for

collecting the money, but

Newsman to policeman:

There was no riot here until

the police arrived" - at which

the audience bursts into ap-

plause. This peculiar scene is

enacted nightly at the New

Royal when the aforemen-

tioned line of dialogue is spo-

ken in "Mayerling" - a movie

set in the Vienna of the 1890s.

On his afternoon show. KSFO's Dan Sorkin is running an "Original Amateur Min-

THE MONEY TREE

that's only a technicality" .

from the Police Dept.

blue cross employes are sus-pected of receiving claims from that agency and short-cutting normal processing, which is taking months for payment, with the result to some claims may have been p a id without proper veri-fication fication If such a situation exists, and

claims, and the suspended Blue Cross employes are sus-

there seems to be little doubt that it does, it may be blamed on the failure of the administration to insist that suppliers get their money on time, and thus make it unnecessary for persons who render medical care through nursing homes to seek outside help to get the money due them. In a report from Los Angeles, cost of the outside service was 10 per cent of the bill collected. It's simple to see how a sub-

of the bill collected. It's simple to see how a sup-plier owed say a half a million dollars, some of it for more than a year, would be tempted to use any means available to collect the debt as a matter of continuing his business, threat-ened through the inability or unwillingness of the state to settle its claims.

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announced last Tuesday

n, ASB tary of

This Satur annual Ju The sea-gre able this w Activities of nior couple all Seniors year is "Sa

By MILTON MOSKOWITZ What's a good business? Crime. It may be risky but the capital investment is low and returns are munificent. By the same token, crime-prevention is turning out to be a dandy business. The two go hand-in-hand. Consider, if you will, the opposite sides of this coin.

Every category of crime is on the upswing in the United States but none more so than robbery. It ranked first in growth last year with a thump-ing gain of 29 per cent. of the state's water is in the north, while 75 per cent of California's population lives in the south part of the state.

The State Water Project, au-horized in 1960, is an effort to At the same time, private police forces have mush-roomed to handle the overflow which is too much for the govalleviate this growing prob-lem and, it would seem, is successful. People can point with pride to the hundreds of ernmental forces to cope thousands of acres of once-fal-low land that has been made Security is one of our fast-growing industries.

growing industries. $\Rightarrow \Rightarrow \pm$ The growth of these two allied industries — crime and security—means you pay more for everything you buy. First, you pay for the merchandise which is stolen. Then, you pay for the guards whom com-panies have to employ to foil the robbers. It's all built right into the price structure. How much does it cost? enormously productive through long-distance water transpor-tation-from the Colorado River, from the Owens Valley, and now from the Feather River in northern California. The simple fact of life remains that if we cannot move the people to the water we must take the water to the

people because, without it, they cannot survive. While we as Californian's lawmakers cannot ignore the emotions of those who would preserve the state's natural re-

preserve the state's natural re-sources, we cannot overlook some interesting figures. the growing feeling that pro-teresting resources is more im-nation's largest retailer, Sears, Mr. Palmer said that the nation's largest retailer, Sears, Noebuck & Co., figures that it may be possible that in al-most every case we can have toth—preserve the state of the ment—if we continue to look at all aspects of the problem.

ute," featuring listeners who were not amused phone in to sing, whistle, do Hicks of London, Lord Louis bird calls, or whatnot. Last Mountbatten's son-in-law, flew week he had a lady who said here aboard a TWA plane "I just moved here from An- whose stewardess said "We and immediately gave all of it chorage and I'd like to do the are about to serve luncheon mating call of the Alaskan "My dear," drawled David

Ex-Cop Gives His Pension

Away, Then Asks for Help

in San Francisco

ahead." Lady, in a most sexy voice: "Here, moosie, moosie moosie . . . (Humor was better in October, 1942?).

Now Friday would have been a beautiful day for an open-air eating place in Union Square (well, Joe?). As it was, all we found were a few pigeons roosting on the Dewey monument, a lot of hippies, and the usual sour-faced oldsters. Twenty hippies organized themselves into a squad and marched around and around the Square under the command of a tough ex-GI hippie who kept barking "HUP-two-threefour - straighten up there, mister! - Left-right left-right! - Get in step there, soldier, or

at-In" with vignettes by Arthu Miller, Edward Albee, Carl Reiner, adds: "If all this is too controversial for the networks, we'll buy time on independent

stations." I think to find out how putdown of the military. But the oldsters and the pigeons they really are.

Crime, Security--Allied **Industries Growing Well** pany in 1909 at the behest of banks. Today, it's William J. Burns International Detective Agency Inc., and it also sup-plies uniformed guards, as well as alarm systems. Its sales have increased from \$40 mil-lion in 1963 to \$70 million to-day.

He said that the nation's largest food chain, A&P, loses more in stolen merchandise than it makes in profits. He said that members of the Na-tional Retail Merchants Asso-ciation estimate the larcency

A Look at the World of Finance

Another of the big crime-fighting companies is Wacken-hut Corp., which in addition to supplying guards for com-panies also protects such gov-ernment posts as the Kennedy Space Center in Florida and the Manned Space Flight Cen-ter in Texas. Wackenhut's factor at 2.6 per cent of their annual sales of \$9 billion. To fight crime, companies are paying plenty for their own sheriffs. Mr. Palmer reported that Sears maintains a police force that is larger than the 14,000-member Chicago Po-

day

Here's an industry that is

Of course, the criminals will have to do their part.

Press-Herald

Glenn W. Pfeil

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the 14,000-member Chicago Po-lice Department. (A Sears five years to \$36 million. And he said that General Mo-tors spends \$60 million a year "for the security of the lives and property of its people."

What's poisonous for the invest what's poisonous for the populace at large is meat for the companies which pro-vide crime-fighting forces. Here's an industry that is dependent entirely on the growth of crime—and their prospects look exceedingly bright. As George Wackenhut, who started his company in 1954, says: "The future for the security service industry ap-pears practically unlimited."

million today. That tells you also how well crime is doing.

Remember another old fam-

ous detective, William J. Burns? He was a Secret Serv-ice agent who set up a com-

You remember the name Pinkerton? It was notorious in Pinkerton? It was notorious in the days of the labor-manage-ment wars. Started in 1850 by a Chicago detective, Allan Pinkerton, this is now Pinker-ton's Inc., and it supplies guard services as well as Lady Pinkertons and a special K-9 patrol of German shepherd dogs, Pinkerton's is doing all right: Its sales have jumped from \$42 million in 1936 to \$100 million today. That tells you

How much does it cost? Plenty? H. Bruce Palmer, a businessman who is now lead-ing a national crusade against crime, recently came up with some interesting figures.

"don't be so dem fawncy. We stopped saying 'luncheon' in England around 1924, and it Report from Our Man has been just plain 'lunch' ever since. Now give me anothmoose." Dan: "Wonderful! Go er gin and tonic and bring on the chow.

Caenfidentially: Author Irving Wallace has raised \$250,

no weekend pass for you!" and so on. The saddest sacks I've ever seen, and also a hilarious

000 for a TV special protesting the Anti-Ballistic Missile and is now trying to talk one of the networks into providing an hour of prime time just prior to the Senate's vote in mid-May. Sens. Mike Mansfield and John Sherman Cooper have agreed to appear, and H'wood

stars like Warren Beatty and Dick Van Dyke are ready and willing, too . . . The format: a series of blackouts described as a sort of "Nothing-to-Laugh-

and Wallace, who " I think we're about

David

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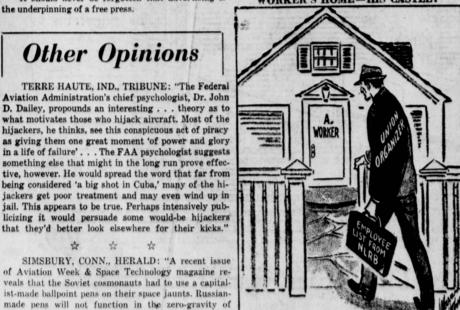
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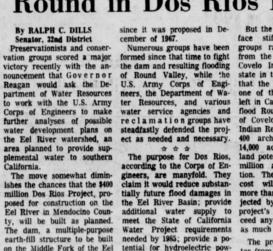
that the dam would destroy one of the few living rivers left in Caliornia, that it would flood Round Valley, the town of Covelo, the Round Valley Indian Reservation, more than 400 archeological sites and 14,000 acres of agricultural land potentially worth over \$3 million annually in produc-tion. They claim the dam's cost will run considerably more than the \$398 million pro-jected by the corps, and the project's annual cost may ex-ceed any beneficial return by ceed any beneficial return by as much as 25 per cent. The problem of getting wa-ter from where it is to where it should be is an old one for Californians, who are faced with the fact that 75 per cent



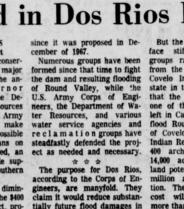
SACRAMENTO REPORT **Conservationists Win Big Round in Dos Rios Battle**

meet the state of Canfornia Water Project requirements needed by 1985; provide a po-tential for hydroelectric pow-er; and meet the expanding public need for water oriented outdoor recreational opportu-nities

in the north coastal area



three miles upstream from the town of Dos Rios, has be in the center of a bitter contro-



WORKER'S HOME-HIS CASTLE?

face stiff opposition from groups ranging all the way from the Sierra Club to the Covelo Indian Council. They state in terms loud and clear that the dam would destroy