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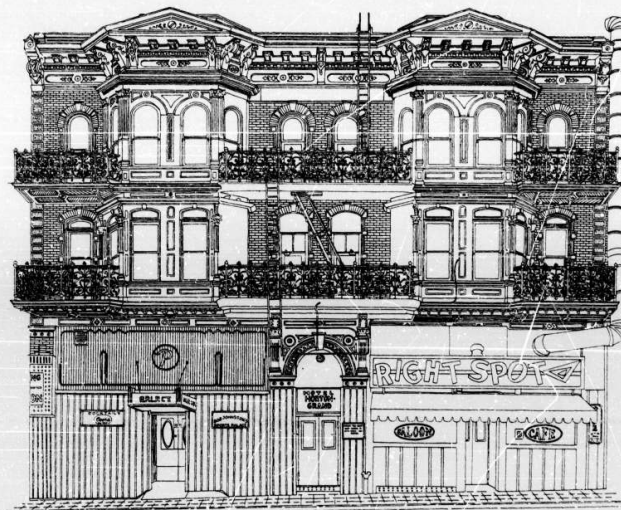
Free

SAN DIEGO'S FREE WEEKLY

Volume 3 No. 25

July 4 to July 10

Suburbanizing San Diego's Downtown



The Horton Hotel, one of Redevelopment's most likely victims.

"It's mostly just sailors who use that area now. It's not a matter of displacing poor people in favor of rich people. It's a matter of opening the area to all kinds of people."

—John Martin—

The redlight district was closed yesterday morning by the police under Captain John L. Sehon's order, issued the night before to Chief of Police Wilson. One hundred and thirty-eight women were taken to headquarters by detectives and patrolmen, and after individual examination, were given the option of living respectably or leaving the city by three o'clock this afternoon.

—San Diego Union, November 11, 1912

It was thus some sixty years ago, under pressure from the Vice Suppression Committee, the Purty League from University Heights, San Diego ministers, and local suffragettes, that the life flana of the south-of-Broadway region of bars, prostitutes, and Chinese opium dens known as Stingaree was snuffed.

Or was it? Most of the Chinese may have followed the upward ethnic flow, out of the shanty houses on Island and Market Streets to places like Chula Vista and Clairemont, and the red lights may have been replaced by the more palatable blue movies and

strip joints. But a large part of the area, especially Market Street and south, still remains a commercial and entertainment center for San Diego's meagre ethnic groups: the Zebra Club, the Crossroads, and the Climax (black nightclubs), the P.I. Club, the Mania and Luzon Cafes, the Bataan Annex, the Corregedor Barber Shop (Filipino places), the few Chinese, Japanese, and Korean places of business. And the flashing light, blue movie area, especially along 4th and 5th Streets below Broadway, throughout World War II and even now provides entertainment for the most desperate of souls.

His heart thumped as he made it to a bus stop and inquired the way into San Diego... gaudy, tin-plated Broadway... Blinding, blinking lights. Hawkers. Dim lights and soft music of the hundred bars. The sea of white-capped sailor hats bobbing up and down, the drunks, the litter, the noise.

—Leon Uris in *Battle Cry*

And so again, a new Purty League, this time the Horton Plaza Redevelopment Project, has its eyes on this "blighted area."

The Redevelopment Project, which would for now include only

the 15 blocks limited by Broadway on the north, G Street on the south, Union on the west, and 4th on the east, means the destruction of all present buildings in the Project area except for possibly the Balboa Theatre, famous for its Spanish Baroque dome, the fountain at Horton Plaza (because otherwise, according to Jim Spotts, the head of the Redevelopment Agency, "we would have all the historical buff coming unglued"), the Golden West Hotel, because of the high cost of relocating its residents, and maybe the Spreckles Theatre building. The area would develop around a huge modern plaza in the northeastern-most six blocks, and the public contribution to this would be financed by tax increments — the new tax increases produced by each new stage in the area's upgrading. The City Council/Redevelopment Agency has chosen for the development none other than Parkway Plaza and Fashion Valley owner Ernest Hahn. Hahn's plan for the Horton Project was selected by the Council early in June.

The Redevelopment plan was given a general design even before Hahn got the go-ahead for

development by an architectural firm commissioned by the city — wide sidewalks, an elevated mall running diagonally from Horton Plaza southwest to "Horton Square" at Second and E Streets, new office buildings, modern concrete and glass hotels. Stores like Bullocks, Lord and Taylor, and Nieman Marcus are tossed around as likely tenants of this Project area.

Hahn and the City are right now going through negotiations on what exactly will be done. The interesting thing is that Hahn has "taken the liberty" (his words) of expanding the 15-block Horton Plan into a much larger project which would include all the land from Horton Plaza to the Bay, including Navy Field, which would become a park, and including the Coast Highway, which would become a wide boulevard. His plan hopes to boost the downtown area population from 13,000 to 200,000 with high density housing, mostly along the bay, mostly "market rate" (plus), some subsidized. *San Diego Magazine* calls it "a smashing plan."

One of the sticky questions even for only the 15-block plan is the

present residents of the Horton Plaza area, the 700-800 people, most of them elderly, who will have to move even before the 15-block project is completed. Most of them have indicated to surveyors that they want to stay in the downtown area. Of the seven hotels they now live in — the Commodore, the Knickerbocker, the Federal, the Senator, the Horton, the Mason, and the Golden West — only the Golden West looks like it will be saved. And the issue of the justice in merely sweeping these people out of their present environment leaves the people in the City's Redevelopment offices fumbling. Well, it's mostly just sailors who use that area now... it's not a matter of displacing poor people in favor of rich people... it's a matter of opening the area to all kinds of people. These were the words of a Mr. David Allsbrook, one of several bespectacled young bureaucrats who look at the south of Broadway area as an area of "just parking lots and old buildings." He sees the area is "blighted." But as I left his office, I was still puzzled to think that "all kinds of people" would be shop-

(continued on page 6)

THIS WEEK
IN SAN DIEGO

JULY 4 TO JULY 10

SPECIAL EVENTS

OLD POWAY 2ND ANNUAL 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION. sack races and Pow Wow dance performances, starting at 11 a.m. on Thursday, July 4th. Old Poway Village, Poway 744-1100.

CORONADO 37TH ANNUAL 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION. with "An Adaptable America" as theme of the event. Down Orange Ave. from 5th St. to Hotel Del Coronado. See seal demonstration in Coronado Bay at 2 p.m. and fireworks at 9 p.m. 435-3356.

CLAIREMONT 12TH ANNUAL 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION. "The American Dream" is this year's theme. Event starts at 11 a.m. but the parade at 2 p.m. from Village Shopping Center north on Clairemont Rd. to U.S. 80. Fireworks at 9 p.m. Thursday, July 4. South Clairemont Recreation Center, 3655 Clairemont Dr. 274-1539.

SPIRIT OF THE FOURTH PARADE. Thursday, July 4 from 10 a.m. Pomerado Rd. North to Rancho Bernardo Saddle Club. 277-2132.

MEXICAN FOLKLORE. Mexican dances, food and booths. Saturday, July 6 at 1 and 7 p.m. Oceanic Beach Pavilion 722-1343.

BIRCH HILL ROTHBART AND BARNUM AND BAILEY CIRCUS. Tuesday, July 5 at 8 p.m. and Wednesday through Friday, July 7, 12 at 2:30 and 8 p.m. San Diego Sports Arena 224-4176.

THEATRE

ROMEO AND JULIET. part of the National Shakespeare Festival. Old Globe Theatre, Balboa Park. Saturday, July 6 at 2 and 8:30 p.m. 239-2255.

MADONNA OF LUCKY GREEN. a play by Los Angeles playwright Frederick Saul. Crystal Palace Theatre, 3785 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. Friday through Sunday, July 7 at 8:30 p.m. 488-6021.

TWELFTH NIGHT. part of the National Shakespeare Festival. Old Globe Theatre, Balboa Park. Friday, July 5 and Saturday, July 6 at 8:30 p.m. and Sunday, July 7 at 8:30 p.m. 239-2255.

APPLE TREE. parts one and three. "The Diary of Adam and Eve" by Mark Twain. "Passionella" by Jules Faffer. Uncle John's Canteen Theatre. Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m. (after 6:30 p.m. dinner). Sunday, 7 p.m. (after 5:30 p.m. dinner). Through July 7.

THE WITNESS. San Diego premiere of the play by Michael Kelley, presented by the San Diego Living Theatre. Puppet Theatre, Balboa Park. Friday and Saturday, July 5 and 6 at 8:30 p.m. and Sunday, July 7 at 7:30 p.m. 488-3510.

TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA. a musical adaptation of the Shakespeare play, presented by the San Diego City College Community Theatre. San Diego City College, 1425 Russ Blvd. Play opens Wednesday, July 10 at 8 p.m. 239-1181. ext. 220.

PUSS AND BOOTS. Children's Theatre Production. Presented for the children in the community. Southwest Theatre, 900 Day Lakes Rd., Chula Vista. Daily Monday through Friday at 8:30 a.m. through July 25. 420-1331.

SWEET CHARITY. a Neil Simon musical. Old Broadway Theatre, 214 F St. Tuesdays through Fridays, 8:30 a.m. Saturdays, 6 and 8:30 p.m. and Sundays, 2 and 7:30 p.m. Through July 28. 235-6539.

RATS BY ISRAEL HOROVITZ. COP OUT by John Guare. EAVE ME A PLACE AT FOREST LAWN by Lynne Verby. Performed at 8:30 p.m. 9:30 and 10:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and by Her Heritage Theatre, Inc., at the Stratford Court Theatre, De Mar. 459-3435 or 276-7555.

YOUR OWN THING. a "youth" drama suggested by Shakespeare's Twelfth Night. Cassius Carter Stage, Balboa Park. Saturdays and Sundays, 239-2255.

MUSEUMS & GALLERIES

FOUR CORNERS ARTS AND CRAFTS COOPERATIVE. a display of native arts and crafts and rugs. House of Hospitality, Balboa Park. Friday through Sunday, July 7. Jewelry sale, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and rug auction, Saturday, July 6 at 7:30 p.m.

FESTIVAL OF AMERICAN FINE ARTS. Colorful Crafts. Copley Auditorium. Fine Arts Museum, Balboa Park. Tuesday, July 9 at 10:30 a.m. 232-7931.

LITHOGRAPHS by San Francisco and Pencil Drawings by Peter Alexander. Jack Glenn Gallery, Fashion Valley. Through July 14.

ENRICA MARSHALL. graphic artist, will have a solo exhibit along with the juried July show at the San Diego Art Institute Gallery, Balboa Park. July 2 through July 21. 234-5946.

MARY MOLLER. semi-abstract oil and acrylic paintings. San Diego Law Library. Through July 236-2231.

PRE-COLUMBIAN SERIGRAPHS. photographs on display at the Encinitas Public Library, through July 753-7376.

WESTERN ARTISTS PAINTINGS by Paul Weber, Mary Lehman et al. Kessler Art Gallery, 2521 San Diego Ave. and 2481 Congress St. extension. Through July 31. 291-0119.

THE HIDDEN SEA. a collection of color photographs from beneath the sea by Douglas Faulkner. The Unicorn Cinema, 7456 La Jolla Blvd. Through July 459-4343.

JOAN MIRO. THE MALLORCA SUITE, a series of etchings by one of Spain's most important living artists. Fine Arts Gallery, Balboa Park. Show runs through August 15. Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, 12:30 to 5 p.m. 232-7931.

MARK ELLIOT LUGO is showing 20 drawings at the Villa Montecito, sponsored by the San Diego Museum of Art. 1925 K St. Show runs through August 15. Daily, 11:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Saturdays and Mondays. 239-2211.

ARTISTS CO-OPERATIVE GALLERY is featuring the pottery of EILEEN GUDMUNDSON and the serigraphs of DONNA DE KINDIG. 3731 India St. Gallery opened Tuesday through Saturday, 11:15 a.m. and Sunday, 12:5 p.m. 236-0205.

SPORTS

LA JOLLA TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS. 59th year, sponsored by Park and Recreation Dept., La Jolla Tennis Club and La Jolla Tennis Association. On all courts in La Jolla and North County. July 4 through July 14. 236-5717.

LECTURES & TALKS

NEW ETHICS FOR SURVIVAL. a lecture and film by Professor Garrett Hardin. Civic Theatre, 202 C St. Thursday, July 4 at 8 p.m. 236-8500.

INTRODUCTION TO PALMISTRY. a lecture by Cynthia Ruth (seer), artist, yoga instructor and practitioner of divination. Room 1330, Humanities and Social Sciences Bldg., Murri Campus, UCSD. Monday, July 6, 7-10 p.m. \$6. 453-3300, ext. 2061.

PRISONS OF THE MIND: CREATING THEM AND DESTROYING THEM. a lecture by Philip Zimbardo, PhD, professor of psychology at Stanford. Social Science 100, SDSU. Tuesday, July 9 at 7:30 p.m. 596-5304.

AMERICAN INDIAN ARTS AND CRAFTS. a series of lectures by Margaret Zlar, manager of the Tanners Indian Arts in Rancho Bernardo. The subject will be jewelry. Room 2100, Basic Science Bldg., School of Medicine, Matthews Campus, UCSD. Tuesday, July 9, 7-9:45 p.m. \$8. 453-2000, ext. 2061.

PHYSICAL OCEANOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY. part of the "Advanced Beachcombing Seminar." Natural History Museum Auditorium. Balboa Park. Tuesday, July 9, 7:30 to 9:45 p.m. \$4. 232-3821.

WOMEN'S WRITING: THE FEMALE EXPERIENCE EXPRESSED IN LITERATURE. a lecture with Linda Brown, San Diego poet, and Shirley Wilkins, a novelist and poet of San Diego. Room 1105, Basic Science Bldg., School of Medicine, Matthews Campus, UCSD. Tuesday, July 9 from 7 to 10 p.m. \$3.50. 453-2000, ext. 2061.

THE NEW PEACE FRONTIER AND THE OLD IMMORALITY. a lecture by Dr. John Proxmire, professor of philosophy at USU. Social Science 100, SDSU. Monday, July 8 at 7:30 p.m. 596-5304.

SEND LISTINGS TO THE READER, BOX 80803, SAN DIEGO, CA. 92138

ASPEN PUBLICHOUSE: HORACIO, Thursday to Saturday, July 4 to 6. THE PLATTERS and DAVE AND GARY, Sunday and Monday, July 7 and 8. 918 First. La Jolla. 456-3300.

BLUE RIDGE MUSIC: ROBB STRANDLUND and DAVE CHENEY. Wednesday, July 10, 8 and 10 p.m. 568 First St., Encinitas. 753-1775.

BOATHOUSE: REEF CODY, Wednesday to Sunday, through August. 2040 Harbor Island Dr. 291-8011.

BROOM TRENCHARD'S: THUNDERBOLT THE WONDERFOOL, Sunday and Monday, July 7 and 8. DAN MURPHY, Tuesday and Wednesday, July 9 and 10. 2668 Pacific Highway, 291-5555.

CINNAMON CINDER: BLUE, Friday, Tuesday, July 5 to 7. 7578 El Cajon Blvd., La Mesa. 463-9883.

CHUCK'S STEAK HOUSE: MOONSHOTS, Wednesday to Sunday, through July 7. 1250 Prospect, La Jolla. 454-5325.

THE DICK ACT OF JOY, nightly, 563 North Second St., El Cajon. 447-4511.

FOLK ARTS: W.B. REID and GAILA WHITTEN, Friday and Saturday, July 5 and 6. 3743 First Ave., Hillcrest. 291-1786.

IRON HORSE: TERRY ALLEN, Tuesday to Sunday, through July 27, 9 p.m. 8238 Parkway Dr., La Mesa. 465-7963.

IVY BARN: JANET AND STEVE, Thursday to Sunday, through July 14. BILL ROBINSON, Tuesday and Wednesday, July 9 and 10. 911 Camino del Rio S. 296-0154.

J.J.'S QUEENIE: Thursday, July 4. BIG MOUTH, Friday and Saturday, July 5 and 6. NOBODY'S BUSINESS, Sunday, July 7. 4025 Pacific Highway, 256-3655.

JAMAICA JOE'S: CROSSBOW, Tuesday to Saturday, through July 6. 3595 Sports Arena Blvd. 225-1251.

LEDBETTER'S: HOME BOY, Thursday to Saturday, July 4 to 6. BIFF, Sunday and Monday, July 7 and 8. BLITZ BROTHERS, Tuesday and Wednesday, July 9 and 10. 5524 El Cajon Blvd. 583-4524.

NOTES FROM JERRY MCCANN, Wednesday to Saturday, through July 15. 417 Santa Fe Dr., Encinitas. 753-0329.

P. RODNEY'S: FOUR AND MORE, Friday to Sunday, July 5 to 7. 271 North Highway 101, Solana Beach. 755-1729.

PARK PLACE LOUNGE: BERT TORRES and THE CHARADES, Wednesday through Sunday, PEACH, Monday and Tuesday, 1260 Fletcher Dr., El Cajon. 448-4111.

TOM HANE'S LIGHTHOUSE: ROBIN WILSON, through July 12. 2150 Harbor Island Dr. 291-9110.

WALLBANGER'S: CHARIOT, Tuesday to Sunday, through July 21. WOLFGANG, Monday, July 8. Midway and Rosecrans. 223-3136.

MUSIC SCENE

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(Sahara)Open Root in leather (New
Earth, White); suede
(Sahara, Blue)

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—Eleanor Widmer—

The Restaurant: Ballast Room
The Location: Balluff's Department Store in Fashion Valley
Type of Food: American, particularly sandwiches.
Price Range: Moderate, most expensive item \$3.50.

Suppose you're a tourist examining the commercial treasures in the Valley dedicated to Fashion or a family shepherding a half dozen children on a tour of sales, or a student browsing in Dallas's bookshop and suddenly beset with pangs of hunger. Where, amidst the fantasyland of the American shopping mall would you eat? To the south of the mall is Penney's, to the north, Robinson's department store, in between there are innumerable shops that sell bread and cheese and tea and salamis and candy. These shops can readily offer you a meal (snack) but a meal that is not plastic or tinel is another matter.

Avoid Howard Johnson's. No matter what Harley recollection you may have of your childhood when Howard Johnson's provided the hamburger of your dreams, it is now erasit Americans—anything once resembling food tastes as if it had been forged from a chemistry set.

The best place to eat in Fashion Valley is in the Ballast Room of Buffum's department store. It is not a refuge for tired shoppers or their beleaguered mates, nor is it merely a place to take your maiden aunt for tea. The food is reasonably priced: freshly prepared, and served in an atmosphere of paneled walls and red brick. The kitchen is spicily and for those desiring fast service, a counter is available, separated from the main dining room by floor-to-ceiling window shutters. And then, there is the view.

If Marshall can continue at record-breaking pace, September will find the Dodgers so far out in front Secretary couldn't catch them, let alone the Western Division.

—Alan Pesin—

Though the San Diego Padres have played as many as eighty-four games, and the Montreal Expos as few as seventy-two, the traditional half-way mark of the major league baseball season, July 4, has been reached. Over the years almost fifty per cent of those teams which were leading the leagues (American and National) at this point went on to win that year's pennant. With the modern division format used by the major leagues, which creates four minor-league winners, higher math would find that of this afternoon's division leaders going on to division championships.

The Western Division of the National League shows the Los Angeles Dodgers on top, followed by Cincinnati, Atlanta, Houston, San Francisco, and Baltimore. The Padres are trailing last place, the San Diego Padres.

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CENTRAL AMERICA
CARS
AVAILABLE
TO DRIVE
WE ALSO ARRANGE
LOCAL CAR POOLS

OTTO CAR POOLS
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5449 EL CAJON BLVD.

Is It Granada I See
or Only a Parking
Lot...

Oh yes, the plates are warm. I am a warm plate freak and never serve at home without heating my plates in the oven. Since there is no history of this nicety in my family, it must stem from the Bette Davis movie, Dark Victory.

If you eat in the dining room, keep your eyes on the sky and the gentle breeze—the harbinger of the old valley when cows grazed near our glister in the unyielding sun. The view is *hech* shopping mall—if you can forget the parking lot below and the Security Pacific Bank building that scratches the sky like a needle, the hills and sky could be the Granada of your interior life.

The dining room itself is situated on the second floor of Buffum's. An escalator, part the delicious perfume and the sensual china display, will lead you to it, and once inside you forget you are in a department store.

Lunches are your best bet, and are served daily, Monday through Saturday, 11:30 to 3 p.m. The sandwiches are uniformly excellent and vary in price from \$1.75 for

bacon-lettuce-tomato-avocado plus crisp salad, to the Club House triple dekker at \$2.25. The Monte Cristo sandwich is a perennial favorite and consists of a half triple dekker of turkey, ham, cheese, which is dipped in egg batter and deep fried. This is served with Hawaiian fruit salad and is reasonably priced at \$1.85. The Buffum's Fruit Plate looks as gorgeous as it tastes and consists of every variety of fruit in season, with either a cottage cheese or sherbet center. If sliced fresh fruit at the tab of \$2.75 seems excessive, you can order this as a dessert for your entire party.

The dinners are only fair. The soups are homemade, but the baked potato tasted as if it had been sleeping in the oven for many hours and the string beans were canned. The French dip sandwich

is good, though not excellent, as the *au jus* is strengthened with bouillon cubes which makes it a little salty. Except for the Monte Cristo sandwiches, all luncheon items are available for dinner, served Monday, Thursday and Friday nights, to closing time of 9 p.m.

Oh yes, the plates are warm. I am a warm plate freak and never serve at home without heating my plates in the oven. Since there is no history of this nicety in my family, it must stem from the Bette Davis movie, Dark Victory, where the doomed heroine retires to the country with her doctor husband.

In one scene where she is being heroic as only Davis can be, she flashes her bravest smile to George Brent and remarks, "The plates are very hot."

The plates in the Ballast room are warm, the tables ample, the

chair, padded, the food fresh, nicely prepared and served by pleasant waitresses. Children are made very welcome, but for adults, wine, beer, and cocktails are available. This restaurant is no gourmet haven, but it is honest in what it does and comfortable for all ages.

If you wish to prepare a Monte Cristo sandwich at home, I have tried this in my own kitchen.

To a well beaten egg add a teaspoon baking powder. Prepare a triple dekker half sandwich with any variety of meat and cheese. If your sandwich is too high, secure at edges with toothpicks. Dip into egg, making certain that the edges are also coated. Quickly deep fry in heated oil, first one side, then the other. Remove sandwich carefully with spatula and drain on paper towel. It's worth the small effort.

top, Chicago, Minnesota, and the Dick Williams' California Angels don't stand a chance.

Baseball is kicking up its heels this year, while the often crocheting National Football League is "stirking" when the summer is hot. Attendance in every city but five is up, and the Padres will break their all-time home attendance record next Friday, though they will have thirty home dates more to go. Things are looking good in every league. If football goes away entirely no one will miss it for months to come.

Besides the fact they are the best team in the majors, managed by the invisible man Alvin Dark, the A's deserve their third straight World Championship and a trip to Tokyo to bring back Yojimbo. But Kansas City and Texas, two of what should be the worst teams in the West, see-saw their swing behind the league leaders, and both continue with striking distance of the

The process of elimination brings us to the Oakland Athletics. The lifetime odds are built in their favor in this reporter's mind.

The National League East's Cardinals don't stand a chance. Summer weather in St. Louis' modern blast furnace called Busch Stadium would wipe out the team's pennant chances. The Expos with their blend of youth and age will find the veterans running out of gas and the rookies taking the whole apple when it comes down to the

Three hang-gliders for nine students. On sand dunes. Telephone answer machine. \$20 per hour. Long lesson. 755-3128.

3746 Mason Boulevard. San Diego CA 92109 460-2720. prime 1000's a weekend to a month.

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The Token Private Eye



The smirk on Nicholson's face reveals an open delight with his assignment to a gumshoe role, although he is not about to let this juicy job affect his personality.

Duncan Shepherd

Chinatown, as it is carved out in words, mostly, and pictures, finally, in the Roman Polanski movie, carries with it a forbidding reputation. It is, they say, a state in which you cannot be certain, quite, what is what, what is going on, where you are, where you are going. It is a state of innocence, further of ignorance. But you do not grow out of it, or climb out of it. It rests, in memory, as the setting of the bad old days, where the cards were marked and the game ran against you day in, day out. It is located on the Los Angeles city map, it has boundaries, and if you stay clear of it, you come to imagine it is in the dim past. But you never leave it, really. You may believe you have left it, you tell yourself you have, you tell others you have. But you are deluded. In Chinatown you are always.

The hard-to-hold conception, whether it is diagnosed as possible paranoia or prophecy or leg-pull or Arabian Nights conjuration, seems to me a likely idea to underlie a private eye story of the Nineties. Seventies (although the story is set, actually, in the Thirties, for reasons that point toward an absence of confidence and an abundance of conformity on the part of the film-makers). And it seems a likely idea, too, to keep this dreadful place out of sight through-but spoken of often, so that it takes on the monstrousness of an obsession and the haziness of hubgaur. And it seems a likely idea to drag the protagonist back there, to his past, at gunpoint, only at the finish. And it seems even a likely idea, in order to corroborate the protagonist's vision of Chinatown, to allow his mystery to end with so many ends loose and threads mislaid that the story is impossible to unravel, the tref (if that was, after all, what the film-makers intended by the loose ends and mislaid threads).

However, the film-maker, screenwriter Robert Towne should be summoned to the dock as well as director Polanski. He never pushed these ideas so far that the viewer can decide that these, truly, were the ideas the film-makers had in mind. Moreover, they have ad-

Never mind, though, why, in terms of the story's sense, this private eye is on the case. Why, in terms of the film-maker's wants, is he? Roughly, for example, Hammett's private eye is a steady professional. Chandler's is a misplaced knight of sorts. Spillane's is a driven avenger, stand clear and don't pry. Macdonald's is a guidance counselor at heart, an observer and a do-gooder. What is Polanski's? Towne-Nicholson's private eye, then? What motors him? This spruce, fun-loving blade who, at one of the rare intervals when nobody is specifically employing and imploring him to pursue the case, decides to keep digging on his own, because, as far as events have gone to that point, there have been a little damage to his "image." In the Thirties, the Hollywood ideology must have touched everyone in Los Angeles, perhaps. A pair of thugs, when they wish to discourage Nicholson's pressing further, force the normal middle-class targets and instead take a nick out of his nose (how would you like a new profile, fella?).

As I was saying, not long ago, when Elliott Gould shuffled through town, passing himself off as Philo Marlowe, it makes very shaky sense to set up a traditional, extravagant mystery—in this case, a conspiracy in high places, involving an ambivalent wealthy widow, preposterously acted by Faye Dunaway, who cannot stop lying, finessing, stammering, and a powerful ogre with the name of Noah Cross, the Christian symbolism of which need not be pursued, beyond noting that the role belongs to John Huston, who portrayed another Noah once before—and then to appoint an improbable, inappropriate, anti-traditional hero to steer through it. This arrangement appeals to menality, which are given to imagining, for instance, what Heavyweight Championship fight would be like if one of the contestants were Bruno Mars. The brains author's, director's, however's—behind a story that to do more than select a conceivable character, select a conceivable situation, and then turn them loose to see what would happen; they have to first figure out how to get the character into that situation. The paradox is plain: If Towne-Polanski do not believe in the traditional private eye, why then do they believe in the private eye's traditional adventure?

Anyway, the tensions of the story tend to run off or to be soaked up into the vacancies and generalities of the sketchily pictured milieu. Vacancies such as those created by half-filled-in and half-thought-out wide-screen compositions, and generalities such as the warm golden light which, in the extremely popular, these days, for movies set in the glamorous past, There are moments, and they are not necessarily smartly conceived, when Polanski's peculiar sense of absurdity comes into play (a pack of deep-sea creatures, or a city Hall, as a sort of currying salacious Bunuel). Most of the time, one is left to speculate whether Polanski, who used to seem an impressive director, asked any questions about the holes in the script he was directing, whether he asked for the case he had on his hands, whether he asked for those dusty golden films. And one has the impression that, even when he saw what he was getting, Polanski probably said to himself, "Oh, well," as the big-budget production rolled on.

Downtown

(continued from page 1)

ping at Lord and Taylor and Bullocks.

One person who has avoided the onus of being a big time, plastic developer, and yet is very much a part of the City's Redevelopment plans is former City Councilman Tom Hom. Seemingly recovered from his indictment in the Yellow Cab case of four years ago, Hom, along with his brother, owns the Far East Trading Company in the old National Bank building on Fifth and E Streets. Hom, who as a poor boy from San Diego's Chinatown sold papers in front of this building years ago, has acted as a kind of bridge between the San Diego establishment and his not-so-respectable neighborhood. "I tried to get Admiral Gehres (chairman of the San Diego County G.O.P. and an officer in the Westgate Corporation) to move the Republican offices down here and he was afraid for the safety of the Nomen volunteers. Now we have the Flournoy offices and the G.O.P. women in our building (upstairs from the Far East Trading Company) and the ladies pleased as can be. They think it's really colorful, this area."

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Hom says he has interested Southern California First National Bank and Home Federal Savings and Loan in the area. He says that his Gaslamp District will avoid the problems of a similar district in St. Louis that has now deteriorated because San Diego's was not locally governed, where St. Louis's was not. There have been lots of other successes with areas like this. Pioneer Square in Seattle and Gastown in Vancouver have had their property values go way up. Hom stirs through some files and finds an article in Reader's

Digest that details other gaslamp developments.

The funny thing about Hom's position is that he, a scion of the local Republicans, he, a real estate broker in staid North Park, has enlisted the support of his Gaslamp neighbors like the Pussycat Theatre, Doc Webb's Tattoo Parlor, the Hollywood Adult Theatre, and the China Doll "cocktail lounge." "Over 65 per cent of these property owners have signed the planned district petition." But with a rise in property values, these neighbors and supporters of his could be the first to get priced out of the area. He admits he's in a delicate situation. "There's no design to move them out, but the economics of the area will have its effect."

In a much more delicate situation is a man named Ed Scott. Instead of developing the area, he is fighting the Redevelopment Plan as Hom's Gaslamp Quarter seems to do (even the City's brochures targeted to the last tree-lined main street where the "nightowls" displaced by the project will go). Ed Scott is fighting the Redevelopment Project down to the last tree-lined main street where the "nightowls" displaced by the project will go. Ed Scott is fighting the Redevelopment Project down to the last tree-lined main street where the "nightowls" displaced by the project will go.

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New Dog, Old Tricks

"Passionella" is quick-moving and sometimes funny in a television way, and certainly preferable to — let's say — being dead.

—Jonathan Saville—

San Diego theatre at the not-quite-professional level seems to be undergoing an epidemic of gimmickery. Every theatrical enterprise has to have some special device to get a unique identity, both for itself and for its public. You no longer remember a play mainly because of its writing, acting and direction. Instead, you say "Oh, that's the play where everybody is naked," or "That's the play where the audience sits on the stage and the actors shoot down from the balcony." There is a certain stimulation in all this extra-artificial inventiveness — you can never be sure what they will dredge up next. But when it comes to what theatre is really all about — the vicar experience of the deepest human emotions — no trick in the world can take the place of a good playwright, capable actors, and a director who knows his business.

The gimmick at the New Heritage Theatre has to do with schedules and bargains. Each weekend evening, at Del Mar's Stratford Court, this company presents three one-act plays, scheduled at 8:30, 9:30 and 10:30. You can attend one play for \$2.50, two for \$3.75, and all three for four dollars. Thus, going to two plays will save you \$1.25, and going to three will save you \$3.50, almost enough to pay for two more plays the following week. This is an intriguing scheme for bargain hunters. I calculate that if there were five plays each evening, the last one would be entirely free, and there were more plays than that, the New Heritage Theatre would have to start paying you. Aside from this financial calculus, however, the question poses itself: "Who wants to see three one-act plays in a row?" Some people may, and I confess my own bias against one-act plays altogether. When I go to the theatre, I like to get involved with characters and plot for two or three hours. It takes that long for my sluggish hidden emotions to get activated in a way that will make me play a meaningful event in my life. In fact, I am of so skeptical a nature that it usually takes the greater part of an act before I begin to believe in what is happening on stage. With a one-act play, just when I am beginning to hunch, cry, rage or tremble, the curtain falls. And to go through this emotional interrupted orgasm three times in a row is more than my nerves can stand. Furthermore, the wait between successive shows at the Stratford Court is sometimes as much as a half-hour, during which time there is nothing to do except read nice plates in the parking lot or heat — your head against a wall.

If you are quick to climax when things are happening and serenely patient when things are not, and if you enjoy switching gears on the hour, you will probably like the new Heritage Theatre's better than I do. I do not want to impose my idiosyncracies on theatre-goers of more normal temperament. But from my own point of view, the very talented people in this group have straitened themselves in an absurd strat-

the first course and a kind of vulgarized Elvis (more evasive to Newcastle) in the second, does the best job of his excellent acting career, and also reveals himself as a well-trained singer with a lovely voice. Miss Pearson must have poken a bit louder, and Mr. Hays might have shown a bit more of the rock idiosyncrasy in his characterization of the rock idol; but they are both so good that in spite of the general business of Book and Narnick's fare you will probably wind up without much need for a spiritual Aika-Seltzer.

The gimmick at the Crystal Palace Theatre is audience participation. I have never understood the country-wide craze in experimental theatre for this device, which generally results in the replacement of the moderately incompetent by the totally incompetent. Ted Melnechuk's *The Love of Don Juan: An Erotic Comedy* made fairly good use of the gimmick, let it be said. Don Juan flouted eight women verbatim from the audience, and they played their parts well — young ones, old ones, slender ones, fat ones, "the grande maitresse."

At Uncle John's Family Dinner Theatre, the gimmick is that you first dine in the restaurant and then, when the salad bar is removed from around the stage, watch the show from your table. This too is a find for those evenings in the theatre are improved by the joy of having good something for the theatre. The meal and the show cost \$6.95, including tax and tip, which is not bad for decent steak, summer play entertainment, even if the entertainment isn't that stunning. As a matter of fact, I like this particular gimmick (originated in San Diego by Anita Licata), since it nicely points up the ingenuity of the theatre experience, and since civilized pleasures are enhanced when they come in pairs.

As for the present show, two one-acts (you know what I think of them) out of a musical comedy barbecue called *The Apple Tree* — even a good real dinner in advance cannot quite rescue it from the garbage disposal unit where it belongs. Music and lyrics are by Jerry Book and Sheldon Harnick, whose previous show of deliciousness, *Fiddler on the Roof*, relied for its undeniable success on a deft imitation of Eastern European Jewish songs. Once the ersatz knives are removed from the pair's style, however, nothing seems to be left but greasy drama and plastic forks. The first course, "The Diary of Adam and Eve," is at bottom a sentimentalized version of *I Do, I Do*. If you find such a thing conceivable (it is like artificially sweetened sugar). The revoltingly cute things this vile playlet does with the story of Genesis draw your half-digested steak like a magnet, but if you shut your eyes and stick your fingers in your ears at the worst parts you may avoid catastrophe. The other play is "Passionella," a spoof about the real personalities of movie actresses and rock stars. Its satirical edge could not cut through whiffed cream, but it is quick-moving and sometimes funny in a television way, and certainly preferable to — let's say — being dead. What saves *The Apple Tree* from that fine old non-gimmicky virtue, good acting. Dora J. Pearson, who plays chinmy-wespete Elva, and Robert B. Hays, and touching

Forest Buckman, as the seducer, played his part even better. The trouble was with the play. Would any dramatist with a sense of the dramatic and a sympathy for the audience's endurance have had his hero seduce eight women, one after the other, and in rhymed verse? Da Ponte and Mozart were content with three. However interesting and amusing the first selection may be, especially with the added shallow thrill of seeing real girls plucked out of the audience — by the time we get to number eight our attention (and the Don's energy) has gone some time. In general, the flaw in Mr. Melnechuk's play is the lack of dramatic tension. Nothing much happens — but there is talk, talk, talk, talk, until even one of the actors is forced to cry "Shut up!" The verse is handled with a competence that is commendable, but it takes a good deal of courage to write plays in verse at all — but when the author gets going with one of his set pieces of comic rhyme, of the satirically-properly dubious variety, it becomes pretty hard to understand what anybody is talking about. Mr. Melnechuk is clever, but he is a show-off — and that is the least productive theatrical gimmick of all.

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CLASSIFIEDS

HOUSING

SHARE ATTRACTIVE apartment, North Park Area. Private bedroom and bathroom with full kitchen, private living room, near stores, bus lines and all freeways. Call 282-3391 or 222-7488. Reasonable.

ROOMMATE NEEDED N. P.B. Share a 2 bedroom apartment with one male. Rent \$525.00. Close to the beach. Prefer non-smokers. Call 734-8884 evenings or 425-5481 anytime. Ask for Mike.

HOUSE 10 SHARE. 2 roommates wanted (female preferred). Swimming pool, near ocean. \$15/month. Call 459-1791.

ROOMMATE WANTED for 3 bedroom townhouse 1 1/2 miles from UCSD. Male or female welcome, over 21. Non-smokers preferred. Own room \$100. Call Barbara, 452-0379.

COUPLE (21 and 30) seeks quiet, young man to rent extra room in Mission Hills duplex. \$50, including utilities and a little home cooking. 252-8564, 6-5 and ask for Joan.

ROOMMATE WANTED, male/female. Walk to UCSD or beach. Furnished two story apartment pool, tennis. Torrey Pines Rd. \$125, negotiable. 272-3003 or 452-1482.

SHARE HOUSE by the sea in South Mission. Short walk to beach or bay. Bachelor (25), non-smoker, college grad, seeks female roommate for hassle free relationship. Must be honest and trustworthy. Own room in exchange for light cooking, housekeeping or gardening. Call Bill at 488-9891.

MELLOW ROOMMATE needed to share large, attractive old three bedroom Mission Hills home. Own room, share other facilities. \$65 a month including utilities. Call 299-0023 evenings or week end.

SOLANA BEACH GARAGE for rent. \$20 per month, large 10x21, storage only. 225-9629, ask for Jim.

SUMMER RESORT RENTAL. Cool Pacific Beach, California. Block to bay, three bedroom completely furnished home, near beach shops and recreational area. 8/27 to 10/1. \$675/month, \$172/week (washing facilities). 272-7280 (Perry).

CARS

FOR SALE, 1972 Plymouth Duster. One owner. Automatic transmission, factory air conditioning, good gas mileage—good condition. \$1975. 459-7557 or 238-1096.

1967 CHEVETTE SS396 New engine, tires, shocks, brake deck. Four speed, clean interior. Best offer takes. Call 275-0225.

1969 CHEVETTE WAGON. Runs great. \$795. 1962 Chevy Impala, red, vinyl, air, very nice. \$850. Small V-8, must sell. 293-3649.

FOR SALE. Many MGA parts very cheap. I'm moving and can't take them with me, including engine, fenders, gauges, tune kit, engine kit, coupe doors, rear window and radiator. They must go. 274-1018.

1961 AUSTIN HEALY Bugeye Sprite. \$350, also extra parts sold separately, including side curtain, door, carteristics, rear end, body, all very cheap. Also Spitfire windshield, doors, trunk lid, gauges. 274-1018.

LESSONS

SUMMER CLASSES offered at U.S.A. in Encinitas starting June 24 for people of all ages. Day classes: Monday-Wednesday-Friday in 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st. Evening classes: Monday-Friday, 6:15 p.m. and Saturday, 9:10 a.m. All 15 A. classes emphasize self-expression between intuition and analysis in learning and the development of creativity. For further information call: 753-9912 or come to 1347 Summit Ave., Encinitas.

HATHA YOGA young old co-ed. Sat. a.m. 10:30. noon. Big Conference Room upstairs. Balboa Park Club in Park. Teacher is adept, formerly 10 years SHF church. Start with us or advanced. Growth development, control, physical well-being. Bring mat. \$2.00. Information: 222-1930, leave your number.

HATHA YOGA — former Self-Realization Fellowship students — remember the fun we had with Sherry? Growth, development, development/conditioning? Now, co-ed. in Big Conference Room upstairs, Balboa Park Club in Park. Same time Sat. 10:30 a.m. noon. \$2.00 into Kathy 222-1930 or leave your number, name.

CLASSES in comparative religion, ancient philosophy, and metaphysics to begin. Call Merin: 585-7425.

PERSONAL INSTRUCTION in Tibetan Meditation by experienced teacher. For information or appointment call Arnold Brown, 235-4009 evenings.

FLUTE LESSONS All levels, beginner to advanced. Experienced teacher and performer. Cathy Sherwin, 454-6728.

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BOSTON BOUND, leaving July 8. Driving VW bus. Need 2 or 3 riders to share driving and expenses. Call July 3 or after. Kevin, 286-7049.

RIDER WANTED for trip to N.Y. via southern route. Leaving the beginning of July. Call Ken at 438-0912.

NOTICES

COME TO THE SAN DIEGO COMIC CONVENTION July 21 — August 3 at the El Com. Room. The public is invited to the greatest comic art and science fiction fan convention ever held! Guests include cartoonists Charles Schulz and Russ Manning, director Frank Capra, author Ray Bradbury, animated filmmaker Chuck Jones, many others. Films, exhibits and more. For more info write: Comicon Box 17066-S, San Diego, CA 92116.

CHURCH OF UNIVERSAL NUDISM. Parchment membership certificate, theme song lyrics printed on parchment, one year subscription to Newsletter. \$5 cash, check or money order to Church of Universal Nudism, Box 705, La Jolla, CA 92037.

WOULD LIKE to make arrangements to expose your child ages 7-10 to interesting learning experiences (museums, crafts, painting, sports, games, etc.) \$150.00. Mission Hills area, bus transportation. Call Janine at 298-7632.

THE WOMEN'S CENTER, La Jolla, has many summer programs, including a Thursday night drop-in group. Come, be with women, and explore with us what it means to be a woman. Call 458-8884 for more information.

WEEK-END EGO support group, June 29 and 30, sponsored by the National Center for the Exploration of Human Potential. Call 272-7330 for information.

DIAL 279-1212 for the strangest, most unusual, insane, exciting and funniest recorded messages you'll ever hear.

care a new life. OPIPTY or San Diego has a religious, educational and social program for you. Write Dignity, Box 19071, San Diego 92119 or call 448-8384 for information.

FREE TO GOOD HOME: small, loving black lab spaniel mix female, spayed 1 1/2 years old. Must give away, am leaving country. Call Sue, 755-5003 around 5 or 6 p.m.

UNUSUAL INVESTMENT opportunity in precious metals. Protect yourself from inflation, devaluation, and obsolescence. Call Jay Thomas, 459-9183.

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BEATLE FANATIC and especially Ringo Starr lover would love to correspond with or buy related items from those of my own kind. Please contact Beth at 270-3610 or 6940. Part 50, 501-11.

INCA PRESS CATALOG: limited editions, collectors' items, Sunamples (poetry art photography journal), ecology publications. Church of Universal Nudism Newsletter: member \$25. Name and address: Inca Press, Catalog c/o Inca Press Box 769, La Jolla, CA 92037.

FOR ONE OR TWO PEOPLE — if you have a month for traveling and \$100 for one person, \$200 for two for 30 days July — August 71, you can travel anywhere and everywhere in the U.S. and Canada in air-conditioned buses. No hassles about getting in, falling asleep at the wheel or sweating while it's 95 degrees outside. Call before July 7th if interested. Jean at 583-7273.

UNDERSTANDING PEOPLE is trying to hear what they're not saying, what they perhaps will never be able to say. 236-0671.

LIFE IS A BANQUET and most poor suckers are starving to death. Vegetarian male who loves travel looking for female partner. Call Dave at 453-1000, ext. 1320 (work).

RESPECTABLE WIDOW, 50's, personable, active, healthy, many interests, needs friends for outdoors, shows, trips, dancing. Would share house, apartment with lady, live ride to parks. Share expenses. Call house or pet. If you're serious, 235-4796.

THOUGHTFUL DEPRESS? Don't know where to turn? In your Bible please read Psalm 42:5 and 11 and Job 33:15 and 16. If you do not own one, the Public Library is well stocked with Bibles.

I'M A 26 year old woman, new to this area, (not gay), and would like to meet other women who are into creative adventures in San Diego. 222-2925.

COMPULSIVELY OVEREATING? If you'd like to stop, we'd like to help. Call Overeaters Anonymous, 457-HOPE. No dues or fees, we are a fellowship.

PRAYERS ARE ANSWERED. Call 469-1911.

FOR SALE

CLEANING HOUSE: Ceramics, clay, fabrics for patchwork, junky bicycle \$5, household goodies, magazines. \$470. Grape of Salt. LES PAUL BASS, as new with case. Best offer. 224-0572.

DOUBLE BED plus frame, \$25, red chest of drawers, \$15, maple bookcase, \$12. 453-2451.

Refrigerator for sale (1971 Philco 2 door, 14 cu. ft., large kitchen table with four chairs; queen waterbed with frame and pad; 26" girl's bike; 2 KLT speakers (model 23). Call Claire or Ian, 272-7993.

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MARANTZ, straight-line tracking, turntable (SLT), 12" with Orion cartridge (SL 15). Both new. \$750. Mike or Leigh at 454-7373 or 459-4343.

BUGGER BICYCLE TRAILER. Have 40-year-old steel (for 2) and zipped nylon equipment or package carrier. As new. Cost \$85, will sell for \$45. 459-8141.

SCHWINN CONTINENTAL 10 speed, like new. \$110. Sony portable AM/FM radio cassette recorder. \$70. Well built like new, turtle skin nylon lined, size medium \$65. 224-6062 or 296-1643.

ADJUSTABLE METAL bed frame, \$5. Panasonic AM/FM cassette player with car adapter never used. \$50. Beautiful silver cabinet. \$30. Medium duck feet, like new. \$5. Beach bike. \$10. Adjustable dress form. \$10. Amplifier. \$15. Zenith 17" color TV, excellent condition. \$125. Head know with bindings. \$30. Ask for Jerry at 273-6296 or drop by 3544 Dayana, P.O.

RECYCLE CLOTHING. We have used dresses, suits, pants, skirts, handbags, pants a lot of everything, come by and see us. Buy, sell, trade, consign. Kay's Resale, 3925 El Camino, Monday through Saturday, 10 to 6, 291-7747.

BKERS OR WHATEVER, good shape heavy leather pants. Waist 36, inseam 33 (tall). Chocolate brown, originally \$60, yours for \$50. 459-3811 or 454-2970.

BLACK AND WHITE portable TV, comes with a carrier rack on wheels. \$25. Also VW luggage rack, fits on the roof. \$12. Call 453-6147.

I AM MOVING back East in July and must sell a Hamilton upright piano, will sacrifice for \$195. Call 262-7856.

EARTH SHOES, women's size 8 1/2, brown suede, excellent condition. 452-1939.

OVERSEER, jump tables, dining set, sofa bed and chairs. Good condition, cheap. 278-8843 after 5 p.m. Week end all day.

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