

LET LOS FELIZ ALONE

That Los Feliz Boulevard is practically the only street in town so far unspoiled by "spot zoning" for business purposes is not an argument for ruining it also. Time after time the City Council and the City Planning Commission have refused "spot zoning" applications for this street, but the appliers are persistent and the City Planning Commission—which seems to be running in reverse gear a good deal of the time lately—has this time yielded to their arguments.

Such arguments could only be commercial; that is, the petitioner could urge that the change would benefit him personally and financially. He could not urge that the change is needed or wanted, either by the city at large or by the residents of the neighborhood. There is plenty of business property in the vicinity already, which satisfies the needs of the residents, and there is an overplus of business property in the city as a whole. Further business zoning can only depreciate the value of property already in use for such purposes, and thus have a bad effect on the whole community, and on its ability to pay taxes.

The zoning law, if it means anything, means that property owners will be protected, when they buy property for residence purposes, against business encroachment, until there has been such a change in the neighborhood or in the city as a whole as to make a change in the character of the property desirable. Certainly there has been no change in the Los Feliz district which warrants its destruction as a street of beautiful homes, nor is such a change likely in the near future; unless, of course, this business application is granted. That will be an opening wedge for a swift overturning.

The precedent heretofore set should be followed and the present zoning of Los Feliz Boulevard should be maintained intact.

CRIME AS AN ISSUE

A Middle-West politician has defined the national crime wave and the general ignoring of laws as "Caponeism." The head of Chicago's predatory forces may yet become an issue in a national election, but if we know the American people the party that ignores the Capone brand of politics will lead the procession.

EVENING THE SEXES

The only difference between the sexes in the air seems to be in the power of the plane and the luck of weather conditions.

AN INGROWN CHRISTMAS

The poor are always with us. It was so 2000 years ago; it may be so for ages to come. The handicapped by disease and abnormalities of mind and body stumble in our path. Weak wills are still fettered and many are intermittent in their efforts.

The least of these calls for the best in us. In the higher civilization the higher lift the lower. In the survival of the fittest, the responsibility of the fit is paramount.

Big shoulders were not given to elbow their way to the front; but to bear the burdens of the less fortunate. Bright minds were not conferred to outwit the foolish; but to show them the way and lead them in it.

An ingrown Christmas has no place in the holiday season. The blaze of the Yule log is the flame of affection. The Christmas candle is no headlight just to show the way for selfishness: it is a street lamp to flood the highway for all. The Christmas gift is not a debt-paying affair; it is a stealthy bestowal to help without thought of reward.

An ingrown Christmas will bring as much pleasure as other ingrown institutions. It is a deformity of an ideal. It is as painful as any cell gone wrong in the body. It is as hateful as a diseased conscience and is a secret thief of joy.

TRYING FOR OUR RECORD

"Chinese Adopt Six Thousand Laws in Two Years," headline states. They are not far behind us at that.

WHAT OTHERS THINK ABOUT IT

PROMPT PROOF OF IT

(Baltimore Sun)

There has been one illustration in Chicago of the truth of Mr. Hoover's statement that the States can clean up their own criminality if there is public sentiment to do so. Here is the case of "Fur" Sammons, murderer, gunman and bootlegger, who has been at liberty for a number of years on "parole," granted after he had been deprived forty-eight hours before he was due to suffer the death penalty for a murder committed in 1903. Sentence was commuted to life imprisonment and later, in 1923, to fifty years by Gov. Len Small. Within a month thereafter Sammons, by some hocus-pocus known to Illinois justice, was released on parole. Hauled up a few weeks ago on a charge of vagrancy, it is now suddenly discovered that parole was not applicable in case of a commuted sentence, and Sammons has been returned to the penitentiary to serve the balance of his term, which means thirty years.

This is an amazing development in the administration of justice, one which throws a high light on the strange doings of the Illinois courts. But, accepting the facts as stated and assuming that the action taken is to be attributed to a reawakened sense of the State's responsibility for suppression of crime, the case bears out the President's proper stand that the State, not the Federal government, is the agency which must act.

THAT NEXT WAR

(New York Times)

Thanks for the compliment, is the feeling in France in reply to Ludendorff's prediction that in the next war the French will be the victors over an alliance of Germany, Italy, Russia and Great Britain.