

SEA CLAIMS HOWARD SCHMID

Storm Over School Dances Moves Wood to Halt Events

Photographers' flashlights flared. Movie cameras clicked under bright lights. Every lens was focused on one man, heavy-jowled, wearing a sporty top-coat over his business suit, Harry F. Sinclair stepped out of a big sedan, walked up the steps of and into the 79-year-old Washington jail, there to serve 90 days for refusing five years ago to answer questions about oil transactions put by the United States senate investigating committee. News men sounded their memories, reported that Sinclair is the richest American ever to serve a term in jail.

Another shadow of the oil scandal of recent years found its way to the front pages when agents for E. L. Doheny purchased for the oil baron at public auction the famous Pres. Rios ranch of Albert B. Fall, former secretary of the interior who received from Doheny \$100,000 in cash as a loan a few days before the department leased the Elk Hills reserve to Doheny interests. The ranch comprises 700,000 acres. It passed to Doheny for \$185,250 thereby satisfying a judgment secured by the holder of a first mortgage on the land. For a third interest in this same ranch Harry Sinclair testified that some years ago prior to the famous lease by his company of the government's Teapot Dome, he paid Fall \$23,000.

John J. Rascoe resigned from the directorate of General Motors to run Al Smith's presidential campaign. Now the financial wizard, whose astute knowledge of the manipulation of vast sums, proposes to make true President Hoover's prediction that some day poverty may be unknown in the United States. Rascoe's idea is to form a huge investment trust, selling sound securities to workingmen on the installment plan. Only standard stocks would be purchased and a great financing corporation would be organized to advance the money and discount contracts for stock purchased by workmen. A number of financial leaders have discussed the plan with Rascoe and approved it, he says. Under the plan thousands of workmen, pooling a small amount each, might could buy large blocks of standard stocks such as U. S. Steel, General Motors, Radio Corporation, General Electric. Rascoe believes that such an investment trust would eventually become the largest stockholder in all the large corporations.

A cabinet officer holds office until he either resigns or a successor is appointed. Enemies in Congress of Secretary of the Treasury Andrew Mellon have sought to oust him on the grounds that he was not appointed by President Hoover; that his term expired on March 4. The senate judiciary committee took up the matter debated it behind closed doors, finally voted 5 to 7 that the secretary legally holds his office. Other enemies of Mr. Mellon are demanding an investigation into his business interests. They charge that these interests should debar him from public office.

The Federal court in New York ruled that the 75 million dollar billboard trust is operating in restraint of trade and orders its dissolution. Foster and Kleiser is the firm representing the big combine on the Pacific coast. The court ruled that the trust was dividing territory in the United States, thus violating the Sherman anti-trust act.

The tallest building in the world—75 stories high—will be built in Chicago to house the Illinois Central Railroad company and Crane Manufacturing company. The structure will rise 1022 feet, 35 feet higher than the Elber tower, tallest structure in the world.

A 22-foot boat tacked her way into the harbor at Giraba, Cuba. Nobody paid much attention. There are plenty of little sail boats in those parts. Aboard was Paul Muller. He had sailed his craft down the coast of Africa, from Hamburg, Germany, which he left July 6, 1828, had sailed it across the Atlantic. Muller had foresight to carry plenty of supplies but had no papers allowing him to enter Cuba. He was held by immigration authorities until extricated by the German embassy. The feat recalls Capt. Frank Romer's exploit. Romer disappeared in a hurricane off the Bermudas last September. He had crossed the Atlantic in a 21 foot boat only to lose his life within sight of the shore.

Gen. Calles, former president of Mexico was guest of honor at a brilliant feast at Hermosillo, Sonora. (Continued on Page 6)

BILL the BARBER Says INSECTS TALK TO EACH OTHER, DIDN'T YOU EVER NOTICE MOTHS CHEWING THE RAG

TWILIGHT CIRCUIT OPENS

Interest Intense as Four Plant Teams Set for Season WILL CLOSE ON JUNE 28 Then Two Leaders Will Play Series for Title and Neff Cup

With four scrappy teams entered and with interest running high throughout local factories the Torrance Industrial Twilight League opened its season this week at its renovated diamond on Caballo avenue. The four teams represented are the National Supply Company, the Doheny-Stone Drill Corporation, the Pacific Electric and the General Petroleum.

Games will be played each Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings at 8:15. The season will close on June 28 and the two highest teams will play a 3 out of 5 series for the championship.

The diamond has been rigged out with a sprinkling system which was installed under the direction of George Probert of the Torrance Pharmacy.

Last year interest in the twilight games was intense and large crowds witnessed every contest. At the two games this week even larger throngs gathered to watch the boys play.

May 25 Next Bargain Day

Saturday, May 25 will mark the second of eight great bargain Saturdays in Torrance stores, the trade promotion committee of the Chamber of Commerce has determined.

The committee consisting of Sam Rappaport, Paul Eby, Sam Levy, C. A. Paxman and Harold Kingsley believes that the success of the first event will be overshadowed by that of the second.

As before news of the bargain day in Torrance, shopping hub of the whole district, will be broadcast over the entire area between Long Beach and Redondo Beach, Gardena and San Pedro. Merchants are already arranging to offer unusually enticing bargains on May 25. Buy better in Torrance.

Torrance Boys Win First Place in Junior Olympics

Elementary Team Places Third While High School Cops Top Place in Hot Competition—Bert Merrill Second as Individual Star

Torrance wins! This was the result of the Junior Olympic district finals, held at the Torrance field yesterday afternoon, at which time Torrance boys carried off honors in every division. From the 25 schools sent invitations to compete, Narbonne, Redondo, George Washington, Gardena, Torrance Elementary, Banning, San Pedro, San Pedro Elementary, Redondo Elementary, and Torrance schools competed.

Torrance High School placed first, Gardena second, and Torrance Elementary third. Bert Merrill, Torrance hope, competed under difficulties with a sore arm. His score of 477 was 99 points under the score made by him at the Torrance meet a week ago. However, despite the handicap he was beaten by just one point in the senior division, and this by Richard Williams of George Washington school, Los Angeles.

Richard Williams was Bert's rival, and was beaten by Bert in every event but the 75 yard dash. As Richard Williams had a lower coefficient than Bert, he was awarded a higher score, bringing his total score to 478 points, and making him a winner in the Senior division.

Paul Sleppy placed third with 423 points, Takeuchi Isami of Gardena fourth with 378 points, and Howard Totten of Torrance fifth with 365 points.

In the Junior division James Miller won first place with 443 points, Arthur Yamamoto of Torrance second with 434 points, Edwin Gross of George Washington third with 424 points, Benito Flores of the Torrance Grammar school fourth with 390 points and Dale Howe of Torrance fifth with 385 points.

In the Senior division, Bert Merrill made a broad jump of 8 feet 9 inches, Richard Williams of George Washington a jump of 8 feet 6 inches, and Paul Sleppy a jump of 7 feet 5 1/2 inches.

Observations Avalonites and Their Outlook on Life—Mr. Windle, Publisher, Store-owner, Justice and Psychologist—Catalina During the Off-Season—a Happy Negro By W. HAROLD KINGSLEY

PEOPLE who live on small islands own a unique outlook on life. There is probably no happier colony in the world than that which lives winter and summer in Avalon on Catalina.

They work like Trojans during the summer when each boat from the mainland unloads hundreds of seachans after succumb to life's sorrows. To know the resident Avalonite during June, July and August is not to know him at all. But to contact him during any other month of the year is to envy him mightily.

DURING the short tourist season your Avalonite strives day and night to collect enough profit from the trippers to carry him over until the next tourist season. And that is about all he wants.

When fall comes round they cast aside their worries and live as nature intended human beings to live, close to the land and to the sea. They loaf and fish and read and engage in delightful community social activities.

Unoppressed by the vexing, jarring problems so rife on the mainland they become very much akin to nature. If money is a bit scarce they cut down on groceries and eat more fish.

All of this makes for a psychology which the visitor from the mainland envies to the depths of his heart.

SAID a native of Catalina: "Yes, I lived three years in the city and I wouldn't go back there for anything in the world. I got along all right over there, made money and everything, but I wasn't happy. People were too busy, too excited, too hurried. Here in the island we don't have many murders or many holdups, but we catch mighty big tuna and swordfish and the goat hunting is fine."

"And we're healthy. You can comb the island from end to end and you won't find a case of nerves. Because there isn't anything to make you nervous, not even traffic to keep you jumping and jerky."

"We don't have to go to Los Angeles to meet celebrities. The celebrities come to us. "None of us is making any great amount of money. Maybe that's why we're so contented. Folks hunting for money and worrying about it only seek the long green with the purpose of using it to buy happiness. Then after they get their roll they find they can't buy contentment like a pair of socks over the counter. Happiness doesn't come that way."

PARENTAL GROUPS DIVIDE

Parties at High School Arouse Protest Headed by Rev. Young

OTHERS FAVOR EVENTS Many Insist Affairs Be Continued; Wood Acts to Prevent Fight

Scheduled dances in the music room of the high school one night a week raised such a protest that Principal Herbert S. Wood determined last week to discontinue the events rather than keep the red hot issue alive.

And though this decision is now in effect the issue continues to be a topic of excited discussion among parents "on both sides of the fence."

Recently a number of high school boys and girls gathered informally in the music room, turned on the victrola and started to dance.

Learning of the events Rev. R. A. Young headed a movement against them and a petition signed by many parents was presented to Mr. Wood requesting that the dances be discontinued.

Immediately there was a division of opinion among parents. The conflicting ideas were about as follows:

- 1. Properly chaperoned dances are all right.
2. They keep boys and girls away from public dance halls, and especially away from the dance hall at Redondo Beach.
3. Children whose parents object to dancing are not allowed to attend.
4. It is better to have the young people dancing under supervision and with the consent of their parents than to have them dancing without supervision somewhere without their parents' knowledge or consent.
5. Centering clean social events in the school increases interest in the school by the students.

AGAINST THE DANCES 1. Dancing brings young people into dangerous proximity, and is wrong. 2. The public school is the place of all places where dances should NOT be allowed. Are our schools to act as a stimulant rather than a deterrent to the jazz age? 3. Youth is naturally full of vigor and parents opposed to dancing find it difficult to guide their sons and daughters along lines of parental opinion when the school is itself conducting dances. Though students could not attend without parental consent the fact that dances were held at the school lured students whose parents would not give consent and thus created division in the home.

4. It is up to the parents and not the school to see that boys and girls are kept out of public dance halls.

5. Too many social activities in the schools detract from the serious purposes to which the public schools are dedicated. Principal Wood was assailed on two sides by the two factions. Many parents insisted that the dances be continued. Many more demanded that they be stopped.

Rather than see the controversy continue with an increase in sharpness Mr. Wood called off the dances.

Lomitans Launch Movement to Incorporate as 6th Class City

Fifty Lomita men, representing every walk of life, met Tuesday night and voted by an overwhelming majority to start proceedings at once to bring about an election on the question of incorporating Lomita as a sixth class city.

The territory included in the area proposed for incorporation includes approximately all of the Lomita lighting district and the 88 acres east of that district sometimes called the Lomita shoestring strip.

Recurrent problems of local concern which can only be solved when Lomita affairs are in Lomita hands spurred the group of citizens to start the petitions in circulation. At the same time the

First Talkie Here on May 15th

Talking moving pictures will be seen and heard for the first time in Torrance at the Torrance theatre Wednesday May 15 when Clara Bow will be witnessed and listened to in Paramount's all-talkie "The Wild Party." The picture will run Wednesday and Thursday.

Rigorous tests for her vocal qualities were given to Clara Bow before it was announced that the "if" films but who have never heard her voice heretofore.

After the tests were made work was started on her first all-talking production, "The Wild Party," which will open the talkie regime at the Torrance.

Attempted Kidnaping of Girls Arouses Parents in Keystone

KEYSTONE—The need for police protection in Keystone, particularly at the Carson street school when children are going to or from their lessons, was emphasized last week by what witnesses declare was a clear case of attempted kidnaping.

According to one woman who lives near the school a man drove along Carson street last Friday just as school was out. Stopping the car he beckoned to a seven-year-old girl to get in. She hesitated and he started after her. The woman who saw the incident shouted to the child and the man hastily leaped into his car and drove away.

Other residents near the school report a similar incident in which a man endeavored to induce a 10-year-old girl to take a ride with him.

Citizens of Keystone are aroused over the incidents and it is expected that an attempt will be made to induce the sheriff's department to detail a deputy for duty at the Carson street school, morning noon and afternoon.

Garden Club, Flourishing Group With 100 Active Members, Sees Movie of Flower Seed Harvest

Films showing the raising and harvesting of flower seed by commercial growers, were shown at the meeting of the Torrance District Garden club Monday evening.

Sweet peas vines are mowed down when they have gone to seed, piled up and put through a threshing machine, which separates the seed from the hull.

The films, which were exhibited by Miss Elizabeth Bodger, were made at her father's large seed ranch near El Monte.

They included scenes of the raising of narcissus bulbs for wholesale markets, and the method of raising seed of many flowers.

Choice Rex begonias, grown by Mr. Roy Berry of Keystone, were on exhibition at the meeting. Announcement was made that the next meeting of the club will be held on the second Monday night in June instead of the first Monday night as usual. This change in schedule is being made in order to have Mr. Carl Salbach, famous iris and gladiolus grower, as the speaker of the evening. Mr. Salbach is coming down from Berkeley to attend the Gladiolus show at the Biltmore June 13-14, and has consented to speak at the Garden Club meeting on Monday night, May 19.

Throughout the existence of the Garden Club, C. B. Bell and John King have made it a point to have flower authorities lecture to the club, and the results have been splendid. It has been through their unifying efforts that the Garden club has obtained these famous

WILL SIFT GUARDS' ACTION

Hermosa Chief in Probe After Death of Torrance Boy in Surf

PAL DISPLAYS COURAGE John Young Almost Drowns Striving to Save His Schoolmate

Howard Schmid, 16-year-old son of Rev. and Mrs. G. G. Schmid of the Central Evangelical church lost his life in the sea at Hermosa Beach Sunday afternoon and John Young, 16, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mrs. John Young of Gramercy avenue narrowly escaped a similar fate when he endeavored bravely to rescue his schoolmate. A number of Torrance high school boys and girls witnessed the tragedy.

As a result of the sad event the whole city of Torrance was plunged in sorrow and for several days the flag at the high school flew at half mast, symbolizing the mourning of Howard's fellow students among whom he was one of the most popular lads in school.

Howard, who had learned to swim slightly only a few weeks ago was bathing in the surf with a group of Torrance boys and girls when a huge breaker struck the party. In the group with Howard were Muriel and Mildred Bell, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Bell of Marcelina avenue, Miss Loma Kiser and John Young. Having successfully withstood the shock of the breaker Miss Muriel Bell noticed that Howard had been overwhelmed. She shouted to John Young, who immediately dove into the deepened surf in the backwash of the breaker, and asked Howard, who was apparently dazed. While John held Howard's head above water Muriel rushed to the shore in search of a life guard. Unable to locate one she screamed to people on the beach, some of whom seemed to grasp the significance of her call. Rushing for a guard Miss Bell met Paul Weisach, 1901 Cravens avenue, another high school boy, and told him to find a guard.

As Paul struggled in search of aid, a grim struggle was going on in the surf as John strove manfully to rescue his chum. Albert Bartlett, a Torrance high school boy was on the Hermosa pier and witnessed the struggle, which was being enacted almost directly in front of the south corner of the Surf and Sand club.

According to John, who is still confined in bed from the effects of his water-filled lungs, Howard at first endeavored to be calm, but as breaker after breaker broke over the heads of the pair he became frantic and seized John about the neck. John, trained as a Scout to break holds, was able time after time to break these holds of his chum.

According to Albert Bartlett the two boys were struggling in the surf for almost five minutes. Suddenly both disappeared. John had combated the waves so long that suddenly "everything went black" and the next he knew he was lying at the surf's edge, semi-conscious.

Fortunately for John a nurse, Mrs. A. M. Amensen of Pasadena, noticed him lying there, his face and body blue. She rushed to his side and gave him first aid, removing much water from his stomach and lungs. Lifeguards arrived and took John to the Hermosa police station. Monday John was suffering from a temperature of 103 degrees but his condition now is greatly improved and he is out of danger.

In the meantime Paul Weisach had located a life guard and told him of Howard's plight. The guard entered the surf and swam around the end of the pier. When he returned the two Bell girls and Miss Kiser told him that he had searched in the wrong location. Then, according to the three girls, he entered the surf in front of the club, waded to a short distance and came

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Spurlin Trial Is Still on in L. A.

The trial of DeKalb Spurlin on a charge of conspiracy to assault continued in Superior Court with counsel arguing motions for and against dismissal of the case against Kimmeree. Kimmeree was once convicted for assault in connection with the same fight toward which Mr. Spurlin is charged with having conspired and Kimmeree's counsel contends that he cannot legally be placed in jeopardy twice for the same offense.

Several prominent Torrance citizens have been in Los Angeles this week waiting to be called as character witnesses for Mr. Spurlin. They included James W. Post, Sam Levy, Dr. George F. Bialder, George W. Nail and Harry H. Dolley.

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