

38th YEAR—No. 65

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1952

Eleven



By JACK O. BALDWIN

I've lugged my pad, pencil, and camera into a score of hospitals in the 15 years I have been hawking news. Many of these trips into ether-filled hospital corridors were in pursuit of a story of a family, or perhaps a child, who was in trouble and needed help.

I've seen a mother standing before a desk holding a child in her arms and gently sway back and forth trying to comfort her offspring and trying to stop its tears while she answered question after question. I've seen the red tape unroll by the yard and so ensnare a patient that I have wondered at times how anything ever gets accomplished.

And so it was with utter amazement that I watched the turning wheels of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

Ten days ago our oldest boy, Tim, was taken to the General Hospital—a victim of polio.

Within 24 hours, there arrived at our home by special delivery a letter from the Foundation. It was under our door one day following the news from the hospital laboratory that our son had contracted poliomyelitis. It was with amazing swiftness that this organization had moved and offered its services.

"We Are Ready"

"Mr. Baldwin," Mrs. Richard M. White, executive secretary, said as we sat opposite her desk later that day. "We want you to know that the Foundation is prepared to give your son whatever treatment, hospital care, physical therapy, or braces, if needed, to complete his recovery."

"There are several secondary hospitals to which your boy can be transferred. If you will select one, we will attempt to arrange for a bed for him."

We picked the Orthopedic Hospital on Flower St. in Los Angeles.

The Foundation people did arrange for a bed. They arranged to have him cleared from the General Hospital. They arranged for the ambulance.

Their attitude towards my wife and me was more like that which might be accorded a customer buying jewelry in an exclusive shop. We were treated with dignity and respect. One member of the staff expressed regret that we had to wait (about three minutes) before we were taken into one of the inner offices of the Foundation.

Specifically these are the arrangements the Foundation made for us.

Help Listed

"Tim's hospital bill will be about \$21.89 per day. That includes the services of a staff physician, use of the pool, and whatever other services he may require. Unless you have polio insurance that amount is more than most people can afford," said Mrs. Nixon, one of the Foundation workers.

We had no such insurance.

"Now, the Foundation will pay that entire amount if you are unable to help. But if you feel you care to participate and share some of this expense, it will mean that we will have just that much more to help some less fortunate family," she said.

Then in a tone which was almost apologetic, she asked if we thought we could contribute \$2 per day toward our son's hospital bill. "We'll pay the other \$19.89 if you can pay \$2," she said.

We felt we wanted to do more and told her so.

"You may have other expenses coming up. I suggest you wait and see. Then if you feel you wish to do more, the Foundation has an open account and will gladly accept any amount you care to send."

Unusual Experience

Our visit to the Foundation headquarters and our treatment by its workers was one of the most unusual experiences of my lifetime.

Our boy is on the road to recovery. Just how long he will have to remain in the hospital, even the doctors hesitate to guess. But his days there have been made shorter by a number of thoughtful people.

There was a card from the druggist in a store near our home where Tim used to go for a malt. The Lion's club sent him a plant in a perky ceramic puppy. The kids in his freshman class at school, many of whom he has never met, wrote him letters. One of our neighbors collected 13 dimes and sent "lucky books" for him and the other polio victims in his ward.

Help Offered

The phone calls from friends



IT'S EESY, SEE! . . . Joe C. Ingham, director of the "Syncoated Circus," a benefit musical being footlighted here next week for the YMCA, runs through a routine for

two romper-clad principals in the show, Bud Mewborn (right) and Jim Crain.



REHEARSAL TIME . . . Soprano Nadine Nickel runs through one of her numbers in "Syncoated Circus" with pianist Micky Van Deventer, who will be spotlighted during one of the specialty acts in the two-act musical being staged here next week-end.

Task for Caring for Injured in Bombed Areas Enormous

If California were atom-bombed, the task of caring for the injured and the ill would be enormous.

Just how enormous is told in last week's statewide broadcast of the State Office of Civil Defense by Assistant Director Niver W. Beaman, speaking from Sacramento headquarters after a 24-hour operation in which the state staff went through a make-believe bombing attack.

As Beaman tells it in "It's Your Job, Neighbor": "Just imagine the size of the problem of trying to care for several hundred thousand—yes, several hundred thousand—persons with all degrees of serious injuries . . . broken bones, serious burns, shock. And no homes left for them."

Next January when the women of our town gather for the "Mothers March on Polio" they will find among their ranks at least one father.



DR. JULES COMROE . . . new health officer

County Health Department Names New Torrance Officer

The appointment of Dr. Jules Comroe as health officer for the Torrance Health District was announced this week by Dr. Roy O. Gilbert, Los Angeles County health officer.

Dr. Comroe has been serving as a health officer since his return to the department after a two-year military leave for service in Okinawa. He had formerly seen army service from 1941 to 1946.

Dr. Comroe was health officer for the Inglewood District in 1950, having been assigned to that post after a year's service at Santa Monica. Prior to that he had worked for two years with the California State Health Department.

He was born in Chicago and is a graduate of the University of Chicago School of Medicine, serving his internship at the County General Hospital here from 1936 to 1938. He has also had post-graduate study at both the University of California and John Hopkins University.

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BANKER HONORED . . . Receiving a plaque commemorating his 25 years with the Bank of America is Dean L. Sears, right foreground, manager of the Torrance Bank of America. Presenting the award is T. R. Eagan, member of the B of A staff here. Sears also received a new portable typewriter from members of the staff at a party held Tuesday evening.



REED C. CULP . . . To Address Kiwanians

Five Kiwanians Plan to Attend District Parley

The Kiwanis Club of Torrance will be represented at the 1952 convention of the California-Nevada-Hawaii Kiwanis District at Sacramento, Calif., Oct. 5-8.

The local representatives to the convention will be Lt. Gov. Howard Wood, first vice president Charles Ragsdale, second vice president Byron Scotton and Kenneth Anderson.

Reed C. Culp, trustee of Kiwanis International and prominent livestock broker of Salt Lake City, Utah, will be a featured speaker during the four-day meeting at the Hotel Senator.

Delegates from 275 clubs in the district, representing a membership of 16,600 business and professional leaders, will participate in the various sessions.

The preiding officer will be Stary Gagne, governor of the California-Nevada-Hawaii Kiwanis District and fruit grower of Lindsay, Calif. The Kiwanis clubs of Sacramento and Greater Broadway will be hosts to the convention.

Signal Officer Graduated at NJ Cyclist Injured

Second Lieutenant Robert L. Butler, of 1208 Foothill Ave., graduated from the Associate Signal Officers Course at Fort Monmouth, N. J., last week, it was announced yesterday.

Completing the three-month course in the officers department of the Signal School, Lt. Butler is among 35 officers in the graduating class. All students are assigned to various posts throughout the country.

Radio, radar, wire, communications and general allied subjects are covered in the course.

Tartar Teen Talk

By SALLY HICKMAN

Friday night Jeanne Whitten had a party after our game with Point Loma. Those celebrating our first game of the season were Bob Kelly, Gary Hakenston, Linda Salles, Don Kastin, Pat Fenton, Pam Dieky, Walt McHenry, Bobby Hanks, Janice Brimley, Warren Stamps, Roy Stamps, Janice Woodman, Bob Kulp, Darl Mead, Babs Hazard, De De Schumert, Norma Mead, Billy Mitchum, Claire Bentwood, Nancy La Duke, Betty Peterson, Charlene Grace, Bobby Carol, Tom Long, Louie Valencia, Louise Lafferty, John Sosa, and Mary Sue Easley.

The Saturday night civic dance Sept. 27 will feature the Melody Masters with our own Jack Beeman playing the saxophone and Yo Goldsmith singing. Let's see all you guys out there.

Judy Wash received a surprise birthday party Saturday night. Those helping Judy celebrate were Harold Phyllips and Peggy Wood, Betty Martinez and Larry Roy, Connie Stout and Donnie Forth, Judi Ried and Bobby Hopkins, Pat Flanagan and Jerry Farrar, Cynthia Easley and Tom Smith, Mary Sue Easley and Jim Haeffl, Judy Nash and Jim Donette, Janel Beeman and Bill Oehrlert, Ann Steinbaugh, Connie Ericson, Monty Darling, Jimmy Farrar, Warren Stamps, Bobby Kulp, Gary Hakenston, Gene Davis, Bob Moon, Richard Lindenberg, Judy Wright, Jerry Nelly, Art Sues, Tom Wolford, Louie Valencia, Joan Brimley, and Burt Smith.

All of the student council members have been working very hard on (you guessed it) A.S.B. card sales. In charge of the sales, and doing a mammoth size job is commissioner of finance Joan Stevens. She and the committee deserve a big vote of thanks from all students. Show your appreciation in a way that really counts. Buy an A.S.B. card today. Remember, the contest closes on Oct. 2. Let's help your class win!

Roy Stamps had a party for Dick Shears Wednesday night. Those attending were Roy Stamps and Janice Woodman, Dick Shears and Carolyn Powers, Warren Stamps and Pat Garrison, Monty Darling and Jimmy Mathews, Lee Mortenson and Lynn Lorenz, Larry Roy and Betty Martinez, Sid Staxrud and Marilyn Jones, Harold Phyllips, Bert Smith, Tom Long, Louie Valencia, Jim Haeffl, and Lanny La Vier.

Congratulations, Debs, on your new green sweaters. They look real nice. Part Cashmere, I hear.

Tomorrow night Torrance High School plays a practice game with San Bernardino on our own field at 8 p.m. We would like to see a lot of kids in the rooting section.

The Tri H Y had a pot luck supper Monday night at Chuckery St. Martin's house. Feasting on a lot of fine food were Ed Hazzard, Charlene St. Martin, Lynn Saine, Lynn Lorenz, Mary Sue Easley, Norma Mead, Charlene Grace, Jeanne Whitten, Pat Garrison, Beckey Mitchell, Claire Demonette, Eillene Downings, 3146.

Shuffleboard Tourney Slated

Deadline for registering for the singles and doubles Adult Shuffleboard Tourney to take place at Torrance's new adult center is Oct. 4, the recreation department revealed yesterday.

Any person 21 years of age or older is eligible to enter the competition. The tourney will be a double elimination play and each entrant must lose two matches before being dropped from the championship flight.

Losers will continue to play in a consolation bracket. Main purpose of the meet, according to Recreation Director Frank Carpenter, is to give adults a chance to become acquainted with the adult center facilities. There is no cost for use of the center.

Registration is taking place at the adult center, Post and Cravens Aves. Information can be obtained by calling Torrance 3146.