

LA Playgrounds Draw 858,757 Kiddies in 1957

The South Elementary District of the Los Angeles City School Districts operates a year-round recreation program on its elementary school playgrounds as part of a total program carried on by the Youth Services Section of the school system.

During the year, 1957, a grand total of 858,757 children enjoyed recreational facilities and activities provided by the 66 South Elementary District school playgrounds open including those in the Torrance area. To provide this, the South Elementary District operated with a \$163,000 budget.

Playgrounds were open 223 days except special situations where remoteness and low-income areas necessitated additional services. Total daily attendance on each playground averaged more than 55 with the summer program averaging 75.2 and the after-school program 50.4.

The average total cost per day including salaries and supplies for each playground was \$11.07 (yearly average expenditure per playground totaled \$2469.66). The average cost per child attending each day approximated 20 cents.

Recreation programs provided include such activities as crafts, tournaments and leagues in many games, special activities (trips to Clear Creek, Cabrillo Beach, Griffith Park), play days, track meets, softball tournaments, movies, storytelling, playacting, roller skating, puppetry and folk dancing.

Toastmasters Group Adds 3 Local Men

Three local residents were among those inducted into South Bay Club 280 of Toastmasters International, which meets Wednesday evenings at the Redondo Beach Elks Club.

John Barton, John Anagnostis, and Tom Rische, of Torrance, were among the new members. Other new members included Harry Van Horn and Harry Bauers, Manhattan Beach, and Richard Sawden, Palos Verdes.

David Fox and James Coyle won first and second place speaking honors for the evening, while Van Horn won a cup as best table topics speaker. Others on the program were George Rickert and Robert Skibell.

President Paul Waller won a "Toastmaster of the Month" and scored for introducing several new members into the club.

Others taking part in the program were William Fasoli, Toastmaster, and Nathan Gibson, Loren Jolley, Leonard Steuwe, Peter DeMarco, and Charles Neugebauer.

DESERT TRACT

The Sahara Desert extends 3000 miles from the Atlantic to the Red Sea.

EMERGENCY USE

New trackless trolleys and buses are being designed so they can easily be converted into emergency ambulances, according to the nation's civilian defense authorities.

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SAFETY CHECK . . . Pep Boys scholarship committee inspects traffic accident research being done at UCLA as they announce the firm's sixth annual scholarship program. Left to right are C. Martin Duke, Murray Rosenfeld, and Joseph Kaplan. Rosenfeld is Pep Boys general manager.

Pep Boys Reveal Sixth Annual Engineering Scholarship Plans

Pep Boys auto supply stores today announced availability of their sixth annual four-year engineering scholarship. Competition is open to all high school seniors graduating in June, according to Murray Rosenfeld, Pep Boys general manager. It provides tuition, books and supplies for a full four-year engineering course at any California state university or college. Entry blanks are available from high school senior class counselors.

One of the qualifying requirements is an essay on "What I would do to prevent traffic accidents and save lives," Rosenfeld said. "We hope that this requirement will create a greater consciousness among our young people of their tremendous responsibility . . . as well as bring forth practical suggestions for the reduction of highway accidents."

Sponsor Commended

Scholarship committee members, Joseph Kaplan of the National Safety Council, and C. Martin Duke, assistant dean of the UCLA school of engineering, both commended the Pep Boys for continuing their good work . . . Kaplan for Pep Boys contribution to traffic safety and Duke for providing a scholarship in a field where trained men are badly needed.

Trophies and \$50 U. S. Savings Bonds will be awarded to the authors of the three best essays. The scholarship winner will be chosen from these three students on the basis of scholastic standing, entrance examination, good citizenship and the essay.

The parents will hold their next meeting in the board rooms at 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 28.

VALENTINE PARTY SET BY PARENTS

Plans for a Valentine party for children in the Point Two program of the Plaza Center School were made at the recent meeting of the parents in the board room of the Torrance Unified School District.

Dr. Warren Hamilton described progress being made on the Columbia School for Handicapped Children, to be built on the present site of El Nido School, 186th and Hawthorne. The school is expected to open next year.

Dr. Stanley Wright, assistant professor of pediatrics at the UCLA Medical Center, discussed medication and prevention of mental retardation and placement and rehabilitation of mentally retarded children in hospital. Future doctors are familiarized with this condition by trips to the Spadra Hospital, he said.

Local Demos Will Attend Dinner Meet

Five Democratic club leaders from Torrance will be honored guests of the Los Angeles County Democratic Central Committee at the annual Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial dinner Saturday evening, March 1, at the Statler Hotel, Los Angeles.

James D. MacDonald, Wilmington, local dinner coordinator, said the big dinner, featuring Sen. John Kennedy, of Massachusetts, as guest speaker, is expected to draw a capacity throng of more than 1000 Democrats from throughout the Southland.

Another highlight of the F.D.R. dinner will be the presentation of annual club charters to club presidents in a ceremony emphasizing appreciation for the work their organizations have performed.

Local club presidents who will be on hand to accept their charters will be Bernard M. Douglas, 1327 Cota Ave., Torrance Democrats, Inc.; M. H. Grossman, 20808 S. Brighton, Shoestring Democratic Club; John Mulvihill, 3765 W. 171st St., North Torrance Democratic Club; John J. Barton, 3326 Primm Way, South Torrance Democratic Club, and W. B. Piercy Jr., 1731 Fern Ave., L. A. Harbor Area Democratic Club.

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