

Home, Cafe, Nursery Blazes Keep Fire Department Busy



HOPPING UP... Firemen jump up after a blaze did minor damage to the kitchen of the G. J. Spindler Jr. home at 2221 W. 178th St. Friday. Other fires during week included one at cafe, nursery, and another home fire.

Blazes in a nursery, two homes, and a cafe kitchen kept Torrance firemen busy Thursday and Friday. On top of that, all equipment rolled on an alarm at one of the city's major industrial plants, but it turned out to be an error.

Firemen responded to an alarm at the Rendezvous Cafe near Marcelina and Cabrillo at 6:55 a.m. Friday to find the kitchen filled with smoke and flames. A fire had started near the large kitchen refrigerator and burned through the wall into the framework of the building. The cooler had to be removed, and the wall stripped to get at the smoldering embers in the wall of the structure. Capt. Jerry Holloman reported.

Crews under the command of Battalion Chief Walter W. ... extinguished the blaze and confined damage to the kitchen area.

JUST BEFORE noon Friday, firemen raced to the home of G. J. Spindler Jr., at 2221 W. 178th St., where crews under the command of Capt. Don Minor extinguished a blaze in the kitchen. Firemen said the blaze apparently started when someone dumped a cigarette or other hot substance in the wastepaper basket. Damage was held to a minimum.

At 3:15 p.m. Friday, flames which apparently started in a storage shed, destroyed the shed and plants and stock of a nursery at 1229 Carson St. Firemen said children smoking in the shed may have been responsible for the blaze. Mrs. J. E. King, who lives at 2267 Carson St., said boys of the high school frequently stop off at the shed to have a smoke.

Dwellings adjacent to the nursery had to be ventilated.

FLAMES which apparently started in the bedroom of the family's four-year-old son did about \$2000 damage to the home of Selmar G. Masternan, 4929 Cadillac St., firemen reported Thursday.

Retirement Last of Three Stages In Man's Life, Steelworker Says

Retirement is the last of three stages in a man's working life, according to Robert (Bob) Sleeth, who added that the other two are that first job and then promotion. The 65-year-old melder foreman retired from United States Steel Sept. 30.

Sleeth, who came to Tor-

rance to change his brand of beer to match each sponsor.

General Bob has had just three jobs in his life. The first was with the Allegheny Steel Co. in Pittsburgh, the second was two years in the United States Army during World War I and the third lasted for 32 years with his former employer.



ROBERT SLEETH Retired

rance in 1926 and has a host of friends in the area, lives at 1618 Post Ave., with his wife, Roxie. The couple have a son, Bob Jr., superintendent of the Waller Post Office. Another son, Nevt, was killed in active duty in the Air Force during World War II.

WHEN SLEETH retired his open-hearth gang gave him an expensive wrist watch and the U. S. Steel management a dinner party and a leather easy chair. Along with these gifts he got a lot of advice on not sitting around the house and getting up in the morning at the same time as in the past.

Bob is not concerned about getting bored now that he has gone off active duty. He has a lot of "fixing up" to do around the house. He has a hi-fi and over 400 records he loves. Then being an ardent football and baseball fan he does a lot of televisioning during both seasons.

"THE ONLY thing wrong with televised sports programs," Bob added, "is I want

SLEETH GOT into the steel industry through professional baseball. Playing with a Louisville team, he was spotted by scouts in the Pittsburgh Industrial League, and was hired by the Allegheny Steel Co. to play on their team. The second baseman played with a number of men in those early days who went on to fame in Major League competition.

"I've got a lot of good friends," Sleeth concluded, "and a lot of good memories. I don't think I'll get bored, but if I do and find I have time on my hands, I'll go over and pitch horseshoes at the Adult Citizens Club."

Favorite Spot For 2nd Phone

The bedroom is the most preferred location for an additional telephone.

This fact was recently revealed after a survey of thousands of households throughout the country shows that the bedroom is by far the most popular choice when a new extension is added.

According to manager R. S. Pyie, the company participated in the survey in order to evaluate the future telephone needs of potential southland subscribers in terms of sleeping, living and working areas. Statistics showed that in a one telephone house the bedroom was chosen in 50 per cent of the installations.

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BUSINESS SESSION... Residential leaders met last week to plan the Community Chest Kick-off set for Nov. 6. From left, seated: Ann Simechomb, Ruth Schrum and Jim Becker. Back row: Marlene Moore, Helen Duxton, Jeanne Gerald, Gloria Baxley, Elizabeth Boggs, Ruby Deuel and Marie Harmon.

Chest Needs 230 Volunteers For Nov. 6 Residential Drive

At least 230 more volunteer workers are needed for the Torrance Community Chest residential campaign, which kicks off Nov. 6th according to Mrs. Ruth Schrum, residential chairman, who received reports this week from her division and section chairmen showing 530 volunteers already recruited of the 800 needed.

Mrs. Schrum made an appeal for women who can give as much as the one day of Nov. 6th to volunteer for work in their own neighborhood, or if they have an available car, in a district where workers may be needed.

WITH A FULL organization of door-to-door workers, Mrs. Schrum told Jim Becker the

Torrance City chairman that her leadership hopes to make its goal of \$7440 in a one day campaign and a few call backs. "People in Torrance are aware of the great importance of the Community Chest Campaign and what this year's emergency means to our children. We will do our best if we have the workers to insure that everyone in the city has the opportunity to give," said Mrs. Schrum.

TWO TORRANCE divisions... 737 under Mrs. Helen Towers and 738 headed by Mrs. Warren Boggs reported 100 per cent enrollment this week. Mrs. William Deuel of division 736 was short only nine workers to bring her division to 100 per cent and Mrs. Marie Harmon of 732 needed only 10 more.

Torrance residential groups have been subdivided under Mrs. Schrum with three unit chairmen each working with three division chairmen. Mrs. J. L. Nicholas has the south Torrance divisions under Mrs. Lloyd Baxley, Mrs. Warren Boggs, and Mrs. Helen Towers. Mrs. J. A. deJaire is working with Mrs. Marie Harmon, Mrs. Mary Pagac and Mrs. Helen Towers. Jack White is unit chairman with Mrs. H. E. Moore, Mrs. Richard Gerald and Mrs. William Deuel.

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Your Park Department

In our last article we spoke of Grevillea Robusta or silk oak. The next tree to be considered is about the most quaint one in existence and dates back to prehistoric times.

It is called Ginkgo Biloba or maiden hair tree. It is a native of east China and Japan. It is used extensively in Chinese temple gardens. It is planted as an ornamental and shade tree in many parts of the United States. Its leaf structure is distinctively fan-shaped and notched in the center from two to three and a half inches wide. The leaves are light green, turning to a golden yellow in the fall and staying on the tree far into December. The flowers are negligible. They don't bloom until the tree is twenty years old or more.

Only the male tree is planted by the City as the female tree only bears fruit which exudes an offensive odor. The trees are deciduous—they grow moderately fast to a height of from 75 feet to 120 feet. The spread is from 50 to 80 feet. This is an open growing tree with slender ascending branches. The trunk is straight and tapering and the bark is tan and deeply furrowed. It has a deep root system, tolerates extreme cold and heat.

It will grow in moist soils but prefers a deep, well-drained loam. Good drainage is essential. It will stand smog, wind, and sea coast conditions—needs no special feeding.

PEOPLE HAVE ASKED about a good lawn or patio tree. One that would fit the requirement is the golden rain tree (Koeleruteria Paniculata), also known as varnish tree, China tree, or Pride of India. It does make a picturesque lawn or patio tree because of its height and blooms. It is a compact, round-headed tree, its height from ten to thirty feet, its spread ten to twenty feet, and it shades up beautifully. It is deciduous, and its leaves are eight to fourteen inches long and red when they open in the spring turning a bluish green by summer, giving the whole tree a bluish cast.

FOR TWO FULL SEASONS bright yellow flowers appear in May and June in branched clusters, which cover the entire tree. Its fruit is a bladder-like capsule from one to two inches long, which is light yellow brown, turning to red brown in October and persisting into winter.

The tree is deep-rooted, grows slowly to moderately fast, tolerates most well drained soils, grows in heat or cold, prefers full sun, tolerates wind, smoke, and dust. No special feeding or watering needed, relatively free of diseases and pests.

NORTH HIGH LIGHTS

By ROSALIE MURRAY

FROSH WILL GET in the legislative act next Tuesday as they go to the polls to cast their ballot for Freshmen officers. Appearing in next week's column will be the names of their new prey and his official helpers.

"Songs—Old and New" will be the theme of the annual Saxon homecoming Nov. 15. All the clubs and organizations on campus are busy preparing floats depicting this song theme for the halftime parade. Student Council Business Manager Bob Halliwell is manager of the homecoming parade. He is confident this annual activity will be an enjoyable and successful evening.

CONGRATULATIONS to Seniors Julie Henderson, Clarence Foxek, Carl Thornton, Kathryn Schade, James Wilson and Jack Buehler, all of whom earned a superior rating on the National Merit Scholarship exam. Now in the national finals, these six have an opportunity to take additional tests to win scholarship awards.

Commissioner of Group Control Sojia Pesola, clean campus chairman, is busy thinking up slogans to incite Saxons to keep that litter picked up. If the grounds are kept in order, students will be rewarded by being shown a recently released major studio motion picture.

JUNIOR CITIZENS MAY found our own Senior class president, Patty Reynolds, honorary mayor of Torrance for 24 hours last Tuesday. As a councilman, Student Body President Mike Cummings assisted Patty with her office. Other Student Council and Associated Student Body officers carried out numerous duties of Torrance officials on this day designed to give the teenagers an insight on local government.

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