

Fathers' Club Lauds School Board Action

Swift commendation from the North Torrance Fathers Club for the Torrance Unified School District board followed the board's announcement Monday that a new school costing \$350,000 would be rushed to completion by July 1956, at 178th and Arlington sts.

"That's the kind of news we have been waiting for," declared S. A. Freedman, chairman of the Fathers club, which has been waging an intensive campaign to bring an end to double sessions in the Perry school.

The board's announcement was regarded as the right answer to the recent public demand in North Torrance for additional classrooms to ease the

burden of growing enrollments caused by continuing tract building.

"The board is taking a step in the right direction in planning a school at 178th and Arlington. This definitely is one of the main points of pressure in current school enrollments, and in the vicinity of the most extensive new home construction in the last year," said Freedman.

"It is hoped that the frills will be side-tracked, and that a maximum number of classrooms will be built in order to accommodate a maximum number of children.

"There is no doubt that the new school will permit the transfer of some children from

the Perry School and the elimination of double sessions there. Classes up to and including the fourth grade are on double sessions at Perry," Freedman pointed out.

"We are sure that the board realizes now how we parents feel about half-day sessions, and will do everything in its power to eliminate this evil from our fine school system here in Torrance."

Scrap Iron Stolen

About 1500 lbs of miscellaneous scrap iron were reported stolen from the yard of Melvin C. Loken, 41, 1813 261st street, recently, according to Lennox sheriffs.

Science. Math Fellowships Offered by Shell Foundation

To help offset the dangerous cutback in science teaching at the secondary level, a basic cause for our critical shortage of graduate scientists, Shell Companies Foundation, inc. has announced a broad program of recognition of the acute shortage of high school science and mathematics teachers.

Through the program, worked out with the cooperation of the leading educational associations, Shell will underwrite summer seminars at Stanford and Cornell universities for 60 teachers yearly.

The fellowship recipients, chosen on the basis of merit and demonstrated leadership qualities, will receive travel allowances, all tuition and fees, living expenses on the university campus and \$500 in cash to make up for the loss of potential summer earnings.

Basically, according to Maarten Voogd, manager, Torrance Rubber plant, Shell Chemical corporation, the program seeks to inspire those science teachers who, in turn, can best inspire the scientists and science teachers of tomorrow.

Decline Noted

Voogd explained that the program, to be known as the Shell Merit Fellowships for high school science and mathematics teachers, was developed following studies that showed a rapid decline in the number of college graduates entering the field of science teaching.

Last year, according to surveys, American colleges turned out 57 per cent fewer high school science teachers and 51 per cent fewer mathematics teachers than in 1950. Because of this acute science teacher shortage, Voogd added, more than half the high schools in the country now have no classes in physics or chemistry.

Since 1900, the percentage of students studying algebra in the high schools has fallen from 58 per cent to 24 per cent; geometry students have dropped from 27 per cent to 11 per cent. Today, only 4.3 per cent study physics, as against 19 per cent some 55 years ago.

Outstanding Universities Stanford and Cornell were selected by Shell because of their outstanding science and education departments and their active role in trying to remedy

side the school system. The intensive seminar programs will include graduate-level classes, lectures by outstanding scientists and visits to modern industrial installations and research laboratories.

Mathematics, physics or chemistry teachers with five years experience and known leadership ability will be eligible for the fellowships. Thirty teachers from west of the Mississippi River will attend the eight-week Stanford program which will be administered by the School of Education. Thirty from east of the Mississippi will be invited to a similar six-week series of courses at Cornell.

In addition to teachers, also eligible are present heads of de-

New Moose Member Set

A recent meeting of the Women of the Moose was held at the Moose hall in Torrance. This was secret Pal night.

Mrs. Grace Ryan was sponsored as a new member by Edna Harbison.

The publicity gift and gadget table brought in a number of new orders.

The library committee will send a warrant for two books to departments of supervisors with good background in mathematics, chemistry or physics who previously were teachers.

Moose Heart; and one book to the Torrance library.

Two of the Women of the Moose attended the testimonial dinner in Long Beach, given by the Men's lodge of Long Beach. They were Frances Coble and Helen Judd.

The dinner was in honor of Bessie Lofett, former grand regent of the Women of the Moose. She has belonged to the Moose for the last 35 years.

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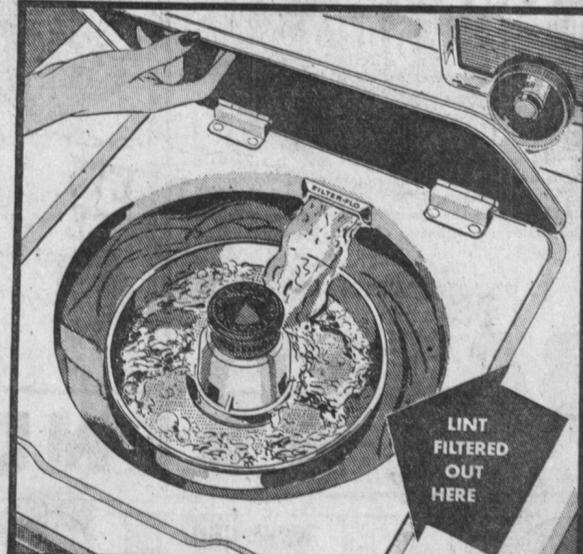


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