

PUNCH AND JUDY'S LOVE AFFAIR IS FOR THE BIRDS

By RALPH R. GOMPERTZ

There's nothing so heart-breaking as unrequited love, but there is really nothing that Judy can do about it even though Punchy is the kind of lover every girl wants to have.

Faithful, devoted, considerate, kind — all man, so to speak.

It's been two months now that Punchy the mallard has been trying to win and woo Judy the duck. It's been pretty much one-sided really without much hope for a change.

Punchy doesn't know it but Judy is a statue. The strange love affair started two months ago when the wild mallard landed in the backyard of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Miller, 2426 W. 236th st.

Obviously Punchy had seen Judy from the air. It was love at first sight and Punchy came to a screeching halt. Since that day, Punchy has become the most domesticated wild mallard to anybody's knowledge.

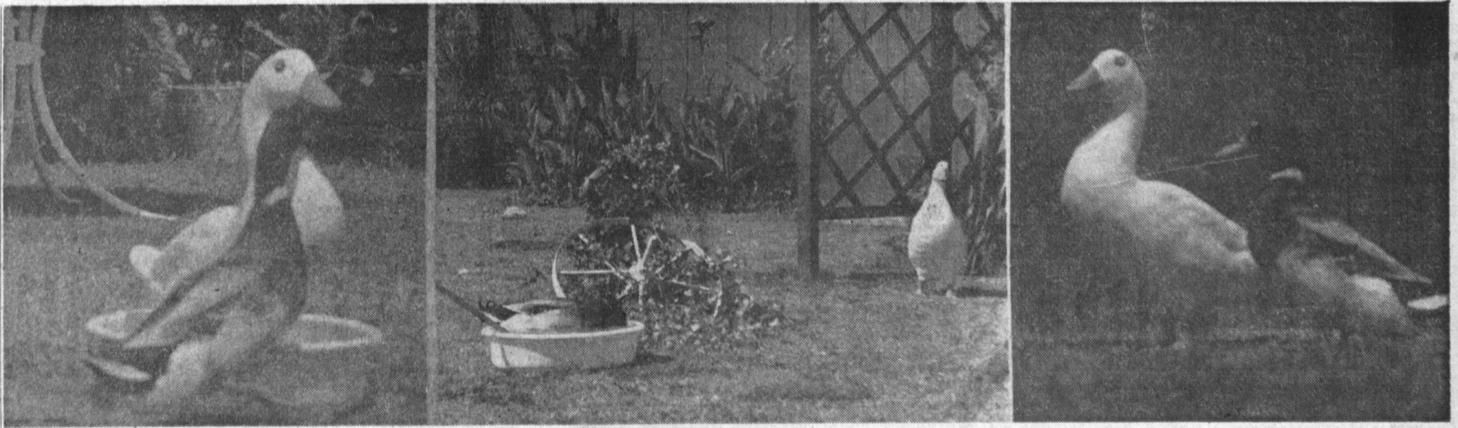
He's as tame as can be, playing with the Millers and their children—all for the sake of being near Judy.

His daily schedule starts with a quick visit to see that Judy is still where he left her. Having assured himself of this he is ready for his morning bath.

After lounging in the yellow plastic basin, he hops out, shakes himself and then flaps his wings like a proud peacock, or rather, mallard.

Then he heads for his lady love, pretends to dry off her feathers as if she, too, had just taken a bath, and proceeds to pump his head and start side-stepping and circling around her, typical of the mallard's courting procedure.

Mrs. Miller stated that Walt Disney has shown interest. (Turn to Page 10)



PUNCH . . .

and . . .
In love with a statue.

JUDY

—Press Photos by Ken Swan

\$1 Rubbish Fee, 2-Cent Tax Increase Seen Here

Rubbish, which has been collected free of charge in Torrance until now, may cost \$1 a month soon. Furthermore, property owners may face a 2-cent tax hike.

This is the hand-writing on the wall following an informal discussion by the City Council and city officials of the proposed budget for the coming year.

Councilmen are considering these additional revenues in order to make up the \$820,000 difference between the city's expected revenues and the proposed \$3,950,000 budget.

Even if the proposed rubbish fee and additional taxes are collected and a number of proposed budget slashes approved, the city would still be about \$200,000 short of the \$820,000 sum.

The council also informally agreed to a study of the present business license structure with a view to possibly instituting a graduated charge based on gross sales.

The council slashed the budget about \$200,000. Hardest hit was the Fire Department. Other departments included police, parks and streets.

Additional budget sessions will be held.

City Manager George Stevens warned the council against all these slashes and the insufficient tax hike, declaring that city services will suffer greatly.

The city asks for pennies while other public bodies get dollars, it was pointed out.

She Got Calls by The Dozen

Fifty-two calls. That's how many people answered the following ad which ran in the Torrance Press classified section:

2-BEDROOM newly decorated, yard completely fenced, dbl. garage. \$100. DA. 6-1866 after 6 p.m.

Mrs. Teddy E. Johnson of 3518 W. 228th pl., who placed the ad said that her telephone rang from 6 in the morning until 7:30 at night.

"I use the Torrance Press every time," she said, pleased with the results.

For quick, inexpensive results, place your ad in the Torrance Press. Fifteen words cost only \$1.30, with a 30-cent discount if the ad is paid for at the time it is placed. Call FA. 345.

NEWS BRIEFS

DON JA RAN: Councilmen delegated the Planning Commission to consider rezoning a site located between Palos Verdes blvd. and the Hollywood Riviera bluff, adjacent to the Palos Verdes boundary line from R-3 to R-1. Councilmen were dissatisfied with the latest plans submitted by Don Ja Ran for development of the area, and took the above action. The council charged that instead of a hotel, as originally proposed, the firm was now planning to build bachelor apartments.

HELICOPTERS: Duschak's Helicopter Rotor Service came in for more neighborhood complaints, following a 60-day grace period in which difficulties were to be ironed out. A committee was appointed to formulate a set of rules satisfactory to residents and the firm. Flying hours are to be restricted to week-days from 8 to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 8 until noon. The firm is to move in about three years.

BOWLING: The council went on record permitting juveniles to bowl in Torrance. An old city ordinance (1926) still on the books prohibited this. Another ordinance, passed in 1944, removed the prohibition. The council re-emphasized the action taken in 1944 by going on record permitting youngsters to bowl. The 1926 law had parents and PTAs worried.

BOTTLENECK: A petition signed by 151 residents protested any tampering with the street alignments on Carson st. before the Torrance high school. Residents indicated they do not want a widening or straightening of Carson st. since that would destroy the beauty of the area without materially aiding the traffic situation. Councilmen Jahn and Draie indicated that Carson st. is scheduled as a major thoroughfare by the county, from Long Beach and Redondo Beach.

'LITTLE SAHARA': Members of the Palos Verdes Riviera Homeowners assn. asked for rye grass for the Los Arboles park, which means "The Trees." The park, which is extremely sandy, would be better named "Little Sahara," it was indicated.

TAXES: The council ordered resolutions to be sent to the Torrance Unified School District and Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors asking them to hold the line on taxes.

10¢

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TORRANCE
CALIFORNIA

All America City
AWARD WINNER

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FATHER OF 3 LEAVES SUICIDE NOTE IN WEDDING RING

Lomita Anti-City Group Challenges Signatures

Fifty-six Lomita signatures on incorporation petitions have been challenged as to validity, but the Board of Supervisors accepted the petitions, pending a report next Tuesday by Clerk Gordon T. Nesvig.

Supervisors plan to take preliminary steps to set boundaries at next Tuesday's meeting.



ACCEPTS HONOR FOR HUSBAND
Mrs. Sam Levy accepts the "Distinguished Citizen" award on behalf of her husband who was unable to attend the Chamber banquet because of illness. Presenting the trophy is A. E. (Tommy) Thompson, newly installed president.—Press Photo.

'Distinguished Citizen' Award Given Sam Levy

Sam Levy, outstanding civic leader and Torrance merchant since 1919, was named Torrance's "Distinguished Citizen" for 1956.

Mrs. Levy accepted the award on behalf of her husband who is convalescing at home from a recent heart attack.

The honor was bestowed last Thursday at the annual Chamber of Commerce banquet. Making the presentation was Dean L. Sears, the 1955 winner.

Levy was honored for his contributions to various philanthropic campaigns during the course of his life, and, specifically, for his work this last year.

Among the projects cited were his area chairmanship of the Harbor General Hospital's county-wide bond campaign for \$15,000,000 which gained voter approval; chairmanship of the Little Company of Mary Catholic hospital campaign which is nearly completed; and his fund-raising achievements in the YMCA campaign which placed the organization on a sound basis, enabling it to meet the community's growing needs.

The perpetual trophy is a



SAM LEVY . . . honored.

SUICIDE NOTE

(A suicide note, stuck through the wedding ring which the victim had taken off, contained the following message):

Betty—
Here is the note you wanted giving you power of attorney for the house and everything else (including all of YOUR hills.)

I hope that my insurance will get you out of the whole mess that you've got us both in.

This isn't hard for me to do because it's probably the only way I'll ever get rid of you.

We both know how the California courts only see the woman's side.

My only hope is that you can raise Skip to be as honest and as good as he is right now.

I think that Skip and Gayle and Larry are really the only things in the world that I'll miss. Please take good care of them. Good luck.

RANDY

P. S. I love you, Skip, and thank you Gayle for all you've done for me and Skip. Love, Daddy.

Wife Finds Body

A father of three, incapable of coping with mounting bills arising out of apparent marital difficulties, killed himself Tuesday morning.

He left a note explaining the reason for his suicide. The rolled up note was stuck through his wedding ring which he had taken off.

Dead is Ernest Randall Ashton, 35, of 411 Via Linda Vista, Torrance. His body was discovered by his wife, Betty, who found him in the garage lying on the front seat of the car.

A hose, attached to the exhaust, had piped in deadly carbon monoxide.

(The victim has the same first and last name as Capt. Ernest Ashton of the Torrance Police department, but there is no relationship.)

Upon seeing her husband, Mrs. Ashton rushed to a next-door neighbor, Phil Welch, who came over, opened the garage and called police.

Ashton was reported dead on arrival at Harbor General hospital at 5:25 a.m.

"I hope that my insurance will get you out of the whole mess that you've got us both in," he wrote in the penciled note. (Turn to Page 10)

John McCall, Former City Official, Dies

Former City Attorney John E. McCall, 66, died Monday, May 27, at the California Lutheran hospital, Los Angeles, after suffering an apparent heart attack May 15 at his home, 2114 Arlington ave. Services will be held tomorrow at the First Baptist church, 10 a.m., followed by interment at Green Hills Memorial park.

A native of Mississippi, he was city attorney in Torrance from 1937-47 and most recently a practicing lawyer in Los Angeles. He was a veteran of World War I. (Turn to Page 10)

Manbone High In Tomita

There's nothing like distance to give a proper perspective on life. The US Army, well-intentioned but somewhat removed from the local scene, sent out an article about one of its soldiers. Seems as if he graduated from Manbone High school in Tomita. Could it be Narbonne High school in Lomita or was the Army trying to settle the Torrance-Lomita annexation dispute once and for all?

THREE HURT

Three were hurt in a collision at 170th st. and Wilkie Tuesday evening. They are Craig and Margaret Pierson and Michael Sims. Cars were driven by James Blanton, 16, of 18705 Yukon and Howard Pierson, 41, of Lynwood. Neither driver was cited.

Knight Denies Party Battle 'Disastrous'

Governor Goodwin J. Knight denied that an all-out Republican primary battle between US Senator William F. Knowland and himself next year would be a "blueprint for disaster."

He made the statement at a conference May 24 for California newspaper publishers.

He said that a fight between Knowland and vice-president Richard Nixon for control of the delegation to the 1960 Republican National convention would be "one of the bitterest battles in Republican ranks."

One publisher quoted him as saying that if Knowland runs against Knight for governor it would be a blueprint for disaster for the Republican Party and that if Knowland is successful would lead to the delegation fight.

Knight made his remarks when questioned about some statements he made to a group of newspaper publishers at a conference in Sacramento last Friday.



ATTEND CONFERENCE

William R. Zappas (r), publisher of the Torrance Press, tells Governor Goodwin J. Knight of the population growth in Torrance during the past 10 years. Maurice Hattem (l), local businessman, accompanied Zappas last week then they attended a California newspaper publishers' conference in Sacramento.

COUNCILMEN FAVOR MAYOR-AT-LARGE

Some time ago the Torrance Press recommended that the mayor be elected by the voters in Torrance rather than by the Torrance City Council. The matter also came up for discussion briefly at a council meeting some time ago. Nothing further was said. In an effort to determine how the councilmen feel about putting the matter on the ballot, the Torrance Press asked their opinions.

MAYOR ALBERT ISEN: "I have already gone on record on the matter previously. I'm all for it. It would make the mayor directly responsible to the voters and less subject to pressure from the councilmen who elected him on controversial issues."

COUNCILMAN VICTOR BENSTEAD: "It depends on the rest of the set-up (if this should be tied in with an increase in the number of councilmen and the way they are to be elected). I think it's probably all right. It would take a lot of pressure off the mayor politically."

COUNCILMAN WILLYS BLOUNT: "I'm not really opposed to it if there's a need or if that's what the people want."

COUNCILMAN NICK DEALE: "I advocated this right along. The mayor should be representative of all the people."

COUNCILMAN ROBERT JAHN: "I don't see anything wrong with it. I don't know if I'm in favor of it or not, but I would be for putting it on the ballot. I talked against it recently only for the sake of debate (before the Junior Chamber of Commerce) and because of the way it was presented before the council (insufficient details)."