

Social Sciences Get Impact

By **RONNIE SAUNDERS**
Woman's Editor
(Editor's Note: This is the third in a series of articles on what is being taught in the high school classrooms of Torrance. Previous articles dealt with the homemaking and English departments at South High School. Today's article deals with the social studies department.)

A generation ago the high school student sandwiched into his four-year schedule a variety of courses which bore such unrelated names as history, geography, civics, and economics. Subject matter was self-contained and discoveries of inter-relationships were primarily matters of chance.

Today in the high schools of Torrance a coordinated program of study known as the social sciences unifies these various aspects of man's relationship to his fellowman in the world about him.

Because curriculum—subject matter to be covered by teachers of a specific course is a growing entity in the Torrance school philosophy, changes take place as need

for change becomes apparent. **CONDUCT WORKSHOP**
This past summer, in order to comply with new state requirements and meet desires of our own community, a social studies workshop was conducted to draw up a new curriculum guide for teaching of social studies in the high schools of Torrance.

Participating in the workshop were Dr. W. B. Mager, Jr., curriculum consultant, James R. Armstrong, Egbert J. Beezhold, Garth H. Belknap, Merrill C. Loden, Jean Melton, Richard G. Muchow, John M. Nushy, Ronald Rudolph, Stephen O. Saporita, Harold S. Widney and Walter A. Condiey, chairman of the social studies department at South High School.

The program they drew up was threefold. It was designed to develop citizenship and emphasize American heritage, systematically develop an awareness of economics, and fulfill new state requirements regarding teaching of communism.

All three facets of emphasis were woven into curriculum set up for all four

grade levels. **DEVELOP MATERIALS**
Using the curriculum guide developed in the summer workshop as basis for teaching this fall, South High School is offering in addition to the four-year program an elective in economics for seniors and a greater course in California history as a companion course to a one-semester course in health and driver education, also an elective program.

Required social science courses are: world geography for freshmen, world history for sophomores, U.S. history for juniors and U.S. government for seniors.

To supplement plans made in the workshop, teachers are developing source material. They are gathering titles of related library books and compiling lists of audio visual material. At five meetings scheduled to take place this year they all re-evaluate changes they have made in the curriculum and make whatever revisions their experience indicates is needed.

Teachers at South High are hoping to develop a summer enrichment program during which time they will have an opportunity to delve more deeply into certain areas they do not have time for during the ordinary school year. Enrichment courses would include such things as: anthropology, the Colonial period, political science, sociology, psychology, comparative government.

EFFECT CHANGES
How are new requirements such as study of com-

BORDER-TO-BORDER
From the Oregon to the Mexican border, the California Highway Patrol enforces traffic laws on more than 81,000 miles of rural roads and state highways.

munism and citizenship worked into the curriculum? On a freshman level, world geography includes in its scope such things as external political and ideological influences, effects of overpopulation and under population on an economy, and American and Communist economic aid.

Sophomores are taught to develop skills in critical analysis and "problem-solving" through an understanding of world history. To help them develop these skills they are taught about the political, social, economic, and cultural forces which have contributed to the development of Western European civilization and to the evolution of communism in its present forms throughout the world. They are taught to compare and contrast democracy with other ideologies throughout world history.

Juniors study such things as America's role in a

changing world, rights and duties of citizens in a democracy, and the historic role of right and left wing radicalism.

Seniors are encouraged to continue to develop critical and logical thinking and to apply it to contemporary problems. Teachers' goals include: inculcating a sense of individual responsibility to the community, state and nation; broadening students' understanding of American ideals and institutions; and providing students with educational and vocational guidance.

Do Torrance teachers consider their job done when they have fulfilled these objectives as set down in their curriculum guide?

Not by any means, states Dr. Condiey. Today's goals serve merely as the basis on which to build tomorrow's program in the Torrance school system, according to the South High social studies department head.



U.S. GOVERNMENT studies of seniors at South High School are aimed at broadening students' understanding of American ideals and institutions. Added to curriculum this year was emphasis

on American heritage. Pictured are (l-r) Bob Woodruff, senior, and Stephen O. Saporita, curriculum coordinator. (Additional photo on Page A-10.) —PRESS photo

City's December Calendar

Listed below are meetings scheduled for the City Council and city commissions during December, 1962. Torrance residents are cordially invited to attend any of these meetings.

- City Council, Dec. 11, Council Chambers, 8 p.m.
- Recreation Commission, Dec. 12, Council Chambers, 8 p.m.
- Civil Service Board, Dec. 12, Room 21, City Hall, 7:30 p.m.
- Library Commission, Dec. 12, Room 209, City Hall, 7:30 p.m.
- Airport Commission, Dec. 13, Council Chambers, 8 p.m.
- Civil Defense and Disaster Commission, Dec. 17, Council Chambers, 7:30 p.m.
- Traffic Safety Council, Dec. 17, Room 209, City Hall, 7 p.m.
- City Council, Dec. 18, Council Chambers, 5:30 p.m.
- Planning Commission, Dec. 19, Council Chambers, 7 p.m.
- Torrance Beautiful Commission, Dec. 20, Council Chambers, 7:30 p.m.
- Youth Welfare Commission, Dec. 20, Room 209, City Hall, 8 p.m.
- Recreation Commission, Dec. 26 Council Chambers, 8 p.m.
- Airport Commission, Dec. 27, Council Chambers, 8 p.m.

Toastmaster Talks Range Wide Area

By **DON PAYNE**
Guests and members of South Bay Toastmasters Club recently heard diversified talks ranging from "The Principles and Application of Aircraft Templates" by B. F. Stevens to "The Age of Dinosaurs" by John Chadwick.

"People — Our Greatest National Resource" was the title of a speech given by Dr. Charles O. Hopkins. Spud Monahan, an avid golf fan and bibliophile, presented a unique speech covering his views of "The Wednesday Morning Book Review."

Toastmasters of the evening, Don Payne, awarded top honors for the evening to John Chadwick for his "Dinosaur Age" talk. Chadwick also displayed priceless pieces of fossilized material and plaster casts of ancient reptile footprints.

Dr. Hopkins received the runner-up award for his talk covering cultivation of our most important resource—"People."

Table Topic Master of the Evening (Impromptu speaking) Tom Esdler, awarded the impromptu speaking award of the week to Attorney John Burton.

Guests of the evening (most of them participated in the impromptu speaking)

were Clarence Hardin, Charles Stack, Lloyd Harrison, Stan Briley and Bill Deuel. The latter three were inducted as members. "Children's Night" will be featured Wednesday, Dec. 19 at 6:45 p.m. at the regular meeting place, Redondo Elks Club. Men interested in improving their speaking abilities and learning

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