

... Let's Go

By LARRY MACARAY

The underground report that the Vincent Price Collection at Sears in Los Angeles was having a \$35,000 Salvador Dali and a \$9,200 Maurice Utrillo for sale was too much for me this week. I had to see them.

Can you imagine buying a work of art like this on the easy term installment plan? According to my calculations, they would add \$4,300 credit charges onto the Dali and the monthly payments would be \$2,250. The Utrillo would, of course, be another matter. . . you would have to add \$1,000 carrying charges and the low monthly payment would be \$900.

This may be a strange way to sell paintings, but an official of the company informed me (confidentially), that in the first two days of the showing they had sold over \$10,000 worth of artwork.

THE UTRILLO was very disappointing . . . as far as I was concerned, I've seen many Utrillos, most of them in Europe and I know that he painted many fine "masterpieces" . . . but he also turned out a few canvases that he shouldn't have.

Of all the artists in history (famous artists, I should add), Utrillo seems to have been the one most copied and faked. His style is easy to copy and his signature is so erratic that sometimes he didn't recognize his own work.

I remember about two years ago when I was in Paris . . . the French Police held a giant bonfire in the Place du Tertre (Montmartre district) . . . not with old broken billy clubs or confiscated slot machines . . . but with 30 fake Utrillo paintings. This seems to be a regular ritual for the police.

AL LECOQUE, the noted painter from Paris, was a close friend of Utrillo. They painted together for several years and Lecoque seems to have been influenced to some degree by him. The last time I saw Lecoque, I asked him several questions about Utrillo and frankly . . . some of Utrillo's behavior is too rough for me to write about. On Wednesday, Aug. 5, from 9:30 to 10 p.m., a color film will be shown on KCOP, Channel 13, about Lecoque's life. "Lecoque . . . His Curious Life and Works" is the title of the film and indeed he has led an interesting and productive life that has shown no signs of slowing down.

Optimists Take Tour Of Airport

Members of the Optimist Club of Torrance took a surprise tour of the Los Angeles International Airport Monday evening during the annual Suprise Night meeting.

William D. Ritchie, director of inflight service for Continental Airlines and chairman for special events for the local club, made the arrangements.

After a tour of the airport facilities, including the flight tower, the club had dinner at the Continental Airlines cafeteria.

Mrs. Connie Martin of the Department of Airports conducted the tour, while Joe Davis, maintenance foreman, explained the hanger facilities and conducted the club on a tour of a Continental 720 jet airliner.

Guests for the evening included John Moore and Jack Harmon.

We are very fortunate to have nine of Lecoque's paintings at our gallery in Anaheim, 1425-C East Lincoln, and if your curiosity is aroused after seeing the television show, try to come out sometime soon and see the originals for yourself.

MME. CLAUDE Latour, famous by the name of Zezi de Montparnasse, is fond of painting in the style of Picasso and also, in particular, in that of Utrillo. On the other hand the clever 22-year-old dealer Jacques Marisse acquired imitations of pictures by both painters at prices from 100 to 1000 francs and sold them as originals for as much as 70,000 francs.

In 1950 Jean Pinson-Berthet became known as an especially successful fabricator of alleged "Utrillos." In 1952, he was convicted of forgery and given five years imprisonment. The pictures he produced are said to have been masterly imitations. Experts sometimes pronounced them to be originals, while maintaining genuine works by Utrillo to be forgeries by Berthet.

Lecoque told me that one of his friends, the Paris connoisseur Paul Petrides, has been making a profound study of forgeries of Utrillo's productions. Petrides, who is also a dealer, recorded all the forged Utrillos that came to his notice. About a thousand of them are listed in an appendix to his complete catalogue, issued in 1959. Through this information the French police have been able to confiscate eighty forgeries, which have been traced to various towns in France.

Births

TORRANCE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
ARNER—Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Louis, Redondo Beach, a boy, Ronald William, July 15.
BARON—Mr. and Mrs. John J. 1917 W. 188th St., a boy, John James IV, July 16.
BYRNE—Mr. and Mrs. James D. 3414 W. 228th St., a girl, Karen Louise, July 16.
BROWN—Mr. and Mrs. Jerry E. 1833 Haas Ave., a boy, Shawn Whitney, July 16.
JUSTO—Mr. and Mrs. Harding, Wilmington, a girl, Christine Juliet, July 18.
WHITSTON—Mr. and Mrs. C. L. 1904 W. 253rd St., Harbor City, a boy, Steven Lowell, July 18.
GILBY—Mr. and Mrs. Michael R., Redondo Beach, a girl, Carrie Christine, July 20.
BALIGAD—Mr. and Mrs. Roy, 22215 S. Dolores St., a boy, Richard Michael, July 21.
HARRIS—Mr. and Mrs. Sherbie, 2181 W. 233rd Place, Lomita, a boy, Mark Harris, July 21.
SANDERS—Mr. and Mrs. Billy C., 26014 Pennsylvania Ave., Lomita, a girl, Barbara Ann, July 22.
SABELLA—Mr. and Mrs. Joseph, 1742C Cabrillo Ave., a boy, Joseph Anthony, July 22.
BECKER—Mr. and Mrs. James P., Huntington Beach, a boy, Michael William, July 22.
ELDRED—Mr. and Mrs. Gary H., 26023 Eshelman Ave., Lomita, a girl, Michelle Leann, July 23.
BOYD—Mr. and Mrs. Robert C., 1548 W. 220th St., a boy, Thomas Timothy, July 23.
MARAN—Mr. and Mrs. Jerry, 3407 W. 227th St., a boy, Todd Carter, July 23.
DAVIS—Mr. and Mrs. Fred, 24724 Winlock Dr., a boy, Randall Stephen, July 26.
IVERSON—Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth D., 21141 Berendo Ave., a girl, Cheri Joannette, July 26.
RICKERTS—Mr. and Mrs. E. E., Oceanside, a boy, Lawrence Martin, July 26.

FRATERNAL IDEA
 The establishment of residential fraternities which would organize student living around ideas rather than social life has been proposed by a University of California, Santa Barbara, administrator.

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NEW MAY CO. . . . This new 248,000 square foot May Co. California store opens Monday at Pico and Overland boulevards. The three story structure depicts the Southern California way of life with sand-cast murals illustrating forms in relief representing the sun, bird, water, flower and fish symbols just below the skylights. A parking center in the rear consists of five separate levels with parking space for more than 1,600 cars.

Arcadia Firm Submits Low Channel Bid

Supervisor Burton W. Chace has announced filing of an apparent low bid of \$4,341,429 by Peter Kiewit Sons' Co., Arcadia, for construction of the final unit of the Dominguez Channel flood control improvement.

The firm's offer was low among five proposals submitted to M. E. Salsbury, chief engineer of the County Flood Control District. Chace said District engineers will review all proposals and recommend award of contract to the low bidder this week.

Slated for construction are about two and one-half miles of channel which will link up

the section between Avalon Boulevard and Vermont Avenue. Routing of the new section will roughly parallel the San Diego Freeway and cross under the Harbor Freeway.

Sets Loan Record
 Home Savings and Loan Association led all other financial institutions in real estate lending volume in Los Angeles County during the first six months of 1964.

Home Savings and Loan recorded 9,274 loans amounting to more than \$294 million during the six months.

VFW Ladies Announce New Award

In an effort to encourage American youngsters and stimulate their ideals of patriotism and good citizenship, the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars has announced plans for a new annual Americanism Award competition open to 19 enrolled in a private, parochial, or public high school or college.

The competition is open to any student between 16 and 19 enrolled in a private, parochial, or public high school or college. National winners will be announced at the national convention of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. JUDGING will be based on an essay of not more than 300 words on the subject "In Education Rests the Future of America." School activities, citizenship, academic standing, and character also will be considered in the judging. Prizes for state and local winners will vary according to the local rules.

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