

...Let's Go

By LARRY MACARAY

In case you are going to Rome this summer, don't miss an operatic performance at the Baths of Caracalla. Sounds crazy—but some of the finest operas performed in Europe, are at the reconstructed ruins of Rome's famous gathering place during its most magnificent period of existence.

Can't remember exactly how much a good ticket costs—but it's like \$2 or \$3, and that's a bargain anyway you look at it. The first performances were held in 1937 as a trial run and it proved so successful that from five performances it has now grown to 40 performances a season (during the summer months when most of the great opera halls of Europe are closed.)

Among the splendid ruins of the Thermes of Antonino, is the biggest stage in the world. Its surface covers 1,500 square yards. The rake of the stage is about 10 per cent which accounts for all of the falling by the dancers

in "Carmen" when I saw it performed there in 1963. Its seating capacity is well over 20,000 people. During the peak of the tourist season in the summer months, it's very difficult to purchase good seats—unless you have an inside track.

IT'S STRANGE that these operas are being performed in such a place as the ruins of ancient Rome. But then, as it is now, it was the gathering place for a vital communal activity. Bathing was considered to be a basic social duty and therefore the highest architectural and constructional skills were employed in the development of the baths. The colossal scale of these baths is difficult to grasp. More than 1,600 bathers could be taken care of at one time. Around the three main halls of the Baths of Caracalla were a park, stadium, and lecture rooms.

Even today, some of the ruins of the overhead aqueducts are still standing and incidentally make a big impression on the tourists. Most of the Roman aqueducts were mainly underground, with only about 30 miles above ground. This is just a small percentage of the total 220 miles of aqueduct that comprised the eight main aqueducts in 52 A.D.

PSYCHIATRISTS would have a field day trying to figure out why at its peak, Rome supplied 300 gallons of water per head per day. A constant concern with cleanliness (to an extraordinary degree) is indicative of many strange quirks in the individual, at least that's the findings of many prominent psychologists, etc.

In comparison, New York City provides a daily total of just 150 gallons of water per individual per day and London uses about 51 gallons per person per day. The Romans must surely have wasted more water than we do today, but by the same token, they must have used more for bathing.

What should we conclude? Are the English more well-adjusted and less frustrated than the Romans were? Are the English dirtier than we are—or are the sales of cologne and toilet water higher in London?

APPARENTLY the Roman bath was a real ritual. A game of tennis to warm up—enter the "tepidarium" to sweat a little with their clothes on—then undress in the apodyterium and get anointed.

The rules were that you would have to bring your own special oil, but not to expect any soap. If a Roman had dirtied himself changing a chariot wheel or some similar activity—a little sand could be used with the oil as an abrasive.

From then on—it went rapidly—into the hot room to have water poured, get scraped, sponged and then finally a dip in the cold water before joining friends for the latest news about the Christian riots or the local elections.

Gas Utility Seeks Low Rate Okay
An authorization to reduce natural gas rates to Southland customers by about \$2.3 million annually is being sought by the Southern California Gas Co.

The reduction will become effective Jan. 1 if approved by the California Public Utilities Commission and would be the fourth major gas rate reduction here in two years. It would increase total annual savings to Southland customers to more than \$25 million during this period.

This latest reduction is made possible by a growth in gas sales, particularly to large customers, coupled with availability of temporary supplies of lower cost gas, according to a company spokesman.

If applications for permanent low-cost gas supplies now pending before the Federal Power Commission (FPC) in Washington, D.C., are approved, additional reductions may be expected.

SOLUTION
A crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1 through 30.

More People Are Reading More, Despite Television

By REYNOLDS KNIGHT
In this television age it is blithely assumed that "no one reads any more." But the printing industry turned out 25 billion newspapers, including the one you are reading; more than a billion hard-back books, and 10 million magazines. Not to mention paperbacks, pamphlets, and educational and direct mail materials.

Yes, people are reading, however much they watch television. In fact national advertisers are reported turning back to newspapers and magazines, and the publication Printers' Ink finds newspapers the first choice of advertisers and growing much faster than either television or the general magazines.

SUCCESS ABROAD—"Domestic" triumph: Wines of the California winery of Cresta Blanca won a gold medal and two silver medals at the 10th annual International Wine Fair, held recently in Ljubljana, Yugoslavia, competing against the best of the European wineries had to offer.

Four California wineries had entered a total of 15 wines in the contest, and Cresta Blanca's Premier Semillon was rated highest of the American entries, in addition to receiving a gold medal award. Winners of the silver medals were Cresta Blanca's Dry Watch Cocktail Sherry and its Triple Cream Sherry.

The Yugoslav contest attracted 1,100 entries from 25 countries.

The success abroad of American wines in international competition underscores the giant strides American wine growers have taken in perfecting just the right grapes with which to produce wines pleasing to the palate and pleasing to the judges of international contests.

KEEPS ON SHINING—American women spend approximately \$100 million yearly for floor waxes, both the buffing kind and the type that dries to a shine.

The latter have become steadily more popular ever since they were introduced in 1932. It's a real work-saving development that homemakers welcomed, and still like.

Now a leading manufacturer has come up with a new floor wax that it terms the most significant floor-finish development of the past 32 years.

The Johnson Wax firm now is marketing in the Northeast, and expects to distribute nationally soon after the introductory period, a new floor finish called "Bravo." The company contends the new self-polishing wax for the first time enables a homemaker to wash a shiny floor with a detergent solution without dulling the gloss, but still remove the wax easily when necessary, by adding a common household chemical—ammonia—to the detergent solution.

Company chemists turned to a rare element—zirconium—to develop the product, for which a patent is pending.

SCIENCE NEWS—The U.S. Navy has begun a study of the navigational abilities of the green turtle, with the idea of restoring the turtle population of numerous Caribbean islands where the chelonian once was a food staple but has since died out. Thousands of baby turtles have been transplanted by the Navy from Costa Rica breeding grounds (the last in existence) to beaches in Mexico, Florida, Colombia and the Caribbean. If the turtles return to these sands and do not try to go back to Costa Rica to lay their eggs, then the turtle conceivably can be restored as a food source in areas where it was once plentiful.

With all the other aids to criminal detection at their fingertips, the police soon may be able to track a crook by the metals in his hair, literally. Science finds that each of us has traces of about 17 metals and with modern methods these traces can be "matched up" to the disfigurement of the criminal.

Bumping and jarring of hospital patients while they're being moved from place to place may soon disappear for good. A shock-absorbing wheel has been developed to take the bumps and jolts now felt by the patient. Athlete's foot and other fungus infections may be on the way to oblivion. The victor may be a new anti-fungus agent, called tolnaftate, which is re-

ported highly successful in tests.

THINGS TO COME—A pocket timer that can also be carried in a purse if you are a woman. Set for any interval between five minutes and one hour, it softly buzzes at the end of pre-set interval. Useful reminder for taking pills or remembering parking time limits. Fluorescent markers that can be used on

any surface—paper, leather, plastic. The felt-tipped markers come in five colors. Especially useful for marking Junior's bicycle for night riding. Electric travel kit. Operates on single battery. Includes two toothbrushes, man's and lady's shaver, body massager and hairbrush massager. Quick battery charger. Works through cigarette lighter on

car, into which one end of cord is plugged. Other end goes into regular electric outlet.

BITS O' BUSINESS—Reflecting industrial gains, sales of electronic and electrical equipment should reach another high level in 1965, on the basis of an anticipated five per cent rise in electronic sales to \$16.8 billion, and a three per cent climb in electrical sales to \$28 billion, and a three per cent climb in electronic sales to \$28 billion. The daily rate of steel production in November has been above that for October. Chemical companies, with a rise of around 11 per cent in sales in the first nine months of 1964, are looking forward to another good year in 1965.

By Fred Harman

RED RYDER



Award Won By Head Of AT&T

The Gold Medal Award of the National Institute of Social Sciences has been awarded Frederick R. Kappel, board chairman of the American Telephone & Telegraph Co. (AT&T), parent of the local Pacific Telephone Co.

Kappel was cited for his contributions to human welfare and as a leader of corporate enterprise who has contributed to the primacy of the United States in industry and technology.

Jim Leggett, Torrance manager for Pacific Telephone, announced the presentation was made at a recent banquet in New York by Frank Pace, Jr., president of the institute and chairman of the executive committee of the International Executive Service Corps.

Other award winners were Secretary of State Dean Rusk, Senator Margaret Chase Smith of Maine, and comedian Bob Hope.

Aeronca to Develop Hopper Car

A joint research and development program to construct and test railroad hopper cars has been announced by the Southern Railway System and Aeronca Manufacturing Corp.

Aeronca will go into production immediately to supply a prototype car consisting of four modular units. The experimental car will be produced in Middletown, Ohio and delivery will be in approximately five months.

The new hopper car is light in weight and is designed for improved riding qualities, higher mechanical reliability and increased annual mileage.

"Aeronca recognized some time ago that railroads have a real need for a unit hopper car," stated S. J. Kuderer, Aeronca's president. "The joint research and development effort is another big step in Aeronca's diversification into new and promising commercial areas," he continued.

Easement for Sewer Granted

An easement over a parcel of County Flood Control District property near 223rd Street and Wilmington Avenue has been approved by the Board of Supervisors.

The easement was granted for sanitary sewer lines.

Tartar Teen Talk

By Pam Fleming

Members of Torrance High's Student Council and other students participated in the city-sponsored Junior Citizen's Day Nov. 24.

Joining students from other Torrance high schools, Tartars worked in assigned offices for a short period in the afternoon. Following the actual work experience, students toured the Civic Center, airport and fire station.

A banquet was held at Josslyn Center, with both junior and senior city officials attending. Principal speaker at the banquet was Gordon W. McGinley, vice-president of Security First National Bank and vice mayor of San Gabriel.

STUDENT councilmen conducted the council meeting, with other junior officers participating. The two council representatives from Torrance High were Alvin Sanga, ASB president, who took Councilman Lyman's position and Alan Schwartz, senior class president, who served as Councilman Vico.

Other participants were Roger Webb, city clerk; Mary Boughen, license director; Eddie Watson, police chief; Judy Rynhart, ass't. recreation director; Pam Fleming, account collector; Debbie Lifton, secretary to recreation director; Carole Clarke, secretary to traffic engineer, and Connie Eggleston, secretary to city manager.

Pam Robinson, secretary to civil eng.; Ginny Lahey, secretary to ass't. police chief; Julie Takayama, legal secretary; Pat Meyer, Nurse; Jim Crew, airport commissioner; and Dennis Masaki, civil defense chairman.

Nanci Barnard, civil service comm.; Janis Albright, library comm.; Shron Coffee, planning comm.; Robin Bingham, Torrance Beautiful chairman; Danny Williams, Torrance Beautiful comm.; Tom Posner, water comm.; and Bobbie Homans, Youth Welfare comm.

SUZANNA HALL, a folk singer, appeared at a Tartar

aud call held Nov. 24. Singing to the accompaniment of her guitar, Miss Hall presented a program of folk music and comedy for THS students.

Official opening for this year's basketball season was Wednesday, when the '64-'65 Tartar squad met North High in Pacific Shores Tournament. High goals have been set for the team by Coach Willard Boerger and Captain Bob Brennan. Varsity members include Walter Hale, Fred Carpenter, Jon Chaykowski, Bob Whitney, Art Fisher, Bart Johnson, John Osborne, John Ziemke, Dick Kreul, Robin Fisher, and Charles Bush.

Announcing... The annual Canned Foods Drive at Torrance High School. Beginning on Monday, the drive will last through December 18. Each class will be in competition for the highest contributions. Canned goods collected will go to needy families as a Christmas season gesture. So... catch the seasonal spirit early by aiding Tartars in the drive.

STILL PUZZLING over last week's puzzler... Frohes Fest is coming? That's good! In honor of our Austrian Foreign exchange student this year's Winter Formal has been given an Austrian Christmas Theme. Frohes Fest, sponsored by Student Council, will be held December 18 at the Torrance Elks' Lodge. The dance will serve as the official opening of Christmas vacation for Tartars.

Climax of the canned goods drive will come this night, when the winning class is announced. It will be a gala occasion and THS ASB card holders may purchase bids for \$2. Other students may buy tickets for \$2.50. See you next week!

There will be no admission charge but donations will be accepted to support the Torrance YMCA building fund.