

Have You Seen Any Fireballs?

The University of Southern California's Department of Astronomy is looking for fireball reporters.

Dr. John Russell, chairman of the department, said today that his office seeks volunteer help from anyone who has sighted one of the several meteors or "fireballs" recently observed in the skies of southern California.

The help can come in answers to questions such as these:

- Where was the observer when he saw the fireball?
- At what time and on what date was the fireball sighted?
- In what direction was the object when it disappeared?

ANY FIREBALL observer who is willing to become a fireball reporter may do so by mailing a card with his name and address on it to Dr. John Russell, Department of Astronomy, University of Southern California, University Park, Los Angeles, California 90007, or by calling 746-2480. The observer will then be sent a simple report form on which he can note his observations.

Reports from any observers could determine the location of a recent fall, although this has never happened in the history of California, Dr. Russell said. The number of meteorites recovered as the

result of observation in the skies is only about 600 for the whole world, although more than 1,000 others have been discovered accidentally by "rock hounds, berry pickers, and a few geologists and astronomers," Dr. Russell said.

Sure that the fireball sightings are observations of meteors, the USC professor classes this recent flurry of activity as "very unusual."

SOME OTHER fireball facts: • The color of the brilliant meteorite objects will change dramatically from white to blue to red, becoming much redder as it nears the end of its path.

• The amount of light seen is decreasing in terms of the actual sizes of the meteorite picked up on earth. "You can get a pretty bright fireball out of a meteorite the size of your flat," says Dr. Russell.

• While the breaking up which occurs as the meteor enters the earth's atmosphere usually makes the meteorites hard to find, it's probably a good thing: the big meteor which struck in Siberia in 1947 is estimated to have been on the order of 200 to 300 tons, of which 100 tons of material survived the space trip and landed with enough force to be picked up on the world's seismographs.

Want Adequate Pressure

County Seeks Reversal Of Court Water Order

The Board of Supervisors has ordered preparation of a petition to the California Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to require adequate fire fighting water pressures in systems of some southland water companies.

Board Chairman Burton W. Chace said PUC action is being sought because of a Superior Court ruling that local authorities cannot regulate investor-owned public utility water companies.

"The court also enjoined the county from enforcing the County Water Ordinance, which previously provided fire protection standards for public safety," Chace declared.

"THERE ARE some areas in the county which may not have proper fire protection because of inadequate pressures and supplies in water systems of companies serving these locales," he added.

The county is appealing the Superior Court ruling. Los Angeles County in 1961 requested the PUC amend its

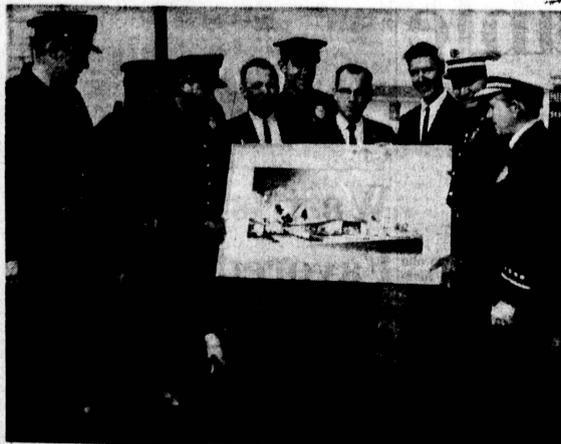
regulations to set minimum fire flow standards of companies under its jurisdiction.

CHACE SAID the commission took no action in the belief that "local authorities" can best prescribe for such conditions.

"Such a belief is sound," Chace pointed out, "but apparently is beyond our legal means to carry out in light of the court ruling."

Because of this, the Board of Supervisors Tuesday instructed County Counsel Harold Kennedy to prepare a petition to the PUC, requesting County Engineer John A. Lambie and Fire Chief Keith E. Klinger to assist the commission in study of the situation.

TO ATTEND SESSION Dr. J. H. Hull, Torrance superintendent of schools, will attend a meeting of the conference committee of the California Association of School Administrators in Burlingame Jan. 26. The meeting will serve as a planning session for next year's program.



WITH STATION PLANS . . . Supervisor Kenneth Hahn displays an architect's rendering of the new County Fire Station No. 36, to be built at 127 W. 223rd St., to members of the company on duty at the station. Plans for the new facility, designed by architect Clyde Grimes, were approved yesterday by the Board of Supervisors. Pictured are Bobby Alexander (kneeling) and from left) Richard Van Vleck, Joseph Whiteside, Engineer Charles Wilkey, Assistant Division Chief Walter Meagher, Ervin Nelson, Supervisor Hahn, Battalion Chief Paul Schneider, Captain Andrew VanderWeyde, and Battalion Chief Ray Nansel.

State Junior Colleges Face Money Problems

If additional tax support is not provided, California's burgeoning junior colleges will have to take "drastic steps" to solve their mounting financial problems, says a junior college president.

Dr. Alban E. Reid, Jr., of Blythe, president of Palos Verdes College, recently completed an extensive study of the California Public Junior College System to earn his doctor of education degree at the University of Southern California School of Education.

Tuition charges and fees are not the answer to the junior colleges' problems, Dr. Reid concludes from his study.

"Imposition of fees and tuition charges may tend to deny educational opportunity to that segment of the population most in need of help," he says.

DR. REID predicts that unless the junior colleges continue to meet the needs of those who presently take advantage of the tuition-free system, a new type of institution financed and supported from federal funds may emerge.

In his study, "The History of the Junior College Movement in California," Dr. Reid says the junior colleges had to struggle to gain legal, financial, and academic status. He said they survived because they offered an educational program which continually changed to meet the needs of individual members of the community served by the school.

"BUT STEPS are now being taken to limit junior college programs and enrollments in order to curtail the rising demand for state and local support of higher education," he said.

"State lawmakers, though they have recognized the importance of the junior college to the total system of education in California, have as yet done little to solve the financial problems created by the continued growth of this institution," he said.

AS A RESULT of his study, Dr. Reid has five recommendations for the survival of the junior college system:

- 1) Junior colleges should continue to build their educational programs in response to local needs.
- 2) Financial support to sustain their present broad programs should be solicited from both state and local sources by direct appeal to

their legislators and their constituents before resorting to the imposition of fees and tuition charges.

3) Steps should be taken to strengthen the several educational programs of the junior colleges by organizing them into sub-administrative groupings with appropriate standards for each.

4) They should strive to achieve the organization of a state-wide framework for administration of the junior college program in order to assure a consistent level of effort and support.

5) Junior colleges should attempt to secure federal support for those portions of their programs to which the federal government has indicated a commitment, so as to reinforce their financial position while at the same time forestalling federal entry into the operation of a fourth segment of post-high school education in California.

Two Hospital Employees Valor Award Nominees

Nominated for Valor Awards by the 30,000-member Los Angeles County Employees Association are two women employees at Harbor General Hospital who disregarded their own safety to prevent a patient in the Psychiatric Ward from leaping to her death.

The incident occurred last July when the patient bolted from the Psychiatric Ward on the eighth floor, smashed the window of a visiting room and started through head-

first. She was straddling the window sill with one leg outside when Mrs. Susan Guthrie, a nurse attendant, reached her. Mrs. Guthrie, an expectant mother, grabbed the patient's ankle and braced herself against the wall, screaming for help.

Mrs. Mable Hawkins, an attendant, heard the sound of breaking glass. She rushed to the scene in time to help Mrs. Guthrie. The two women held on until a custodian came to their assistance, and the patient was eased back through the jagged glass without injury.

FOR THEIR action in preventing the suicide leap with complete disregard of personal danger, the County Employees Association nominated both women for Valor Awards.

In the words of David Gershon, public relations officer for Harbor General Hospital: "We feel these two employees exemplify the type of county employee the association wishes to commend for outstanding valor."

The LACEA Valor Awards will be presented annually at a special ceremony.

Changes in Storm Drain Authorized

The Board of Supervisors has approved minor changes in one line of the proposed Redondo Beach storm drain, Supervisor Chairman Burton W. Chace said today.

The action was recommended by County Flood Control District Chief Walter J. Wood. Chace said the change involves moving a section of line A from its original route through a utility company right-of-way.

The realigned facility will cost about the same as the original route and will serve a similar drainage area, the supervisor added.

Ann Landers Says

Problems Are Real When They're Yours



Dear Ann Landers: I'm a teenage boy with problems. I like girls and girls like me but I am not going steady with any of them and I don't want to. I work hard in school and get "As" and "Bs". So what am I writing about?

I read your column every day and so does everybody I know. I have decided that the people who write to you are nuts.

I always cover up your answer and guess what it will be and I'm usually right. I'm not brilliant or anything like that. I just use common sense. Why can't people who write to you do the same thing? Then they wouldn't have to write.

I am not trying to put you out of business, Ann, but then there's no danger of that. Like most sensible things, this letter will be ignored and people will continue to write you those crazy letters.—NO SWEAT

Dear No: I guess it's too much to expect a 15-year-old boy to have empathy (look it up) but this is what you lack.

Somebody else's problem might look nuts, but when (and if) the problem is your own you'll use a less brutal adjective.

People in trouble are often too emotional to see the solution that is obvious to an unbiased outsider. Under stress this thing you call "common sense" is not so common.

If you get through the next two years without a problem, please write to me and send your address.

I want to send out a photograph.

Dear Ann Landers: I am 23 years old but I look about 17. I am married to a man who is 33 but looks 10 years older. Unfortunately Mike is quite bald and weighs about 30 pounds more than he should.

It just kills me when people mistake Mike for my father. We used to laugh when people made remarks to Mike about his "cute daughter," but it's not funny anymore. Please tell me what to do about it.—OLDER THAN I LOOK

Dear Chicken: You say you are 23 but look 17. Do you wear teen-type clothes? If so, get out of the Junior Department. And maybe a more sophisticated hair-do would be helpful.

As for Mike, he should get his weight down and keep his hat on whenever possible.

Dear Ann Landers: I read the letter from the sitter who signed herself "Starved." She was complaining about the woman not having anything to eat in the house.

I am a 15-year-old sitter, and I'm sitting right now. There are soft drinks in the fridge, a chocolate cake in the breadbox, and fresh fruit, too. I have access to color TV and the telephone. So what's my complaint? Well, Ann, it is almost 4 a.m. and this is Tuesday night. I have to get up and go to school in three hours and the people aren't even home yet.

I like these folks a lot and

I don't mind sitting on weekends until any hour. But on weekdays I'm no good in school when I haven't had a decent night's sleep.

What do I do? — BEAT RITA

Dear Rita: Where is your mother anyway? No 15-year-old girl should be permitted to sit for people who keep her out until dawn. In fact, I am opposed to any mid-week sitting that goes over a girl's regular bedtime.

Tell these people you are unable to sit for them on school nights unless you can be home by 11:30 p.m.

What is "French kissing"? Is it wrong? Who should set the dating limits—the boy or the girl? Can a shotgun wedding succeed? Read Ann Landers' booklet, "Teen, Sex, Sex—Ten Ways to Cool It." Send 50 cents in coin and a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope. Ann Landers will be glad to help you with your problems. Send them to her in care of this newspaper, enclosing a stamped, self-addressed envelope. C. H. Clark, Publishers Newspaper Syndicate

Farm Bureau Sets Meeting On Flowers

Speaker at the Los Angeles County Farm Bureau meeting Friday will be Dr. Anton Kofranek, professor of Floriculture and Plant Physiology, University of California at Los Angeles.

He will discuss his recent work with mums, carnations and Easter lilies. The dinner meeting will be held at the Cockatoo Inn, 4334 W. Imperial Hwy., at 7 p.m.

Press-Herald Sunday Crossword

(Answers on page A-6)

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COUNT MARCO

This Housewife Isn't Average

Mon Dieu! Here is a woman who considers herself average. If she is average I'd hate to think what the rest of you would be considered. Wherever she's burying her head, it must be pretty deep.

"I am not familiar with what goes on in supermarkets," she says, "because I go very seldom.

"As an average American housewife I have set up a system. There is a card file in my recipe index listing every item used in the kitchen and the house. One card covers refrigerated items, one dry goods, one canned goods, one paper goods, one drug-store supplies, etc.

Approximately every four or five weeks I sit down with my file and make a list of everything needed for the next four or five weeks. This is done systematically. For instance, in my supermarket I come to fresh vegetables first, then the meat counter. So I make the list to follow on through the store, and I don't have to go running from one end to the other.

50 pounds or so. And of course beef and pork have their low and high times. At present I have 50 chickens frozen.

"It takes me approximately one hour to go through the market and pick up the month's supplies. I fill at least two baskets to overflowing. I never run out of anything, and I average going to the market 11 times a year.

"This leaves me time for my other activities, which include minding my ten-month-old baby, keeping my husband's office and books for his business and acting as his secretary, doing the housework, growing a large garden in the spring and filling the freezer in the summer, and sitting down with my husband when he comes home at night. I also sew and try to read 30 minutes a day.

"But I consider myself an average American housewife. There is nothing special about me, except that I don't go to the grocery in hair rollers. And when fresh milk or bread runs low, my husband often picks it up for me on his way home. MRS. J.S."

But for the fact that she doesn't bake her own bread, I would consider her a very unusual and far-above-average housewife; wouldn't you? I must set her straight. The average housewife, as I see

her, is one who not only runs through the supermarket helter-skelter looking for items, but is also confusedly chasing down the little brats she drags along who constantly distract her from her duties.

The average housewife not only does NOT restrict herself to 11 visits to the market a year, but usually manages to dash to the store every day just about the time her beast is due.

She snatches up five or six items, scratches her hair rollers trying to remember what the seventh was supposed to be, and heads for home.

A system, to most of you, is something connected with beating the horses at the race track. A recipe book is something you received as a wedding present and is opened only when you consider special guests.

Most of you women could save precious time and have more money to spend toward romance if you would learn to shop intelligently. You can shop intelligently only if you prepare far enough in advance.

So why not stop being average in your own fashion and try to be average in the fashion of the one who THINKS she's average and is superior? Or are you too lazy to attempt it?