

Reptile House Complete, Opening of Zoo Nov. 28

Lizards that bark like dogs, Australia's highly venomous Tiger and King Brown snakes, more than a dozen kinds of rattlesnakes including the largest Eastern Diamondback in any Zoo collection in the world—these and many other unusual and interesting specimens make up the new Los Angeles Zoo's Reptile House collection which has now been almost fully assembled.

The new zoo opens in Griffith Park on Monday, Nov. 28. The collection includes many rare snakes and lizards and even contains several specimens of one of the world's largest toads, the Blomberg Toad, which is a neat eater.

ALL EXHIBITS will be fully labeled with unusual back-lighted graphics which will identify the snake, the continent upon which it is found and information of unusual interest about the specimen. Within each exhibit enclosure will be outstanding specimens of rocks and minerals provided the zoo by Southern California lapidary societies.

Among the larger snakes in the collection will be a 21-foot Regal Python, a 7-foot Eastern Diamondback Rattlesnake, and a 5-foot Puff Adder the largest of its kind known to be in any zoo.

South American reptiles are represented by the highly venomous pit vipers—the Fer-de-Lance and the Bushmaster. The cobra collection has several species including the biggest of them all—the King Cobra—and such rare specimens as the Gold Tree Cobra and Spitting Cobras.

AMONG rattlesnakes on display are these species: Arizona Black, Great Basin, Tiger, Mexican West Coast, Red Diamond, Southern Pacific, Mojave, Speckled, Timor and information of unusual interest about the specimen. Northern Pacific, Black-Tailed, Southeastern Pygmy,

Arizona Twin-Spotted, and Black South American. There are Puff, Night, and Horned Adders; and 15 kinds of vipers including the Gaboon, sometimes called the nearest thing to instant death in the entire snake family.

There are also the colorful pythons such as Amethystine, Green Tree, Diamond Carpet, African Rock, Ball, Indian, Blood, and even a Children's Python.

THE BOAS exhibited include the Colombian Rosy Rubber, Smooth-Scaled Sand, Emerald Tree, Boa Constrictor, Brazilian Rainbow, Cook's Tree, and Roughscaled Sand.

The lizards include many unusual specimens such as the Tokay Gecko, a little creature that makes dog-like barking sounds when annoyed or alarmed.

The total collection is made up of 210 separate exhibits, making it one of the largest and most complete in the United States.

Party Will Aid Fight Against Proposition 16

The South Bay chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union will sponsor a cocktail party Friday at 8 p.m. at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Ogawa, 22947 Felbar Ave.

Purpose of the party is to raise funds for the campaign against Proposition 16, an anti-obscenity measure on the Nov. 8 ballot. Robert Kirsch, editor of the Calendar Section of the Los Angeles Times, will be a special guest.

A donation of \$2 per person is being asked.

New Reading Equipment Voted for Two Schools

Purchase of \$5,000 worth of special reading equipment to improve reading instruction at two Torrance high schools has been authorized by the Board of Education.

The equipment—speed reading machines, projectors, and other materials associated with the remedial reading programs at the high school level—will be installed at South and West High Schools.

Similar equipment is now in use at North and Torrance high schools. It was purchased with federal funds under a section of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, but the expenditure of funds under the act is limited to areas which have "a concentration of low income families," according to Dr. Albert Posner, assistant superintendent of schools.

Posner told the board the purchase of the machines for South High Class Play

Announced

Tennessee Williams' "The Glass Menagerie" will be presented at South High School Friday and Saturday, Dec. 2 and 3. Ronald Childers, drama instructor, will direct the play.

Jackie Bromm will be featured as Laura, a girl afflicted with a slight crippling handicap who creates a world of her own with glass animals.

Others in the cast include Robb Atha as the son, Karen Rasmussen as the mother, and Mike Lewis as the gentleman caller.

Williams' drama revolves about the mental anxiety of the four characters.

Blood Pressure Has Wide Range in Man

There is so wide a range in the level of blood pressure of the average person that it is not always easy to determine whether high blood pressure exists. Any number of factors can temporarily elevate the blood pressure of persons who may not have a pathological condition. Worry will do it and so will undue physical exertion.

Yet, from a medical point of view, it is very important to make a correct diagnosis and start a course of treatment, since high blood pressure (hypertension) can be a serious health problem. It can affect the heart, kidneys, large blood vessels, eyes, and brain; and it plays some part in the final cause of death of between 20-30 per cent of the population.

ON THE BASIS of these recordings, the doctor knows whether the high blood pressure is transient and triggered by emotional factors or is persistent and should be treated. He also has a better way of gauging the effectiveness of medication he has prescribed.

About 20 per cent of the cases of high blood pressure are caused by some underlying disease of the kidneys, the blood vessels leading to the kidneys, or the adrenal glands. Toxemia during pregnancy may cause high blood pressure, and, in rare cases, it is caused by a congenital narrowing of the aorta.

Most cases of hypertension, however, are of unknown origin. This type, called "essential" hypertension, usually shows up between the ages of 35 and 55, is more common in women than in men, and frequently occurs in families in which there has been some history of high blood pressure.

MANY PEOPLE with high blood pressure complain of headache, light-headedness, loss of energy and palpitation of the heart. However, these symptoms often show up only when the doctor begins his examination. This problem is now well on its way to being solved, thanks to a portable blood pressure recorder which has been developed in connection with research being done at the University of California. This recorder is worn by a person as he goes

about his normal daily activities and it can register up to 30 blood pressure readings a day.

Many people who have mild to moderate high blood pressure require relatively little treatment and need not feel that their health is jeopardized so long as they keep in touch with their doctor so that he can check on the possibility of complications. Correction of overweight is important as a general health measure as well as for aiding hypertension.

THE NEW tranquilizing drugs have proved to be effective in managing most cases of hypertension. In more severe cases, there is now medication available which will block nerve impulses and permit blood vessels to dilate to their normal size. Advances in surgery have brought new hope to hypertensives, too; when the cause is due to narrowing of the aorta or kidney arteries, these conditions can be corrected surgically.

More accurate methods of diagnosis and revolutionary new methods of treatment have considerably reduced the hazards of high blood pressure in the last dozen years.

(Prepared and released as a public service by the California Medical Association.)

Service Cited

Kathie von Blankenburg of 700 Calle de Arboles has received a special citation from the Los Angeles Job Corps Training Center for Women. Miss von Blankenburg was honored for more than 300 hours of volunteer service.

Laughs, Lies Highlight Meeting of Toastmasters

Laughter and lies highlighted a meeting of the Torrance Toastmasters Club 695 last Saturday when members and their wives were called on to select contestants for a humorous speech and liars contest.

The contest will be held Saturday, Oct. 29, with all clubs in the area entering contestants.

Jim Hagaman was named the most convincing liar of the club. Hagaman is the club's sergeant-at-arms.

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'Drug Takers' Discussed by Panel Members

James Brodsky, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Brodsky of 1940 W. 182nd St., participated as a panelist at a Celebrity Series symposium at the University of the Pacific in Stockton, Calif.

He and several other students and faculty members spoke during the symposium on "The Drug Takers" Friday.

Brodsky, a senior pharmacy major, is a member of Kappa Psi. He is a graduate of North High School.

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