

District Attorney Reports

Younger Notes Activities of Child Support Section

(Editor's note: This is the second in a three-part series on local activities of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office.)

The Child Support Division of the District Attorney's Office is concerned with the investigation, preparation and prosecution of failure to provide support for children, District Attorney Evelle J. Younger notes in the department's recent annual report.

As a convenience to citizens, the District Attorney's Office maintains regional offices throughout the county including one at 2810 Artesia Blvd., Redondo Beach.

There are three principal sections in the division: enforcement of civil reciprocal

support laws, enforcement of local court orders for child support by contempt proceedings, and criminal prosecutions for failure to provide.

THE RECIPROCAL Support Section initiates civil actions under the Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act to obtain child support from fathers in other states whose children are receiving public assistance in Los Angeles County.

Whenever such procedure is indicated, the aid recipient is referred to the District Attorney by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services and a civil complaint is prepared, filed in Superior Court here and forwarded to the state

where the father resides for enforcement.

During a recent 12-month period, said Younger, his office initiated 580 such cases.

DISTRICT attorneys in these other states represent the plaintiffs that reside in this county and obtain child support orders through court proceedings.

To reciprocate, the Los Angeles County District Attorney prosecutes for other states all cases that are transmitted here. During a recent 12-month period, 6,911 cases of this type were prosecuted here.

The Contempt Section initiates contempt of court proceedings in divorce or separate maintenance ac-

tions where the father has been ordered to pay child support to the court trustee under provisions of Los Angeles Superior Court Rule 28.

IN A RECENT 12-month period, the District Attorney prosecuted 14,322 such cases.

The criminal prosecution or Failure to Provide Section obtains agreements for child support or, if this fails, prosecutes the responsible parties for criminal non-support. More than 17,000 such investigations were open in a recent 12-month period.

BUREAU of Investigation — In the department's annual report, District Attorney Younger notes that the

Bureau is charged with the responsibility of conducting investigations and has a staff of 224 employees.

The main office in downtown Los Angeles is divided into nine sections: General Assignment, Major Frauds, Auditors, Welfare Frauds, Intelligence, Special Investigations, Trial Liaison, Warrants and Services.

The Bureau also maintains six branch offices in addition to the child support offices.

Branch offices of the Bureau of Investigation are located in Inglewood, Long Beach, Pasadena, Pomona, Santa Monica, and Van Nuys.

MAJOR Frauds Division — This division has set up a procedure to expedite the

handling of complex commercial frauds, and the individual prosecutor supervises the investigation, preparation of the complaint or rejection of the matter, the presentation of evidence to the County Grand Jury or at a preliminary hearing and the trial.

Corporate and business frauds comprised the bulk of cases opened for investigation by this division last year.

Whether it is embezzlement of public funds, widespread financial manipulation, falsification or forgery of business records or complicated real estate or business swindles, this division prosecutes fraudulent conduct of individuals or groups of individuals who engage in

financial thievery under the guise of legitimate transactions, said Younger.

APPELLATE Division — This section has the responsibility of being thoroughly informed of all current legal decisions in order to perform two principal functions:

To effectively represent the prosecution in all reviewing courts in cases conducted in those courts by the office of the District Attorney; and

To provide the District Attorney's Office and law enforcement agencies with current and accurate legal information and opinions.

RESEARCH and Training Section — The primary func-

tion of this section is to provide training, information and guidance to new deputy district attorneys and law enforcement agencies.

Members of this section give lectures to police, issue the monthly Law Enforcement Legal Information Bulletin, a valuable tool for police, supervise law clerks, train new deputy district attorneys and prepare information pamphlets for the public.

Additionally, the staff of this section has prepared a series of closed circuit TV programs for police officers, which will begin in September.

(Next week—Field operations, including citizen participation.)

... Let's Go

By LARRY MACARAY

There is a most interesting book that you should read, if you can obtain a copy of it. In this day of soaring costs, soaring values, and soaring incomes one must look for things of real and basic value to invest in.

The book, "Art at Auction," reveals what great works of art sold for at Sotheby's and Parke-Bernet last year.

The London art sale season ended Aug. 8 and this year's gross sales by Sotheby's and Parke-Bernet combined was \$72,222,633. This astounding figure represents the gamut of fine arts—paintings, furniture, silver, books, manuscripts, porcelain, and other odds and ends. Another auction house in London even sold a million dollars worth of wines from descendants of the old French families that believed in high-class wine cellars.

Even the usually calm and sedate art dealers in London claim that the skyrocketing prices that good art works are commanding will continue to rise—there is no end in sight. Every year brings with it a new record of sales. In all likelihood, next year will also see a new record. One auction house official put it this way, "People are more interested in having objects rather than paper money."

PAINTINGS, of course, always lead the parade of desirable objects in any art auction. Only July 10 a Rembrandt painting slightly larger than a postcard sold for \$110,400 at Sotheby's—something like \$2,000 a square inch. Last year a Rembrandt etching, "The Three Crosses" (15 inches by 18 inches), went for \$84,000—just a piece of paper with a picture on it!

Christie's, another famous London auction house, sold an early Monet put up by the Rev. Theodor Pitcairn of Bryn Athyn, Pa., for a world record price of \$1,411,200. Another famous painting put up by Rev. Pitcairn was the only known portrait by Van Gogh of his mother. It sold for \$227,200.

Last year was a good year for Picasso (I can't really remember a bad year for him!) A rare painting from his Blue Period was placed on auction. A mother and child walking by the sea—painted in Barcelona in 1902 and only 23 inches by 32 inches. It sold for \$532,000 the highest price at auction for the work of a living art-

ist. That price should be a record that will remain unbroken in our lifetime—unless it is another Picasso painting.

AL LECOQUE, the famous pupil of Auguste Renoir and Emile Bernard, has long been a favorite of European art collectors. In recent years, many important American collectors have purchased his paintings in New York, Chicago, San Francisco and Los Angeles. President Dwight D. Eisenhower and Jacqueline Kennedy are two notable collectors of Lecoques.

Recently, Lecoque wrote to me informing me that last April 10 at the Parke-Bernet Auction Gallery in New York, two of his paintings were sold in a group of French Impressionist paintings. "L'Eglise de St. Ceverin, Paris," size 18 inches by 24 inches, sold for \$1,200, and "Scene de Village," size 20 inches by 24 inches, sold for \$1,600. This sale constituted a significant breakthrough for Lecoque in the tough New York auction market.

Lecoque has long been one of my favorite artists. Not only because of his sensitive use of color or his uncanny treatment of complex perspective in his paintings—but for the soul-reaching response that his Paris streetscenes create—especially if you have ever been to Paris and have sipped wine at a sidewalk cafe in the Montmartre or have stood in front of Notre Dame and have been awed by its majesty. I am sure that Lecoque will rank with Utrillo, Chagall and others of his time.

Civil Service Exam Slated For Park Post

An open civil service examination for a park maintenance man will be conducted by the city of Torrance Saturday, Sept. 28.

Final date for applications to be submitted is Monday, Sept. 16. Salary for the post is \$549 to \$604 per month. Applications may be submitted to the city's Personnel Department, 3031 Torrance Blvd.



SHOW PHOTOGRAPHS . . . William Campbell, manager of the Home Savings and Loan Association office in Torrance, displays a photograph of the historic Phineas Banning residence. Gathered around Campbell on the lawn at the Banning home are (from left) Julie Porras, Janet Moreno, Bonnie Porras, Patsy Porras, and Danny Moreno. A collection of photographs depicting the historic and cultural background of Los Angeles will be displayed at the Home Savings office through Aug. 30.

Immunization Clinic Slated in Wilmington

Immunization clinics for youngsters starting or returning to school this fall have been scheduled in this area by the County Health Department. Supervisor Burton W. Chace said today.

The local clinic is scheduled from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday at the Wilmington Health Center, 612 W. "E" St.

Youngsters from preschool age to 18 will be inoculated free against measles, polio, diphtheria, whooping cough, and tetanus.

Polio and measles inoculations are required before entry into school.

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County to Close Area Road for Construction

Closure of Prospect Avenue in the Torrance-Redondo Beach area probably will be required during improvement of the street, according to the County Road Department.

"The road will be closed to through traffic in the vicinity of Palos Verdes Boulevard for about 150 working days," I. R. Morhar, County Road Commissioner, said.

"In addition, Palos Verdes Boulevard may be closed eight days for storm drain and sewer construction."

Avenue H may be closed to through traffic for a brief period, but this would not be done during closure of Prospect or Palos Verdes, Morhar said.

"THE CLOSING of Prospect for such an extended period will be caused by work on extensive drainage facilities which run down

Stamp Club Will Meet

There will be a membership auction when the Torrance Stamp Club holds its next meeting Monday evening. A variety of items ranging from old post cards to the latest issues of stamps will be offered.

The club meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Scott Park Community building, 23410 Cat-skill Ave., Carson.

Sunday and Monday Door Busters

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