



COMING DOWN . . . This was the scene last week as a bulldozer made its first run through the old Gardena Memorial Hospital building. The facility, replaced by a modern, multi-story complex, has been demolished. Looking over the wreckage are (from left) Dr. S. S. Rooth, executive vice president; Mrs. Marie Petro, R.N., director of nurses; and Leonard Ensminger, administrator. The new facility is more than double the old hospital. (Press-Herald Photo)

## 'Adopt a Deputy' Program Begins

"Law enforcement firmly believes that positive communication and understanding between the police and the youth of the community is vital," stated Sheriff Peter Pitchess today as he announced a further expansion of the Sheriff's Department's "Adopt a Deputy" program.

This program, first instituted in November, 1967, at the Graham Elementary School in south-central Los Angeles, is a concerted effort on the part of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department to create a genuine feeling of comfort, friendship and understanding between law enforcement and our youthful citizens.

Due to the enthusiastic acceptance this program received from both students and faculty members, it was soon expanded to include elementary and junior high schools located in all 14 sheriff's station areas.

SHERIFF PITCHESS pointed out that although the program was instituted at more than 96 local schools during the past school year, the eventual objective is the involvement of every school within the Sheriff's Department area of responsibility

in the "Adopt a Deputy" program.

In an effort to meet this objective, the Sheriff's Department has received wholehearted support and efforts of two very talented ladies to help further promote the program.

Assisting the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department in stimulating interest in the "Adopt a Deputy" program will be actress Grace Lenard and actress-illustrator Ila Maria Britton. These two civic minded women are preparing a series of 30-second service announcements for television and radio which will utilize the voice characterizations of Miss Lenard and the artistic sketches of Miss Britton.

The series will evolve around five imaginary characters, "Amelia," "Christopher," "Mario," "Elizabeth," and "Miss Lenard" and is designed to awaken public interest and support for the implementation of the "Adopt a Deputy" program.

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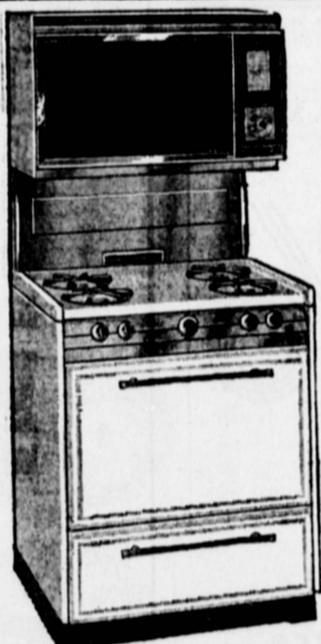
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