

At Torrance High Friendship Key to New Student Club

What do you do for conversation when you're a student in a high school in a strange land and you don't speak the language?

How does a newcomer go about finding friendships in the Torrance teenage world?

And, above all, where does one start doing things that put meaning into life?

These are the questions that faced several students at Torrance High School this fall. They believe they have come up with the answer: "Los Paises."

LOS PAISES is a newly formed group on the high school campus comprised of about three dozen multilingual students for the purpose of promoting friendship and understanding among all students at Torrance High. The club's name is Spanish for "the countries."

Part of the membership are native-born. But better than half of them come from such places as Brazil, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Ecuador, Colombia, Panama, and Costa Rica.

Once a week, members gather in "the apartment," a simulated apartment in the home economics building which is used during the school day to prepare students in the home-making arts.

AS THEY brew coffee or sit around on the sofa chatting in Spanish or English, as the case may be, background music blares from the record player. Sometimes someone may show up with some homemade cookies. Hospitality is not planned — it just happens.

There are no gavels or presidents or parliamentarians. Instead, in the informal setting of "the apartment," everybody is considered of equal stature. To help facilitate conducting club business, the club has a "presider." He is assisted by a "helper," and records are kept by a "scribe."

Club motto is "friendship, unity and work." One of the first tasks members have undertaken to put the motto into action is an all-school dance. Because of a fire in the school gymnasium earlier this year, there have been no school dances this semester. Los Paises decided to do something about it.

WITH THE approval of the school administration and Student Council, the club arranged to obtain the Torrance YMCA for Saturday night, at which time they will host their fellow-students and guests.

Other projects in the planning stage are equally visionary. They plan to take a career opportunity field trip through TRW, plan to send half a dozen members to a conference at California State College at Los Angeles on "Challenges of Social Change in Latin America," plan to invite speakers from various countries; and they would like to help the Torrance Recreation Department clear land for parks.

If they can manage it, they would also like to go to Arizona this summer to visit the Papago Indian students who spent a week at Torrance High School last year.

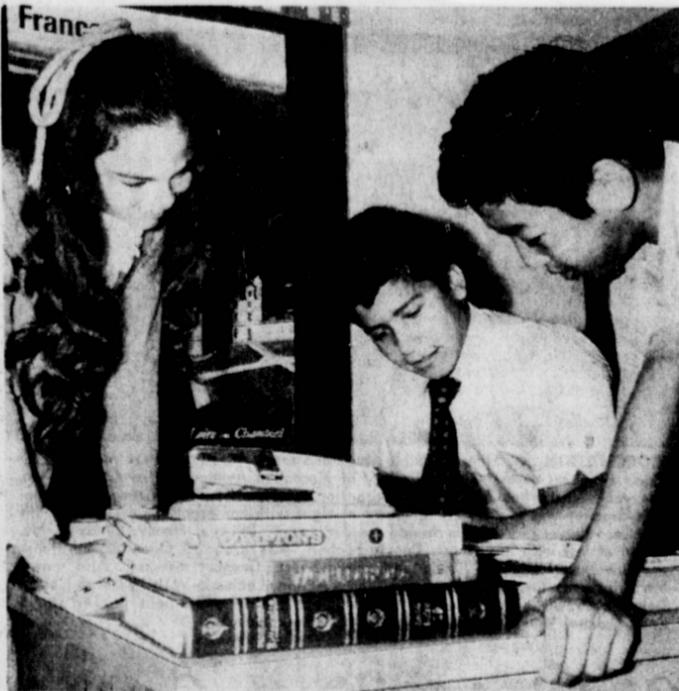
TYPICAL of the friendships formed in Los Paises is the four-way friendship shared by Domingo Orona, Jose Solorzano, Rocky Chavez, and Carmen Ricuarte.

Their backgrounds couldn't have been more diverse.

A native of Pecos, Tex., Domingo has lived here two years. He has a flair for art and looks forward to a public health career.

Jose came to this country from Mexico last July upon the invitation of an American couple he befriended when they visited his native land.

Rocky hails from Redondo Beach, is a star wrestler, and was last year's junior class president. He has won a scholarship to college for next year, and is looking forward to a law career.



RUN SCHOOL . . . Planning the administration of Adams Elementary School for "Turnabout Day" are (from left) Marianne Schneider, Jeff Jaramillo, and Glenn Oshimoto, eight-grade students. Upper grade students took over jobs of principal, secretary, custodian, nurse, and teachers during the one-day event. Rotating in the role of principal were Mark Lebeck, Craig Rivera, Greg Lucas, Jim Hildebrand, Rick Yancey, and Rick Krawagna. The committee pictured above organized responsibilities and set up criteria for selection of student staff members.

ANN LANDERS



No Piano Recitals

Dear Ann Landers: Some new friends invited us over for an evening of bridge. When we arrived at 7:30 we were asked if we'd like to hear their 12-year-old play her piano recital piece. Of course we politely said "yes." The "piece" turned out to be three pieces, and my husband was visibly annoyed.

After the piano recital we were told that the younger boy wanted to do something to entertain us, also. So we sat and listened to him name the 50 states, "Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California . . ." Then came the Gettysburg address — "Four score and seven years ago . . ." Next he named all the cabinet members and their posts — "Mr. William Rogers, Secretary of State; Mr. Melvin Laird, Secretary of Defense; Mr. David Kennedy, Secretary of the Treasury . . ."

Then the 6-year-old came in wearing toe slippers and a fairy costume. Her mother played the piano while she danced for what seemed like forever.

At 8:30 they finally brought out the cards. By that time my husband was so out-of-sorts he played a terrible game and his disposition was foul. When we got home he told me never to accept another invitation from those people. He ordered me not to ask them to our place ever again. I like the woman very much, Ann. What should I do? — Trumped Ace

Dear Ace: See the woman during the afternoon. A husband has the right to veto couples he does not enjoy. (And so does a wife.)

Dear Ann Landers: I am writing to you because it is easier to write about an embarrassing problem than to talk to a person face to face.

I am a 16-year-old girl who is considered attractive, good company and I guess you'd call me popular. That's my problem. I'm too popular. The word has gotten around that I'm a pushover and it's true. I just can't say no. The result is that I end up sleeping with every boy on the very first date.

The weird part is I don't get anything out of it. And it seems to be getting worse. I got a bigger thrill out of being kissed in the swimming pool when I was 14 than I got from going to bed with the captain of the soccer team last night.

Is there something wrong with me? My best friend says this is not normal and I need professional help. If you say she is right I'll tell Mom I am having tension headaches and I want to go for counseling. Please advise me. — Yes Girl

Dear Girl: Your friend is right. I urge you to get help at once. Promiscuity can be highly dangerous, not only physically but emotionally. Get going and good luck.

Confidential To Trying To Get Ahead: Keep trying, fella. You need one. Sending the boss a copy of that letter was a gross violation of confidence. Now is no time ask me if it's a good idea.

How will you know when the real thing comes along? Ask Ann Landers. Send for her booklet "Love Or Sex And How To Tell The Difference." Send 35 cents in coin and a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope with your request.

Ann Landers will be glad to help you with your problems. Send them to her in care of this newspaper enclosing a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope.

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Warrior Trails

By Cathy Focarazzo

Election results have been announced following voting last Tuesday.

The results are: Robert Dobson, ASB president; Alyce Stepanian, ASB vice president; David Magnusson, secretary of honors; Cindy Pacheco, secretary of correspondence; Teri Powers, secretary of activities; Debbie Eisman, secretary of morale; Jim Everett, secretary of finance; Laurie Hughes, Inter Club coordinator; Angie D'Aquisto, secretary of publicity; Elaine Sidio, secretary of public relations; Paul Smith, secretary of athletics; and Patti Mara, secretary of records.

This Saturday, May 24, is the annual Junior-Senior Prom. The sea-green bids were available this week at the Student Activities office for \$4 per junior couple and at no charge to all Seniors. The theme this year is "Sand Castles and Starlight" as the prom is being held in Newport Beach.

SATURDAY at the Armed Forces Parade, West again placed first. The band, drill team, majorettes and flag twirlers took the first place trophy and the award of "Best Music by a Civilian Band." The Parade was featured on television Sunday afternoon announcing West's first place win.

This week, Pep Squad try outs for El Camino College were held and West had a lot of girls participating. It was a great honor to find five of West's former pep squad members on the ECC pep team. For flags, Brenda Moore was selected as a regular and Cheryl Bree and Cathy Focarazzo were chosen as alternates. For song queens, Cindy Sams made regular and Gayle Veinot was selected as an alternate.

Thursday, the graduation announcements arrived for the seniors. It's about time that the seniors get them, after all, what good are they after you graduate?

Statewide Property Tax Wins Backing of Boards

SACRAMENTO — The California School Boards Association has taken a stand seeking adoption of AB-1678 by Assemblyman Wadie P. Deddeh (D-Chula Vista) which would establish a statewide property tax for the support of schools.

In a news conference, Deddeh, Joseph M. Brooks, executive secretary of the California School Boards Association; Dr. Brooks J. Lockhart, president of the association; and John Cimolino, chairman of the association's school finance committee, discussed the plan.

Deddeh pointed out that the average per pupil income needed for day-to-day operation of schools, excluding building needs, will be \$709.50 per child for the 1969-70 school year.

HE STRESSED that last year, the expense of education per student ranged from a low of \$450 to a high above \$1,500 in unified school districts; low of under \$350 to a high above \$2,000 for elementary districts; and under \$375 to a high above \$1,500 for high school districts.

He said, "to equalize this terrible difference in education opportunity, we recommend a state foundation support level behind each child that equals the average support level of all California districts." Thus the

Sanitary Food Date Scheduled

Individuals or groups which prepare and serve foods for the public are encouraged to attend a free two-hour food sanitation training session with professional food handlers Wednesday, Hilda M. Hyort, N.D., Torrance District Health Officer announced.

There will be two duplicate sessions to accommodate the food establishments in Wilmington, North Wilmington, Carson, and Harbor City. Both afternoon and evening sessions will be held at the Wilmington Junior High School auditorium, 1700 Gulf Ave., Wilmington.

Apartment and Motel Owners Group to Meet

The Apartment and Motel Association of California will hold its first membership dinner Monday at the Proud Bird Restaurant near International Airport. Association President, Robert More and other staff members will attend.

The Association opened its Torrance office in October, 1968.

The membership dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a social hour. Dinner will be served at 7:15 p.m.

unified districts support would be \$660 per child; elementary districts, \$570 per child; and high school districts, \$836 per child.

Deddeh said "for 1969-70, we estimate the needed state level tax rate to be \$3.20. This would enable most of the high tax districts to reduce their school tax rates, while most of these same districts would receive significant improvement in their educational support levels."

THE ASSEMBLYMAN pointed to tax ranges in school districts ranging from a low of \$1.63 per \$100 assessed valuation to a high of \$6.09 in unified districts; low of six cents to a high of \$5.50 in elementary districts; and a low of 75 cents to a high of \$2.74 in high school districts.

The Chula Vista Democrat said the proposed statewide property tax "would not constitute an additional property tax on top of local taxes now existing, but would substitute for local taxes up to the state tax level set for the support of the state foundation program."

He declared, "Most of the property taxpayers of the state would receive a tax roll-back through this approach. In addition, our measure provides for the elimination of almost all of the permissive and voter approved local tax levies. We do provide for the continuance of local taxes if necessary to prevent a district from having an actual loss of income."

THE PROPOSED tax in lieu of local taxes would generate half of the cost of the state foundation program, Deddeh said, while the remaining half would come from the state general fund allocations by the legislature.

Dr. Lockhart said, "In the area of cost control, the bill

will be strengthened to provide that a maximum of 85 per cent of the guaranteed support received from the state school fund by any district may be expended for salaries." Locally raised property tax revenue may be used to "save harmless" existing staff salaries and to improve programs, but not for increasing salary rates."

In summary, Dr. Lockhart said that if AB-1678 is enacted, it would: "Provide adequate financing for the education of every child in the state; balance the property tax load for school purposes among all the taxpayers in the state; provide overall cost control for all school districts; provide automatic annual changes in the support level for public schools in response to changes in the cost of living, thus eliminating annual legislative enactment of revised school finance laws; and simplify the finance provisions of the State Education Code."

Deddeh's measure is presently before the Assembly Education Committee.

Senior Citizens Get Tax Advice at Center

A representative from the Franchise Tax Board will be at the Albert Bartlett Center, a facility of Torrance Recreation Department Tuesday to assist adults over 65 in filing property tax forms to comply with the Senior Citizen Tax Law.

The law, enacted in 1968, provides that qualified persons may apply for a refund of a portion of the property tax paid on their home if they meet certain requirements.

The person interested in applying for the refund must have been 65 years or older

and must have been a resident of California as of Jan. 1, 1969. He must have owned and occupied his home between July 1, 1968, and June 30, 1969.

It is also necessary that residents must have paid the property taxes assessed on the home for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1969 and must have no more than a \$3,350 household income for the 1968 calendar year.

Questions will be answered between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. The Bartlett Center is at 1318 Cravens Ave.



TO AID ORPHANS . . . Members of the Torrance Kiwanis Club stopped at an orphanage in Baja California during a recent fishing trip to present \$300 and some 200 yards of fabric to the girls housed at the orphanage. Run by the Missionary Daughters of the Most Pure Virgin Mary, the San Jose Del Cabo orphanage is home for 135 girls from 5 to 13 years old. The town, with some 5,000

persons, is located about 30 miles from the southern tip of the Baja California Peninsula. Pictured with some of the girls here are (at left, from left) Sister Maria; Jim Giacalone, president of the Kiwanis Club; Mother Superior Teresa; and Clint Meadway, a Kiwanis Club member.

Tartar Teen Talk

By Betsy Tomita

Terry Waters, active in football and baseball was named player of the year at the annual Athletic's Awards Banquet held May 17. Terry also captured the blanket award for football and the captain's crown for baseball.

The selections for Blanket awards are based on votes by varsity players and the coach's decisions.

Randy MacLeod, junior, earned the Blanket award for tennis. Baseball's high honor went to Bob Fernly. Bruce Baker, 6-foot-6, took the basketball Blanket award, and in the wrestling field Dave Starr and Rocky Chavez were named co-winners. The Blanket award for cross country went to Jeff Blydenburgh. The track winner has not been picked yet and will be announced after the CIF track finals.

FORMER Laker coach Bill Van Breg Koff was guest speaker at the banquet. He discussed incidents which occurred during the games and basket-

ball in general, but avoided his relationship with Wilt Chamberlain.

Athletes were not the only ones honored that night. The Boys Athletic Association bought all the coaches medals and trophies for being such great guys.

"All the coaches are very appreciative of what the boys did," commented Carlos De La Rosa, track coach.

LOS PAISES Club is sponsoring a dance tomorrow night at the YMCA on Sepulveda. The Ballistics and the Fabra Jays are to be featured. Money will be used for club activities such as getting speakers and going on field trips.

Preparing for next fall, the classes held their class elections last week and chose their new student leaders. Nancy Stephenson was chosen senior president and Debbie Hahn will lead the juniors as their president. Sophomore class president is Jessica Leon. Freshmen will hold their elections next fall when they come to Torrance High.

Girl Scouts Will Salute Servicemen

More than 300 Girl Scouts — Brownies, Juniors, Cadettes, and Seniors — from 15 troops, will hold a Juliet Low In-gathering at Veterans Park in Redondo Beach Saturday at 1 p.m.

Girls of the King Harbor Neighborhood will open their activities at the Memorial site, raising the American flag, and singing patriotic songs honoring each branch of the armed forces.

Wreaths of flowers, brought by each girl and woven by the troops, will be placed at the Memoria site during the ceremony, in honor of fighting men of our country.

Each troop will present a skit song, or dance for the program. Every girl will donate a penny for each year of her age to the Juliet Low International Friendship Fund, which assists in extending the Girl Scout program and ideals throughout the world. The program will close with all girls singing "Peace."