

International Officers Visit Civitan Club

Several Civitan International officers visited the Torrance club last Thursday while in the area for the district convention in San Pedro over the week end.

Officers visiting the club included Frank Lindsey, zone trustee of Dallas; George West, international vice president of Pasadena; Dr. Courtney Shropshire, international founder of Pacific Palisades, and others.

Torrance delegates to the convention which included representatives of the California-Arizona district were President Ferrill Miller, Police Captain Ernest Ashton, Frank S. Selover, and Floyd DeVore.

Plaster Mixer Taken

A plaster mixer was taken from construction work near 17th and Arlington Ave., Richard Williamson, superintendent, reported to Torrance Police Wednesday.



(Herald Photo)

WHOLL FEED THE CATS? . . . So Mrs. Joseph Giacinto, Torrance contest winner, may claim her prize air trip to Honolulu, an animal lover is sought who will take care of feeding on five successive days of the two lively ocelots seen above with their owner.

Who Will Dinner-Bell the Cats While Their Owners Are Away?

Mrs. Joseph Giacinto, lucky winner of a "Dream Trip" to romantic Honolulu, in a radio contest, has a special problem to solve before she can take to the air on her one-week visit in the Pacific.

Question before the house at the Giacinto's is: Who will take care of the cats?

And the problem is not as easy as you might be supposing, because the Giacinto cats are no ordinary felines. Fact is, they are authentic specimens of ocelots, a male and a female, whose natural habitat is in the jungles of South America.

Need Five Meals
Since it will be a seven-day trip, late in June, Mrs. Giacinto hopes, and skipping the first and last days, the problem boils down to who will take care of the feeding for the five days in between. Once a day will be sufficient, the animal's mistress says, to supply the pets with their helpings of horse meat and milk.

Although feeding away from home is a possible solution, feeding at their own home would be much more preferable, the owner explained. For one thing, Jeopardy, the 20-pound female, had to go to a vet recently when ill, and went on a hunger strike.

Sense Fear
Most important, the lady said, is to find a person who will not be afraid of the ocelots, which look like leopards, and are as big as bobcats. When they sense fear, they are harder to handle, Mrs. Giacinto declared.

And, next, one must be found who is trustworthy, for the ocelots have found a warm place in the affections of the Giacinto household, which includes three children, ages four to ten, and no chances can be taken with the pet's safety.

Members of the ocelot club, founded by Mrs. Giacinto, would be glad to perform the task, but all of them live at too great a distance.



RETURNS TO SERVICE . . .
Reporting for duty aboard the Escort Carrier Bodeing Strait last week after leave at home was Seaman John W. Meyers, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Meyers, 1328 Crenshaw Blvd. The serviceman recently completed training at San Diego Naval Training Station.



HOME ON LEAVE . . .
Wesley M. Smith, a veteran of three years in the Navy, is home on leave, visiting his mother, Mrs. Etta R. Smith, of 1514 Engracia Ave., and his wife and son, Gregory, of Lomita. He has just completed a tour of duty in the Far East.

More Testing On Auto Smog Traps Needed

Three months of rigorous road testing of the Houdry catalytic converter have convinced scientists of the Air Pollution Foundation that the muffler is not yet ready to be recommended as a potential smog eliminator for public adoption.

In announcing the completion of exhaustive tests of the device on the proving grounds of Southwest Research Institute at San Antonio, Tex., the Foundation reported that the converter proved capable of removing more than 80 per cent of an auto's hydrocarbon emissions when first attached, but that it appears to wear out too soon to warrant Foundation endorsement.

Development Needed
"It is apparent that further development by the manufacturer will be required before the muffler can be recommended as a likely solution for the Los Angeles automobile exhaust problem," said Dr. W. L. Faith, Foundation vice president and chief engineer.

The tests were originally scheduled for 20,000 miles but

were concluded at the end of 10,000 miles.

Four Houdry mufflers were installed on cars of different makes using leaded gasoline. Dr. Faith said the devices showed a high efficiency at the start of the runs, but that the efficiency tended to decrease in varying degrees after 2000 miles.

Mechanical Problems
The Foundation scientist attributed the decrease in efficiency to mechanical design problems and loss of activity of the catalyst. Because some design changes were found necessary, he said, no attempt was made to rejuvenate the catalyst after its activity declined.

The devices have been shipped to the plant of the inventor, Eugene J. Houdry, president of Oxy-Catalyst, Inc., at Wayne, Pa., where they will be checked and re-studied by engineers.

"Mr. Houdry is confident the present weakness in the catalytic converter can be overcome within a short time," Dr. Faith reported.

The Foundation, a privately supported, independent scientific-research organization with headquarters in Los Angeles, spent \$50,000 in conducting the stiff road tests, which began early last February.

Purpose of the tests was to determine whether the Houdry muffler would eliminate a major percentage of hydrocarbon emissions for a reasonable period of time without repairs or replacement, and whether

Auto Theft Laid to Rain

A 19-year-old Hawthorne man was being held by sheriff's deputies Friday in connection with the theft of an automobile in Lomita which he said he took "because it was raining."

Jerome Anthony Camarano was turned over to deputies by Los Angeles Police in connection with a May 6 car theft in front of 2125 W. Pacific Coast Hwy., Lomita.

Deputies said Camarano admitted that he had been hitchhiking and took the car when it started to rain and had been driving it for about a week.

The device could be recommended by the Foundation for widespread installation in the Los Angeles area in the hope of reducing smog.

School Cost Bill Backed

Support of a Senate bill which would allow subdividers to add a small amount for schools to the price of a new home was urged last week by Torrance educational leaders.

Superintendent of Schools J. H. Hull directed a letter to Senator Nelson Dilworth of Riverside, the bill's sponsor, giving support to the plan.

At the TEAC meeting last week, Mrs. Donald Hauser, who has been spearheading local efforts to obtain such a law, said she and her committee were studying the proposal and thought it generally a step in the right direction. Other committee members are Robert L. Plomer and Mrs. Bessie Slonicker.

The plan was pushed locally after annexation proposals were

brought up, which indicated that as many as 15 new schools might be built in the area if it were made a part of Torrance. Mrs. Hauser and others felt that part of the cost of these schools should be paid by the persons with homes in surrounding areas.

Several other school districts have contacted local officials, reporting that they would back such a move.

Jaycettes to Elect

Torrance Jaycettes will meet tomorrow evening at 7:30 in the Chamber of Commerce building to elect new officers for the group for the coming year. The Junior Chamber of Commerce auxiliary has had Mrs. Howard Percy as president during the past year.



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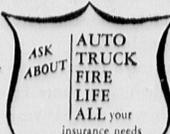
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