THE TORRANCE HERALD HOME AND GARDEN

TV Writer To Address Local Group

Frank Priest, young television writer, will discuss the writer's opportunities in TV before members of Southwest Manuscripters tomorrow.

Now a free-lancer, with numerous network shows to his credit, Priest received his early and invaluable training when he spent two years with Bob Clampitt, developing the scripts for "Time For Beany" and "Willie The Wolf." His work includes not only dialogue, dramatic treatments, and story line, but he has recently developed a profitable sideline in industrial writing.

Southwest Manuscripters is organized for writers of the South Bay and nearby areas. The public is always welcome to attend any meeting, according to Peter Boesch, president, and all persons particularly interested in television will have an opportunity to learn its potentials at Friday's meeting, Clark Stadium on Valley Drive in Hermosa Beach, at 8 p.m.

You Can Get Some Good Planning For Garden in During Vacation

So you're off from the office for a two or three-week vacation! You'll want to get away for a while with the family and friends, no doubt . . . up to the mountains for fishing, to the beach for swimming and loafing . . . maybe drop by the relatives' place for the customary visit. And then you'll head for home with some vacation time still remaining. That hammock or chaise lounge in the backyard will probably be mighty tempting. But before you head for it take a good look around you—at your garden, lawn, parking area, patio. Then grab a piece of paper and a pencil and go to your hammock.

What's all the fuss about? you ask. Well, says the California Association of Nurserymen, there's no time like vacation time for a good revaluation of your garden, followed by renovating. While everything is in full bloom, consider the location of your shrubs — the summer annuals, do you need more of them—or should there be more fall blooming plants to take over the color show when the summer plants give up? Have you planted some partial-shade lovers in too much sun? Do you have too many plants that require too much continual attention?

Hammock Talk Useful

These and many more questions you can ask yourself from your perch on the hammock or lounge. And as you decide, that pencil and paper will make a blueprint of any garden renovation you plan.

In your planning you may decide on employing more planting devices—large containers for camellia or azalea shrubs; hanging baskets for fuchsias, lantana, ceonthus; fences for espaliering or for support of colorful vines. You may decide on moving out annuals in favor of less demanding perennials or even lesser demanding shrubs and ground covers. Perhaps part of your yard is taking too much time—and you'd like to put in areas of colored rock, gravel, stone with wooden strips, flagstone, combined with succulents and ground covers.

Plan Soil Work

Now's a good time to plan soil renovation also. Soil that you want to take up for potting and winter planting may need to be prepared now . . . adding peat or sand if the soil is heavy or very sandy. Store this soil in a dry place for winter use.

Get your soil in good condition for spring planting before fall rains come and pack it down. A mulch of straw or leaves over the beds that you've dug will help prevent packing.

Now's the time, too, to consider any collection items you'd like to start. Maybe you've always wanted to work with African violets, miniature succulents, orchids, or other exotics.

You'll want to talk over your garden "face lifting" plans with your nurseryman. He'll have sugestions for replacements, ideas on planting devices and all the supplies you'll need for renovating your garden during vacation time.

Caps Gone, Top Cut

Jim O'Hara, 236 Via Buena Ventura, reported the theft Tuesday of four hubcaps from his 1953 model convertible, which was parked in the driveway of his home. The top of the vehicle had been slashed also, he told Torrance police.

TALL IN SADDLE . . . Members of Torrance Auxiliary Police pose for picture during week end of camping, riding, hiking and fishing in Sierras recently. Ten TAPs members, plus three advisors went on the excursion. Group was formed for teen-age boys, who act as auxiliary unit to police force.

20-Year Dream Fulfilled As Boat Launched

Four years of work was culminated recently with the launching of "The Duchess," 32-foot power boat built by Frank Hanover, of 5457 Sharynne Lane.

A dream of 20 years while the Hanovers lived in Boston, the boat began to take shape in June, 1951, when the keel was laid at the Mardisch Boat Yard in San Pedro. It was designed by Naval Architect Wid Harber.

Features of the boat include a raised deck cabin, torpedo bow, strip planking of edged grain fir, mahogany paneling in the cabins and fiberglass deck coverings.

The boat has a fresh water pressure system, a free water cooled engine, and will carry 135 gallons of fuel. Hanover reports. It measures 32 ft. 11 in. in length and has a 10 ft. 6 in. beam.

The new cruiser was named "The Duchess," for Mrs. Hanover, Frank reports. Launching ceremonies recently established some kind of a record, too, he claims. Mrs. Hanover broke the champagne bottle over the bow on the first swing.

The boat will sleep six, has a galley aboard, and is designed to cruise at 10 or 11 knots with a top speed of 14 knots. It is now moored in San Pedro.

Reports Theft of Articles From Car

Someone broke into his car, which was parked in his garage, Rodney D. McCouchie, 4220 Redondo Beach Blvd., reported to authorities Tuesday.

McCouchie said two jackets, two pair of gloves and a flashlight were removed from the automobile. Estimated value of the stolen articles was set at $60.

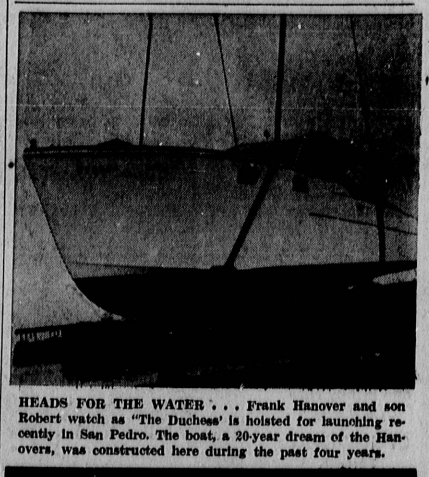
GARDENER'S CHECKLIST

1. Winter or early flowering sweet peas should be planted now.

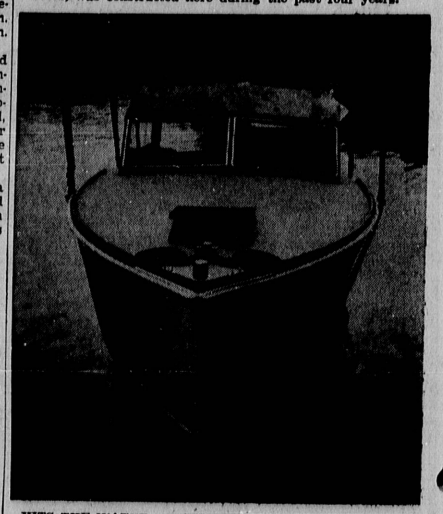
2. This is the month to plant perennial flower seed if you want them to bloom next year. Sow seed now for delphinium, pentstemon, Sweet William, columbine, and coreopsis.

3. Disbud exhibition chrysanthemums if large flowers are desired. Watch for black aphids. Fertilize at frequent intervals with fish emulsion, or other suitable fertilizer.

4. Crabgrass in lawns can be killed by certain chemicals without permanent damage to the lawn



HEADS FOR THE WATER . . . Frank Hanover and son Robert watch as "The Duchess" is hoisted for launching recently in San Pedro. The boat, a 20-year dream of the Hanovers, was constructed here during the past four years.



HITS THE WATER . . . "The Duchess" is lowered gently in the water of San Pedro Harbor, climaxing a 20-year dream and four years of hard work on the part of owner-builder Frank Hanover. The Hanovers live at 5457 Sharynne Lane in Seaside Ranchos.

Pansies, Violas Are Pleasing, Easy to Grow

Easy to grow and easily among the most pleasing garden flowers, the viola and the pansy can be relied upon for long periods of garden color.

Gardeners can now obtain seeds or bedding plants of violas and pansies for planting, reminds the California Association of Nurserymen. Start your seeds in flats; set the bedding plants directly into the areas of your garden. Water heavily when the plants are dry. However, do not keep them continually wet. Pansies and violas like lots of food. Prepare the planting site with peat moss or steer manure, feed the plants shortly after planting and continue to feed through the growing season.

To assure a long period of bloom keep the old blooms picked off. You may have some trouble with some pests but sprays and baits will make short work of them. Your nurseryman can advise you here.

Violas (Viola Cornuts) are smaller plants than the pansy, although the pansy developed from them. They grow in compact plants, thickly covered with flowers of blue, white, violet, apricot, ruby yellow and off-shades of these colors. A variation of the viola, the viola cornuta papilio, grows larger with fragrance, violet in color with a purple center.

The pansy, whose name is derived from the French word "pensee" meaning thought, was formerly commonly known as heartsease. It has been greatly hybridized by the Dutch and Swiss and some varieties grow two to four inches across in bicolors and shades of white, blue, rose, yellow, apricot, purple, and mahogany-red.

TAPs Group Camps Out In Sierras

Members of the Torrance Auxiliary Police spent a recent week end camping and riding in the high Sierras, Carl Davis, junior advisor of the group revealed this week.

Ten TAPs and three of their advisors comprised the camping unit.

Boys who made the trip included Paul Carrico, Dave Kenley, Dick Davis, Richard Bullock, Bill Broce, Benny Coclaser, Sanfred Smith, Dan White, Bill Wright and Bill Robinson.

Davis, the junior advisor, and Police Advisors, Sgt. D. C. Cook and Lt. A. S. Thompson, also made the trip.

Davis said applications are available at the Torrance Police Station for boys who wish to join the Torrance Auxiliary Police.

Pest-Free Ferns Add to California Garden Joys

Once established, ferns are among the easiest plants to maintain and as a further garden bonus—they will grow in soils and locations where many garden plants can't and they're practically pest free.

In selecting ferns for planting in your garden you will have some four to eight thousand varieties to choose from . . . all ranging from inches to 70 feet in height, either evergreen or deciduous.

Cultural requirements for ferns include shade or at least partial shade (and most ferns seem to prefer shade) and a constant supply of moisture at the roots. Since ferns also need moisture from the air, many fastidious gardeners include mist or fog sprayers among their ferns. Water at least twice a week. When you plant your fern selections, place them in deep, loose, well aerated soil, rich in humus. Planting mixtures suggested are equal parts of leaf mold, peat moss, coarse sand, and rich garden loam or leaf mold alone.

If you select deciduous ferns they will seem to disappear for a short time either in summer or winter—but don't worry for they will come back. And ferns are easily divided and replanted or transplanted.

A few of the ferns that make good selections for shade gardens are the deer, finger, and lady ferns. Woodwardia and Pteris are two of the native varieties which are hardy to cold. Deer or blechnum spicant has yellowish-green leathery evergreen fronds growing to three and a half feet. For foliage contrast, plant it near dwarf hydrangeas or fuchsias.

The stems of American Maidenhair (Adiantum pedatum) are shiny and black and the foliage soft and feathery, reaching one foot. Deciduous, the Lady Fern (athyrium filix-foemina) grows lacy fronds in dense tufts often reaching three to four feet. It can be nicely combined with azaleas.

Other popular fern varieties, sword, holly, maidenhair, shield and California chain will also do well in California gardens.

Local Teacher Named to Staff At Cal Poly

Not since 1929 has California State Polytechnic college had a women's physical education instructor, but it has one now.

Mrs. Alice Haworth, head of women's physical education at Torrance High school, has been appointed a health and physical education instructor at Cal Poly, the west's largest agricultural and third largest engineering school and which for the past 26 years has been strictly all-male.

Cal Poly's President Julian A. McPhee announced Mrs. Haworth's appointment as the college, taking co-eds on a limited basis at present, completes plans to open all its programs to women in the fall of 1956.

The new instructor, in charge of planning the girls' physical education program for Torrance's new North High school, has been active in the annual state-wide women's physical education workshops held at Cal Poly the past five years. She is a former U. S. Government recreation and youth activity supervisor stationed in Berlin, was assistant professor of physical education at Morris Harvey College, Charleston, W. Va., and taught in the elementary and high schools at Pueblo, Colo.

She obtained undergraduate and graduate degrees at the Colorado State College of Education and has taken additional work at the University of Wisconsin.

Missouri Picnic Set

Former residents of the "show-me" state will gather for the annual picnic of the Missouri State Society of Long Beach on Sunday, Aug. 28 at Bixby Park in Long Beach. A program will start at 1 p.m., according to Program Chairman James R. Seaton.

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