

SENATOR JOINS AREA'S BATTLE TO GET FREEWAY ALLOCATIONS

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MRS. AMERICA ENTRY . . . Mrs. Virginia May Levanas, 5514 Via del Valle, Torrance, receives congratulations as regional winner of the Mrs. America contest from Margo Macloskey, home economist for the sponsoring Southern California Gas Co. She will represent the region in Beverly Hills next Tuesday and Wednesday.

MOTHER OF FOUR WINS 'MRS. AMERICA' TITLE

A Torrance mother of four has won regional honors in the annual Mrs. America contest and will compete in state finals at the Beverly Hilton Hotel next Tuesday and Wednesday, it was announced yesterday by the sponsoring Southern California Gas Co.

Mrs. Virginia May Levanas, of 5514 Via Del Valle, a registered nurse and wife of a Shell Oil Co. chemist, won the regional title in competition with other candidates from the Torrance, South Bay, and Inglewood areas.

As regional winner, she will receive an RCA Whirlpool gas dryer, a Wilson ham, a Cake'n Cannister set, and a three-day, all-expense paid stay at the Beverly Hilton with her husband during the state finals.

Judges who selected Mrs. Levanas for the title included Dick Fitzgerald, manager of the Torrance Chamber of Com-

merce; Mrs. Doris Welton, Palms Verdes Estates, 1956 regional winner; and Mrs. Marion Herzog, home economist. Mrs. Levanas was chosen after a display of cake-baking abilities, sewing, ironing, and a personal interview.

At the state finals, she will again be called on to demonstrate her homemaking abilities, and will be caught up in a whirl of activities designed to test her personality, poise, and family and community achievements.

YMCA Nears Goal In Annual Drive

The Torrance YMCA entered the home stretch in its 1957 fund drive this week, with \$18,700 raised thus far. This brings the local organization to 89 per cent of its \$21,000 goal, with \$2280 still to raise.

At the annual YMCA dinner, Sam Levy, chairman of the YMCA campaign, stated that the board was determined to reach the goal. He pointed out that the small amount still needed would provide enough funds to hire a second full-time staff member for the "Y". By so doing, the volume of program can be doubled from 1956 figures in keeping with the rapidly growing youth population.

Appeal Made

Levy again made an appeal to all citizens to share in the final efforts to reach the goal, and thus provide camps, leagues, clubs, worship, and recreation for 4500 Torrance boys in 1957. Levy said that if the goal is not reached, this week the Torrance YMCA will lose an opportunity to hire an excellent youth worker who is specially trained to work with grade school boys from 9 to 12 years of age and with high school youth. Contributions should be mailed directly to the YMCA at 2080 Washington Ave., or can be sent to Mr. Levy at his place of business.

Levy congratulated the 250 volunteer workers who have done so well on the YMCA drive this year, and he handed

out YMCA "Oswald" Awards to all campaign division chairmen, with special honors to Sam Van Wagner for his 300 per cent of goal production that his parents' division raised. Also C. C. Morgan was commended for the important part that industry played in the support of the Torrance "Y" for the year.

Oswalds Awarded

Levy also presented Oswalds to Bill Speck, outstanding YMCA layman for 1956; David Shinoda, Hi-Y boy of the year 1956; Gil Anderson, outstanding Y Indian Guide leadership; Frank Renz, outstanding grade school Y leadership; Clyde Miller, outstanding Jr. Hi-Y leadership; Wanda Mitchell, outstanding high school leadership; C. A. Stewart, outstanding camp leadership; Paul Burnam, Adult Club leadership (Y's Men); and John Tweedy, Y M C A Athletic League leadership.

These men and women were honored for their part in making the local YMCA program such a success in the past year, but Levy stressed the fact that these people represented over 350 adult leaders who have given of their talents for boys or girls in the YMCA program during 1956.

Levy reminded citizens, business and professional people, and YMCA parents of the desperate need for the last \$2280, even though the Y drive is officially over.

Cities Push Bid For Road Funds

Members of the California Highway Commission were told of the critical need for freeway allocations in the Southwest Coastal area of Los Angeles County by a delegation representing the Inter-City Highway Committee in Sacramento yesterday.

Commission Chairman Frank B. Durkee promised the group that the requests would receive "careful and complete consideration."

Torrance Councilman Nick Drae, head of the delegation to Sacramento, said after the meeting yesterday that the presentation went "as scheduled," and that the Commission was "most cooperative in hearing our reports on the roadway situation in our area."

Councilman Willys G. Blount, who accompanied Drae to Sacramento as a representative of the Torrance City Council, said the delegation was pleased to receive the enthusiastic endorsement of State Senator Richard Richards.

Senator Helps

Senator Richards appeared before the Commission with us and told them we had his wholehearted support," Blount told The HERALD after the meeting.

Making the major presentations of fact to the Commission were G. S. Honey, personnel director for North American Aviation, and Edmund Rae, Hermosa Beach businessman and immediate past chairman of the Inter-City Highway Committee.

Fourteen members of the committee, representing more than half a dozen Torrance-Inglewood area cities, appeared before the Commission during the half-hour hearing.

Construction Sought

Commissioner Robert McClure of Santa Monica outlined the amount of money already spent in the area.

"We won't argue with him on that," Blount told The HERALD after the meeting yesterday. The money spent in the area has been entirely for land acquisition, however, Blount pointed out. The Division of

Highways came through and purchased the right of way for the San Diego Freeway several years ago before it was all built up with homes, Blount said.

"Our argument here, and the argument of other Torrance area cities is that not one cent has been budgeted for construction," he said.

Board Endorses Bid

Richard Newton, field deputy for Supervisor Burton W. Chace, accompanied the delegation to Sacramento and reported to the Commission yesterday that the Board of Supervisors had given their approval to the requests for accelerated construction of the San Diego Freeway.

The delegation also was asking for additional construction on the Harbor Freeway, and for allocations to begin construction on the Inglewood and marine . . . in the area of International Airport.

Blount and Drae will return to Torrance tomorrow. They plan to attend a session of the Legislature today, at which time Torrance's municipal airport curtil bill is scheduled for consideration.

City Attorneys To Meet Friday To Defend Suits

City Attorney Stanley Remelmeier and legal advisors for other Southland cities will meet tomorrow to map plans for opposing suits filed against them by Southern California Assn. of Cabinet Manufacturers.

Each city in the County except Los Angeles has been sued by the association in an attempt to halt collection of license fees in the cities for State-licensed contractors.

The Council this week authorized Remelmeier to take whatever steps he deemed necessary to defend the city's position in the case.

The city attorney said a clear decision on the matter could not be obtained until a court case had been tried.

Tomorrow's meeting of city attorneys was called by Alhambra City Attorney Emmett Tompkins. Cities may be facing threat of suits on their rights to license all types of state-licensed contractors, including plumbers, builders, and allied trades.

Basis for the suits was a recent District Court of Appeals decision in a suit of an electrical contractor against Culver City.

Loss in revenue to the city of Torrance would be a considerable sum if such licensing is held illegal. City Manager George Stevens told the Council.



LABOR AIDS DRIVE . . . United Steel Workers Local 5493, organized recently here, gave \$500 to Little Company of Mary Hospital this week. Shown here during the labor meeting are Bernard Dougan, vice president of Local 1-519, OCAW; Thomas Henry, treasurer of Local 5493; John Fedor, president of Local 5493; and Michael J. O'Raidy, treasurer of Steel Workers Local 1414.

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UNION PRESENTS CHECK FOR \$500 TO HOSPITAL

Recently organized Local 5493 of the United Steel Workers of America presented \$500 to the Little Company of Mary Hospital campaign at a meeting of the labor division Tuesday evening.

Making the presentation was President John Fedor and Treasurer Thomas Henry.

The gift was limited, Fedor said, because the local has just been organized.

Beds Needed

The president of the new local pointed out that the majority of the area's working force is covered by hospital and health insurance policies, but "that they are of little value unless hospital beds are available."

Meanwhile, the drive for funds continued as the campaign neared its first deadline. Officials of the hospital must appear in Sacramento next week with a report of their drive to qualify for state and federal funds.

Quota Needed

"If we can't meet our quota, all of our work is lost," General Chairman Sam Levy said. To date, a total of \$428,762 has been collected, of some \$776,000 required.

Gifts include: industrial pledges, \$199,469; doctors' pledges, \$150,000; Torrance general gifts, \$51,839; Redondo general gifts, \$9751; and Palms Verdes general gifts, \$15,881.

Keene Presents Warrant Facts To Grand Jury

The mystery of the missing Torrance bail warrants was presented to the criminal complaints committee of the Los Angeles County Grand Jury by Assistant District Attorney William B. Keene, Tuesday morning.

He presented the results of his office's investigations of what happened to 100 warrants issued by the Torrance Police Department since Jan. 1, 1953. The investigation be-

gan after reports were received that a number of warrants allegedly given to Investigator Jack Gee had not been returned, nor had the money. Of the 100 warrants missing, 93, valued at \$3681, were issued to Gee, Keene said.

Keene said he had received no official word as to the action taken by the Grand Jury committee, but said he understood that either the Grand Jury would investigate further

or his office would be asked to do so. The investigation may be extended to other cities where Gee served as a bail collector, Keene said.

Keene said his office would continue its study of the warrant situation.

Gee was fired by the city after disclosure of the missing warrants was made. He formerly served as a collector for several other cities in this area.

A Pair of Happy Reunions Celebrated Here



TOGETHER AGAIN . . . When Grandma Emily Dinius arrived from Germany (Herald Photo) she brought lots of German toys to her grandchildren, members of the George Matlock family, 5518 Beran St. Enjoying a happy reunion as little Margaret Matlock shows off her new doll (left to right) are Steve Matlock; Mrs. Christine Matlock; Mrs. Dinius, Mrs. Matlock's mother; Mrs. Ludmilla Laukert, Mrs. Dinius' sister, and Kenneth Matlock.



REUNION ON TV . . . Mrs. Erna Lewand, 1721 Greenwood Ave., was happily surprised (Herald Photo) on the "It Could Be You" television program which she attended Monday when her mother and sister, who had just arrived from Germany, stepped from behind a curtain. It marked the first time in eight years that the family had been together. Shown (left to right) are Maria Weixler, her sister; Mrs. Helen Weixler, her mother, and Mrs. Lewand.