



**FAMILY HELPED . . .** Helping hands of volunteers from REACT (Radio Emergency Associated Citizens Teams) of southwest Los Angeles County worked with the Torrance-Lomita Red Cross Branch disaster service chairman, Allen Quignon, and his committee Saturday cleaning up the fire damaged home of Mary Cheathan at 143

**E. 216th St. Volunteers here loading debris on a truck provided by Gordon Gilley of Anoid Service, Inc., of Harbor City are (from left) Paul Marchese, Betty Carpenter, Bill Garrett, Roland Butler, Bill Carpenter, Quignon, and Joe Gonzales.**

## Assignment TV

By **TERRENCE O'FLAHERTY**

The new year's models are out and it is painfully evident that the ugliest thing in the American living room is still the television set. It would seem to be an easy trick for the Nation that designs the world's most beautiful kitchen appliances and plumbing fixtures to turn out a TV set that is not an eyesore.

The main problem is to close the eye of the monster when it is not being used. In otherwise handsome rooms, there it stands like a sightless skull trimmed in plastic, chrome and ersatz wood.

If the mechanics of the thing dictate that it must forever be as unbecoming as an open sink, then it could at least be covered up. We put covers on garbage cans, sewing machines, beds, pianos and toilets. People who are considerate of their neighbors even have doors on their garages. Why must television sets always be standing open?

Obviously I am overlooking \$2000 consoles, custom designed cabinets, and the rapidly growing American hobby of concealing the electronic plaything in Victorian wash stands, Louis XV commodes and in the knee-holes of Georgian desks. For years I kept mine in a closet and opened the door only when the thing was in use but the color sets have grown so large that it had to be moved to a wicker hamper.

**PORTABLES** are one answer and there is also some indication that color sets will be made lighter and smaller. But this only means that they can then be carried out of sight. While making them lighter and smaller they might also give some thought to making them more beautiful. Even the Japanese, who have an in-born sense of beauty unsurpassed in any other country, have failed to make the average TV set look much less obtrusive than a water cooler at a wedding. Until help comes in some

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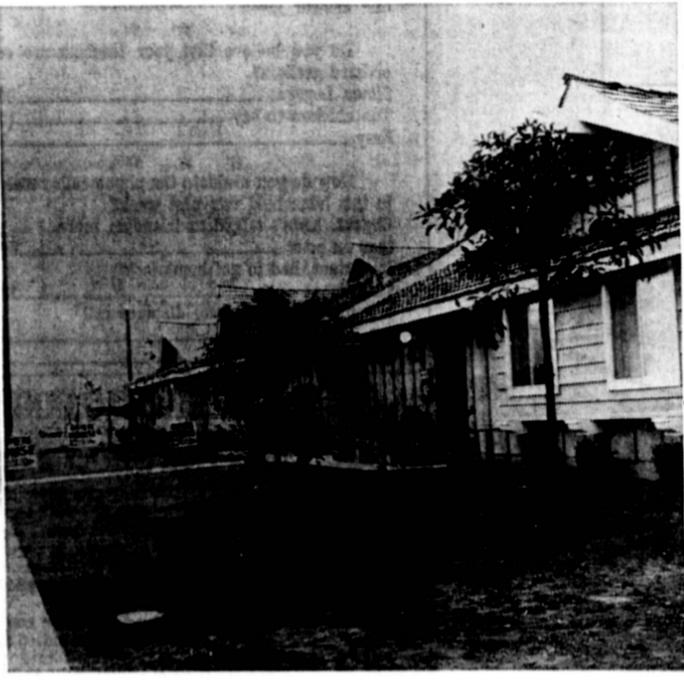
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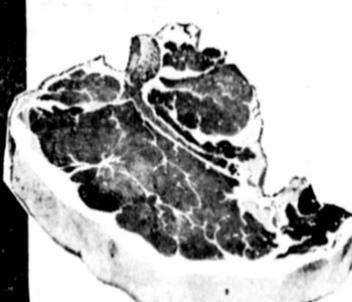
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