Luise Rainer as 'The Toy Wife' New Plaza Film

"The Toy Wife," starring Luise Rainer, with Melvyn Douglas and Robert Young sharing honors as leading men, is the special attraction which comes to the Plaza theatre in Hawthorne tonight.

The film is Miss Rainer's first since she and Spencer Tracy, both Academy Award winners for 1937, were co-starred in "Big City."

A story of life in New Orleans and on the Louisiana plantations of the 1850's, "The Toy Wife" presents Miss Rainer in the title role of "Froufrou" Brigard, with Douglas as George Sartoris, attorney and political figure whom she marries, and Young as Andre Vallaire, gambler, swordsman and also suitor for her hand.

Heading the supporting cast is Barbara O'Neil as Louise Brigard, the elder sister, with H. B. Warner as the father, Victor Brigard, and Alma Kruge as Mme. Vallaire, Andre's mother. Other players include Walter Kingsford as Judge Rondell, Leonard Penn and Alan Perl.

Hollywood Bowl Brings Ballet Next Tuesday

Only full length ballet of the season will be given in Hollywood Bowl, next Tuesday, Aug. 16, when Albertina Rasch brings her company of dancers for a specially arranged program to open the sixth week of Symphonies under the Stars.

A particular feature of the program will be Bowl premiere of Dimitri Tiomkin's "Lost Horizon" from the motion picture of the same name. The Hall Johnson choir will form an important part of this musical production.

For her two ballets of the evening Miss Rasch has chosen the ballet from the "Great Waltz," MGM picture based on the life of Johann Strauss, and the brilliant and colorful Roumanian Rhapsody by Georges Enesco. The two ballets will be conducted by Dr. Arthur Guttmann.

It pays to advertise in The Herald.

"BIRTH OF A BABY" HAILED FOR VIVID, DELICATE THEME

There has never before been a picture like "The Birth of a Baby," which opens at the Torrance theatre next Tuesday night. The usual critical vocabulary is useless in discussing the film, for the film itself is more than just a movie. It is Truth; vital, exciting, clean and unashamed truth.

About all a reporter can do is tell what the picture is about and then stand on a street corner and exhort passers-by to hurry to the Torrance theatre and see for themselves.

Filmed under the guidance of the American Committee on Maternal Welfare, "The Birth of a Baby" is simply what the title implies—a film showing the processes involved in having a baby. The picture, however, is not a dry affair of charts and lectures, but a pleasantly woven story that builds up interest from the moment it begins to the terrific climax of the sequences showing the actual birth of the baby.

It should be made emphatically clear, here and now, that the picture is clean. Clean as only truth can be clean, without a trace of the suggestive, the vulgar or the evil-minded.

The story is a plain one. Mary Burgess, a typical young American wife, is going to have a baby. The doctor tells her that she has been wise in coming to him early in her pregnancy, explaining clearly the biological fundamentals involved in having babies.

In one scene that is a triumph of technical skill and a moment of intense dramatic power, the audience hears for the first time the beating of the infant heart within the mother.

The climax of the picture is, of course, the minutes when the miracle of birth takes place. Only the picture as it was filmed can do justice to the power of that sequence, a power religious in its intensity and purity.

STIR OF LIFE

Richard Gordon as Dr. Wilson hears the throb of an unborn heart in "The Birth of a Baby," which opens Tuesday night at the Torrance theatre.

DETOUR

Col'm Under Construction
By BETSY BYRNES

The frogs are croaking in the yard,
Mosquitoes buzz about,
The heat we try to disregard.
Yes, summer's here, no doubt!

Well, summer IS the grand time of the year. We may kick about the heat a bit, but what of that? Friends in Elsinore say it's really hot there now, with the thermometer playing around 110 degrees. Makes 90 seem positively cool!

QUESTIONS

What is the phoenix? (P. S. We don't mean the Arizona city!)

Did you ever hear of the Old Lady of Threadneedle Street? Who is she?

Let's not neglect our Spanish translations: What do La Brea and Gaviota mean?

TODAY'S PROVERB

"Things don't turn up in this world until somebody turns them up."—James A. Garfield.

ANSWERS

The phoenix is a mythical bird. It has no mate, and according to legend, renews itself every 500 years. How? By being consumed in fire, then rising all young and fresh again from the ashes.

Well sir, the Old Lady of Threadneedle Street is just an affectionate nickname the Britishers have for the Bank of England.

La Brea, translated from the Spanish, means the pitch, or the asphalt. Gaviota means sea-gull.

ADIOS

We ran across this, The Scout's Oath, the other day:

"On my honor I will do my best:
To do my duty to God and my country, and obey the Scout law;
To help other people at all times;
To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight."

Boys who follow that faithfully are bound to become better men.

Beauty Parlor for Dogs

LOS ANGELES (U.P.) — The city planning commission has granted a six months' trial permit for the opening and operation of a canine beauty parlor.

COUNTY HOST

PAUL ENGSTRUM
Who has been appoined "official host" for Los Angeles county by the board of supervisors.

Young Entertainers Plan Show Aug. 15 For Local Relief

Dick Miller and his newly organized swing band, who for the past month have been working under the direction of Tom Ulrich, will present their first public entertainment, including a number of vaudeville acts, at the Civic Auditorium next Thursday night, Aug. 18.

The entertainment was at first planned to be admission free, but since money is needed for community relief, city officials suggested that a small admission fee might be used for just that purpose.

Tickets for adults will sell at 15 cents and children 10 cents. These may be purchased at the door. It is hoped that the auditorium will be packed for this affair, which will be the first appearance of the young swingsters.

POSTPONE RALLY

The political rally originally scheduled to be held at the Torrance Civic Auditorium next Wednesday, Aug. 17, has been postponed until the following Wednesday, Aug. 24, at 8 p. m. according to those in charge.

Noted Novel On Screen at Plaza Theatre

"White Banners," a dramatic screen presentation of Lloyd C. Douglas' best selling novel, will be presented at the Plaza theatre starting next Sunday. Douglas, whose books include the popular "Magnificent Obsession" and "Green Light," has given the screen version of "White Banners" his full approval.

The film is a picture with wide appeal. It tells the story of a typical small-town family, discouraged by the depression of the late 1920's. How they weather the economic storm and develop a new start in life is pure drama that will find a sympathic response from anyone who remembers those dark days.

The central feminine role is played by Fay Bainter, noted stage actress. Claude Rains has the principal male lead and Kay Johnson, Bonita Granville, Jackie Cooper round out the cast of principals with James Stephenson, Henry O'Neill, John Ridgely and J. Farrell McDonald in supporting roles.

Torrance Theatre Owners to Build Plant in Gardena

Construction of Gardena's first theatre will begin shortly after the first of September, according to Albert Mellinkoff and Harry Milstein, owners of the Torrance theatre, who will build and manage the nearby showhouse. They have purchased one of the corners of Gardena boulevard and Berendo street for the location of the 750-seat theatre.

Mellinkoff and Milstein are well equipped by training and experience to operate a successful theatre in the nearby city. Their Torrance theatre has proven a popular amusement center. Milstein will have charge of the operation of the Gardena theatre.

STATE PICNICS

IOWA . . . Plans are complete for the annual picnic-reunion of all Iowans Saturday, Aug. 13, at Bixby Park in Long Beach. More than 100,000 Hawkeyes are expected to attend. Registers will be open for every county and all Iowa colleges The program will start about 2 o'cock. Gov. Frank Merriam and Mrs. Ida B. Wise Smith, known as "Iowa's most distinguished woman," will speak.

DIXIE STATES . . . Former residents of Mississippi, Alabama, Florida and Louisiana will hold their picnic-reunion Saturday, Aug. 20, in Sycamore Grove Park, Los Angeles. Each state will have its own section of that popular center and programs will follow the basket dinner hour.

Hatfield Promises to Cut Sales Tax

"California's taxes can be reduced $25,000,000 a year without impairing or curtailing any of the essential functions of the state government; anl I pledge myself to make this reduction by recommending cutting the sales tax from 3 to 2½ or 2 percent and the reduction of the state income tax, especially for the lower salaried," Lieutenant-Governor George J. Hatfield said this week. Hatfield stated emphatically that he would oppose any cut in the school appropriations, and that he proposed to reduce taxes by eliminating governmental waste, inefficiency and patronage "payroll padding."

Rehearsing

Lenore Ulric, noted actress, posed on her arrival in Hollywood to begin rehearsals for the role of Martha, in Max Reinhardt's production of Goethe's "Faust," which opens Aug. 23 at the Pilgrimage Theater.

Political Group Has Office Here

California Federation of Political Unity has opened headquarters in Torrance at the corner of Carson and Cabrillo with William Phillips in charge. The C. F. P. V. is an organization sponsoring liberal and progressive candidates.

A meeting of the local committee has been called for next Sunday at the new headquarters to outline plans for the campaign, according to J. E. Shadday, who is assisting William Phillips.

Chamber Wins Contest Award

For its report on "Tax Economy" as this vital subject pertains to the city, the Torrance Chamber of Commerce was awarded one of the seven "honorable mentions" issued by the western division of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce last week at Palo Alto. Secretary L. J. Gilmeister, who was attending the western conference for commercial and trade secretaries there, received the attractive framed document.

The award followed an inter-chamber contest in which more than 60 cities entered. Taxation studies undertaken during the past year were the basis of the "Tax Economy" contest. Twelve chambers received awards of merit with Walla Walla, Wash., capturing first place. Second went to Glendale and Pasadena was third. Other awards were: Yakima, Wash., fourth; Salinas, fifth, and honorable mention to Torrance, Baker county, Ore., Eugene, Ore., Chehalis, Pullman and Raymond, Wash., and Hayward, Calif.

"Our entry was prepared by a special committee appointed by our immediate past president E. M. Barber," Gilmeister said on his return from the Palo Alto gathering last Saturday. "We would have scored higher if our tax set-up was more localized. For instance, we lost points because our taxes are collected by the county and because our schools are controlled by the Los Angeles city school system."

Students Indorse R.O.T.C.

CORVALLIS, Ore. (U.P.)—Compulsory military training in colleges was favored, 3 to 1, in a recent ballot at Oregon State College.

O'TOOLE RAPS ATTEMPT TO STAY PENSION

Commenting upon the action now before the courts to block the submission of the California Old-Age Retirement Act ($30-a-week pension) to a popular vote, James J. O'Toole, Democratic candidate for assemblyman in the 68th district, said today:

"The initiative, pioneered on the Pacific Coast, represents the people's assumption of the right to make their own laws or amend the State Constitution instead of depending entirely upon their representatives.

"Any attempt to exclude from the ballot a measure signed by almost a million people is a denial of their right of franchise. An issue of this kind involves more than a mere difference of opinion. It is the acceptance or rejection of the idea of Democracy itself, and leads to tyranny or dictatorship."

Set-Back Lines Are Approved

An ordinance establishing building lines 40 feet from the center of Arlington avenue from Redondo Beach boulevard to 190th street was adopted for its first reading by the city council Tuesday night. The measure was requested by the County Planning commission several weeks ago.

A GOOD HABIT

Check The Herald's classified advertising section weekly.