## Letters To The Editor

### Ex-Fireman, Now in Japan, Challenges Author of Letter Rapping Army

May 16, 1951
Sendai, Japan

Editor:

I do not know if you will publish this, but here is hoping that you will. It is in regard to a letter that you received from this battalion.

First, I want you to note that the signatures on that particular letter were those of sergeants, and most of them are from our Headquarters and Service Company. Also note they are veterans and that they did on their own free will sign up in the National Guard for three years for better or for worse. I listen to them each day and their complaint is this:

"We are vets. We should not be here."

What they really mean is this:

"I signed up in the guard to draw government money every three months, but now I do not care to pay for it!"

DEPORT SKIDMORE
. . . Challenges Writer

What I am really driving at is this: These men are sergeants, one a first sergeant, and they are setting a very poor example by writing such a thing. The letter to my knowledge is untrue. The men who are unfit for service (line) are being weeded out and given jobs they can perform. They (the sergeants) spend most of their time finding out a way of beating this army and pointing out the mistakes that the army makes. All this is done in front of the men, consequently the morals is very low in the battalion.

My impression of a non-commissioned officer is (and always will be) that he must be able to receive and obey orders. Also to see that the men are taken care of. This particular group (all from the Torrance area) have been very selfish and thinking of no one but themselves.

If it is signatures that are needed, I shall get the backbone of the army to sign—the private!

Sgt. D. L. SKIDMORE
(Fire Department)

(Editor's note:—Sergeant Deport Skidmore, currently on military leave from the Torrance Fire Department, refers to a letter published in this newspaper on May 3, 1951. In that letter a VFW official now on duty with the 578th Combat Engineers in Japan, rapped the Army on the call-up of the guard).

## Cub Pack Wins Catalina Tour

Cub Scouts Charles Sherfey and Bobby Cato of Pack 241-C were the top ticket salesmen in the area for the recent Scout Circus, it was announced at a pack meeting last Friday.

Sherfey received a flash camera as first prize, and Cato received a camera for second prize. The pack also won the unit prize and will get an expense-paid trip to Catalina in the near future.

During the evening's meeting at the St. Andrew's Guild hall Phillip Nickol was awarded a Wolf Badge and a Gold Arrow. Colors were advanced by Jay Bennett and Lary Graham. Phillip Nickol led the pledge of allegiance. Following the ceremonies, a sports movie was shown.

## Jr. Statesmen Group Attend Conference

Five members of the Torrance High School Chapter, Junior Statemen of America, accompanied by their faculty sponsor, Edward A. Reynolds, attended a Southern California regional convention held at the Monrovia-Arcadia-Duarte High School in Monrovia last Saturday. Following a day of legislation, and election of regional officers for the coming year, the Torrance group had dinner together at the Travis House and enjoyed a Hawaiian dancing party in the evening at the home of one of the Arcadia Chapter members in Upper Rancho Santa Anita Oaks.

The students making the trip included Miss Barbara Jackson, who served as regional clerk the past year, Miss Doris Ahrendt, Miss Suzanne Benard, Bill Irwin and Donald Babbitt.

Reynolds has served a term as regional sponsor, and recently completed a two-year term as one of two state teacher-sponsor.

### Community Sing Slated for Park

Merwyn Dant, accompanied by Virginia McLeod, will lead the free community sing at Pt. Fermin in San Pedro Sunday afternoon begining at 2.

## Yovan Popovich Named To College Frat Post

Yovan Popovich, son of J. E. Popovich, 2067 Carson street, was recently elected to serve as sergeant-at-arms of Sigma Pi fraternity for the coming academic year at the Santa Barbara College of the University of California. A social science major, Popovich is now in his junior year.

Sugar cane comprises the largest crop in Cuba.