



HAPPY FOSTER FAMILY . . . Mrs. John R. Garner, who for 18 years was active in PTA work, and her husband, once dubbed the "PTA Papa" because of his activities in the organization, enjoy a little sunshine in the backyard of their 803 Amapola Ave. home with their five foster children. Sitting on grandpa's knee is Stanley Smith, and

leaning against him is Ted Chandler. Kristen Anderson takes over grandma's lap while Richard Antonucci perches on a toy train and Mary Frances Lee sits on the tricycle. The Garners have lived in Torrance for 17 of their 29 years of married life, coming here in 1936.

Ad Man Gets New Account

Jay H. DeLany, classified advertising manager of the Torrance Herald, got a new account with a long-time run this week. His wife gave birth to an 8 lb. 10 oz. baby boy Thursday at 4:50 a.m. at St. John's Hospital in Santa Monica. The DeLanys, who live at 3714 W. 145th St., Hawthorne, have named the new arrival Richard Jess. They have one other child, a 22-month-old daughter, Michele.

Invest New Girl Scout Troop Today

A new Intermediate Girl Scout Troop sponsored by Madrona Ave. PTA will be invested at ceremonies in the Girl Scout House on W. Carson St. this afternoon.

Mrs. A. B. Cowie will open the two o'clock rites by investing Mrs. T. C. Smiley as neighborhood chairman. Mrs. Smiley will in turn invest Mesdames E. C. Osterlind and Robert Church as leaders of the new troop.

Following presentation of wings to Brownies who are "flying up" into the intermediate group, and the investiture ceremony, Mrs. Elizabeth Allen, president of the VFW Auxiliary No. 3253, will present the troop flag on behalf of her club.

Brownies "flying up" into the Girl Scout club are Carolyn Church, Carla Osterlind, Patricia Smiley, Janice Jackson, Pauline Yuasha, and Barbara Mowrer. Others to be invested are Kathleen Brady, Jerry Ann Brunner, Jo Evelyn Cogburn, Sandra Hanni, Judith McDougall, and Shirley DeBratz. The new troop is No. 1283.



AFTERNOON TEA . . . Mrs. C. H. Ragsdale, wife of the newly-elected Kiwanis president, seated, was guest of honor Tuesday at a tea held at the 1448 Post Ave. home of Mrs. Paul Loranger, second from right. At the left of the photo are Mesdames G. M. Eastham and Byron Scotton, wives of the new Kiwanian second and first vice-presidents, respectively.

SIX RECEIVE BLUE STAR INSIGNIA

Six mothers of servicemen became members of Blue Star Mothers of America, Torrance Chapter No. 22, at last Tuesday night's meeting, held at the 122 E. 223rd St. Keystone home of the president, Mrs. Clyde Jones.

Initiated were Mesdames John Koshak, Ernest Meyers, Frank Norris, Ralph Fritz, John Beahen, and Eva Maloy.

Mrs. Maloy will entertain her club sisters at a sewing bee next Friday, Mar. 27, at her home, 2529 Engracia Ave. home. Finished articles will be presented to veterans' hospitals in this area.

The local Blue Star moms will join with the Long Beach chapter in staging "The Spring Festival" at North Long Beach on Apr. 18. Further plans for the affair will be made at the next club session, to be held Apr. 14 at 7:30 p.m., at the Methodist Church.

Legion Ladies Slate Tuesday Card Party

Games of bridge, canasta, and pinocle will highlight next Tuesday's American Legion Auxiliary card party, to begin at 8 p.m. at the Legion Hall on Border Ave. Prizes will be awarded for top scores in each game, and refreshments will be served.

Flower Show for her specimen blossoms.

"A day nursery isn't the kind of work which will make you rich," Mrs. Garner laughed, "because to get a license the county requires that you have an adequate income from some other source. And there is a lot of expense involved in getting play equipment for the children."

"But we both like it, because we love children. After raising our own boys, it's fun helping to raise someone else's. It's good to have children around the house again."

And the children? Parents tell the Garners that each weekend their tots are always pestering to "go to Nana Garner's house!"

LILACS AND LOVE Colorful History, Romantic Tales Surround Red Lilac

Spring is the traditional time for flowers and romance—and perhaps the one flower above all others which has symbolized romance since the beginning of recorded time, has been the red lilac.

In fact, as legend would have it, when the truest love of all is found, lilacs bloom red.

ORIGINATES IN CHINA
These exquisite flowers, which originated on the mountain slopes of China are mentioned frequently in Chinese lore and legend, and are frequently seen in early paintings. Appropriately, the Chinese name for the lilac is "the flower that speaks the language of love."

From China, the delicate red blossoms were brought over the long trade routes to Persia along with apricots and other plants which are also Chinese in origin. Traders then brought them into Europe from Persia, and later the Crusaders carried them as they passed through the Middle East. It was not long before the cuttings of lilacs had traveled from Southern Europe, Transylvania and Turkey, into Spain, and thence to England, where they were much admired.

PROFUSE IN ENGLAND
The British still make their love of the lilac known when they refer to Kew Gardens, which is well planted with the lovely flower. Many a visitor to England has been invited to "Come out to Kew in lilac-time. It isn't far from London . . ."

"Today, in America, the lilac appears mainly in hedge-grows or gardens, or standing stanchly on hilltops. Its fascination is due principally to the beauty and exotic shadings of color. The lilac is often called the "May Flower" as it blossoms to full beauty during that month, as if to celebrate the fertile spring. It is a flower of fond memories, reblooming again and again . . . from generation to generation.

INSPIRES LEGENDS
Legends of the red lilac are as romantic as the flower itself.

There is the story of the princess who, given a red lilac, so fell in love with it that when offered a choice of her crown or the possession of the lilac, chose the latter, surrendering her jeweled crown for the dainty posies.

And then there is the legend of the lovely maiden who was turned into a red lilac by a witch who was jealous of the young girl's beauty. The only way the maiden could be freed of the curse was to have someone pick the lilac and admire its special beauty.

As the story goes, a handsome prince came upon the lilac bush one day and, overcome by its rapturous color, he plucked the flower from the bush and pressed it to his chest. The witch's spell was broken, and as in all perfect love stories, the maiden and her prince lived happily forever after—in a garden thickly planted with red lilacs, of course.

AIDS BEAUTY
In old England, the dew of the lilac, fresh-picked at dawn, was believed a powerful agent for making the face fair, and many a lass rushed to the wood or garden before the sun rose to secure this treasured liquid.

The red lilac was once hung on the door of a maiden by her swain, to show that love had found her. In some places, it was almost as firm a ritual as the engagement ring is with us today.

With such a romantic and colorful tradition, it is no wonder that today, as in years past, the red lilac is one of the favorite spring-time flowers.

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'Nana Garner' Leads Active Life With Pre-School Kiddies

This is a story about a grandmother who is different from most. She has no grandchildren. Yet, for five days every week she has five, all between the ages of two and five.

For Mrs. John R. Garner, 803 Amapola Ave., unlike many women of her age who pass the time knitting or crocheting or playing bridge, has turned her house into a "Happy Home Nursery" for the children of working mothers.

HELPS OTHERS
"It gives me something to do," she said, "and at the same time, I feel that I'm also doing something to help someone else. Today, so many mothers work that there is a real need for nursery schools. And, it is a good thing for an only child, because in a nursery he can learn to get along with other children. He can make the social contacts which will make him a better-adjusted adult."

Mrs. Garner started the project last spring, but years of working with children have given her a good background for the task which would make most women turn up their hands in despair.

A graduate of Iowa Teachers' College with a major in child psychology, she taught at the elementary level for five years before her marriage. Then, after she married in 1924, when her first son, Bob, started kindergarten, she became active in PTA work.

Bob and his younger brother, Bill, are both staff sergeants with the U. S. Air Force. Bob is working with military intelligence at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, while Bill is serving at the Okada Air Base in Japan.

CONTINUES IN PTA
Mrs. Garner continued PTA work after she and her husband came to Torrance in 1936. During her years here, she served as president of Fern Ave. PTA from 1941 to 1942, as president of the Lomita-San Pedro Council from 1945 through 1947, and also did publicity work for the district for four years.

"But I had to give up my PTA three years ago when I went to the hospital for surgery," she said, "and when I was well again, I got the idea for the nursery, feeling that I could be of more use in that field."

Dental Health Story Told to Senior Club

Needs of the Torrance Dental Health Clinic were brought before members of the Torrance Woman's Club Wednesday afternoon when they met at the clubhouse, 1422 Engracia Ave.

Speaker for the day was George C. Powell, assistant director of civil defense. Club members also heard reports of the recent district convention in Los Angeles from the delegates, Mrs. A. F. R. Ewalt, retiring president; Mrs. Grover Van Deventer, incoming president; and Miss Frances Dimitri. Fashion show reports were made by Mesdames E. L. Snodgrass and Lee A. McCoy, co-chairman of the affair.

Mesdames Ruth Rogers, W. D. Jones, and H. H. Jones joined the delegates at the evening banquet which climaxed the convention.

So now the lady who looks like everyone thinks a grandmother should look—white-haired, smiling, and buxom—really is a grandmother. And Mr. Garner, once dubbed the "PTA Papa" because of his active work in the organization, is a kindly and patient grandpa; always ready to take one, or more of the tots on his knee and tell stories on his "days off" from work at Columbia Steel.

TIME FOR ROSES
It's a lot of work, Mrs. Garner admits, but she still has time to devote to her second love.

While the kiddies are playing in the spacious back yard, she keeps an eye on them, and at the same time works in her rose garden. She has nearly 60 different types, and walked off with nearly all the rose ribbons at last year's Hobby, Arts, and

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