

# Oldest Teacher Retiring

(Continued from page 1)  
to do with her parents who lived in West Los Angeles. Mrs. Dalton said that she had promised her husband she would give up teaching if they could move to California.

An interesting coincidence Mrs. Dalton's father, a cousin of Mrs. Dalton's father, was then principal of Reedy School, and while the Daltons were on their way to California a letter from Miss Cobb was on its way to Washington telling of a vacancy at Reedy.

With no expectation of getting the position after the board had stated their preference for a "native daughter" Mrs. Dalton applied. To her surprise several days later she received a letter stating that she had been elected to the position. In consideration of the children's needs Mrs. Dalton was released from her previous position.

Although she taught the first four grades the first couple of years to the old building, she devoted her time mainly to the first grade. She is justifiably proud that she never missed one year of teaching since 1892.

It had always wanted to be a teacher ever since it was a wee child," Mrs. Dalton declared. "I never wanted to be anything else."

When she came in 1922, there were 46 or 50 children enrolled. She and Miss Cobb constituted the entire teaching staff at that time. Forty now has an enrollment of 888 students with 25 teachers, a principal, vice principal and school nurse to make up the staff.

The 40,000 paid children of more or conservative estimate, whom she has taught over the 39 years include children of many of her former students.

When questioned about the changes she has seen through her years in the field of education Mrs. Dalton said she had seen many changes. "Some of them I have seen along with old children I taught in the early years, the program was more 'curriculum centered' than 'child centered.' The program now takes the child more into consideration."

"When we were supervised by the county we had to cover a certain amount of work between visits from the supervisor. This presented difficulties with the children who were foreigners and who had to learn the language. Now the child is considered as an individual and allowed to advance at his own rate wherever possible," she said.

**CHILD'S GIVEN DAYS**  
She noted a certain nostalgia for the times when schools were smaller. "We knew the whole community better. There were few transient families as compared with now. In the smaller schools there was a warm spirit and often the schools, with the church, were the centers of community life. There were parties at the schools and the whole family came."

Mrs. Dalton feels that the conference system offers a great opportunity for parents and teachers to learn more about the children.

Records show that many Japanese children have attended Ferry School. When asked about the reaction to Japanese relocation during World War II, she said, "I knew the Japanese very well. There were 10 little girls and one little boy who were relocated in the spring of 1942. They were good students and got lots of stars for knowing their vocabulary. After the Japanese child left, one of the students made the remark, 'we don't get as many stars on our chart now that the Japanese children are gone.' I'll never forget that remark." Mrs. Dalton added, her eyes far-away remembering, saying goodbye to little children so eager to learn and who tried so hard. "It made a lot of difference in the school."

Showing pictures of a school program given some years ago, Mrs. Dalton said, "You can see the gorgeous Japanese kimono the children wore. Their mothers took such pride in fixing them up for the program. We always planned a prettiness where the children might wear their lovely kimono, with yards and yards of material in 'packs' on their backs."

**FUTURE PLANS**  
Coming back to the present, Mrs. Dalton remarked with a smile, "I have not been happy and enjoyed my work. Everyone has given me such wonderful support!"

"My future plans" all center about all kinds of reading and some gardening. She has a house at 44 Palms and where she will be living most of the time. She has a hobby of cards. There will be opportunities to do church and Sunday school work, perhaps some "PWA" listening to her, one that she feels her life would continue to be fulfilled with service to others as it always has been.

The Dalton's tentative plans include some traveling, a "little scouting" through our own United States. We want to drive into Canada and through the northern states, depending upon how my husband, who has been ill lately.

And how do those people feel who have worked closely with her through the years? Speaking for all who know her are the following: John W. Dixon, who is completing his second year as principal at Reedy, says, "Those of us who have worked with Mrs. Dalton have received the enrichment of a life dedicated to education. Her friendly, quiet and generous manner has led us on to a better life. In these years of teaching, she has opened the hearts of a teacher who has continuously enjoyed seeing the children and the parents of our community. The influence of her life flows on in ever widening circles."

Mrs. Lester Foster, now principal at Edison School and formerly principal at Ferry for six years, prior to Mr. Dixon, said, "Mrs. Dalton to me, truly symbolizes the spirit of a God-given teacher. She leaves behind a reputation of service that the storms of time can never destroy. She has written her name on this monument with kindness, love and understanding on the hearts of thousands with whom she has come in contact these past 39 years of teaching in Torrance. Children, teachers and parents alike have been blessed by her presence."

**THEY LOVE HER**  
Mr. Robert C. Morton, now in charge of district personnel at the Administration Building, and formerly principal at Ferry when it first became part of the Torrance school system, said with great feeling, "Mrs. Dalton's many outstanding professional qualities include her sincere love and acceptance of each child in her room and her ability to stimulate children to do their best work. As a former principal of Ferry, I considered it a privilege to observe this master teacher in the classroom." The sentiments of these men, whose lives are also dedicated to the welfare and well being of children, are echoed over and over in the hearts of the thousands who have known her and will miss her and all the good things she stood for and represented.

The Ferry PTA is having a reception and an Open House, Friday, May 24, from 9:30 to 1:30. Invitations have been

sent out to many old friends, students and parents as continuing to all her former students, parents, teachers and friends to attend and say "hello" to Mrs. Dalton. Different and associate for its years it is in charge of the affair.

Mrs. Dalton's friends will not allow her to leave without honoring her. Mrs. Bennett declared, "Mrs. Dalton will not come to Reedy quietly and want to leave the same way but her many, many friends will see to it that she goes like that."

**Church Group In School Room Classes**  
An old fashioned school session provided an interesting program at the monthly inspirational meeting of the Women of the Church held in the Reedy room at the First Lutheran Church on Tuesday, May 10.

Devotions were presented by Mrs. Ed Schwarz, Mrs. Don Anderson and Mrs. William Robinson.

The program was outlined as various study projects. Emphasis was the year spent by the Women's Missionary Federation in history, the organization of the National Women's Missionary Federation, its officers, headquarters, number of districts, societies and auxiliaries were studied. Group centers singing made up the music class and the Women's Missionary Outlook magazine served for reading. Christian service and special needs was the social science phase and arithmetic signs were minus, general expense plus, handicrafting, division, foreign missions, and multiplication. Life number, steps, and funds for Mexico missions.

Special notes of business were the annual Southern California District convention at Santa Ana May 21 when election of officers and department chairman will be held. Two local women will be on the district ballot. They are Mrs. Marvin McCase, for junior mission fund department chairman, and Mrs. William Crocker, Christian Service department chairman.

Delegates to the convention are Mrs. Stuart Phillips, Fred Kalkin and Don Friberg; choruses, Mrs. R. J. Proud, William Crocker, and Marvin McCase.

A social hour followed program and business session.

**ATTEND SHOW**  
Among those from Torrance attending "Torrance Night" last Tuesday at Caribay Circle for the showing of "90 Days Around the World" were Mr. and Mrs. Thomas F. McNeil, Jack and Jean McNeil, Jerry Doyle, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Lee Jordan and Kerl of Riviers and Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Priny and Linda of Los Angeles.

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CHICKEN NOODLE or TOMATO VEGETABLE 3 1/2 oz. 41c  
MEAT VEGETABLE or ONION 2 1/2 oz. 36c

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## Pi Phi's Given Three Awards By Council

The Pi Phi chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority held its regular meeting Wednesday, May 11, 8 p.m., at the home of Mrs. Charles Fitzgerald in Hawthorne. Sixteen members and one guest, Mrs. Jack Parker, were in attendance.

Mrs. Robert Coit, president, presided at the business meeting. She announced to the members that Pi Phi chapter won the three trophies presented by South Bay Area Council at the Rounders they bought on April 27 for the following: Best Scrapbook, Best Achievement Report and Girl of the Year. Mrs. Bob Garrison member was chosen as Pi Phi's Girl of the Year as well as the Council Girl of the Year. The trophies were brought to this meeting for all to see.

Mrs. Coit also announced that Pi Phi plans to enter their scrapbook in the Southern California Council contest at the May 5 breakfast at the Los Angeles Bessie Coleman Hotel. Acceptances will be selected from California to be judged at the statewide convention which will be held at the Ambassador Hotel, May 28-31. These winners will be chosen and prizes will be awarded in the amount of \$20, first prize \$25, second prize \$10, third prize \$5. Eight members of Pi Phi are attending the breakfast on Sunday. They are: Mrs. Coit, Mrs. Bob Garrison, Mrs. Robert Coit, Mrs. Ernest Sommerville, Mrs. Thayne Connel, Mrs. Donald Bradford, Mrs. Steve Neely and Miss Dorothy Stewart.

Mrs. Garrison, Pi Phi's chairman for the South Bay Area Council Bessie Cole to be held on Friday, May 10 in front of the Security First National Bank, 21 Segunda, asked for volunteers to work from 10 to 1:30 p.m. Those volunteering were: Mrs. Donald Hake, Jim Siamatis, Steve Neely, Donald Bradford and Garrison. All members will make for this event.

The program of the evening was conducted by the members who recently took their Ritual of Jewish Degree. It was entitled "The Coming of Light" and was based on a talk-off of a business meeting of the assembly and presented by the following members who organized and wrote the script for the entire program: Mrs. Dorothy Bradford, James Siamatis,

## FIN of A Fete Family Party Occasion 36th Anniversary

The 36th anniversary of the founding of the Torrance camp of the Royal Neighbors of America will be observed on Tuesday evening, May 21, at the Torrance Woman's Club on Congress. Attending as special guest will be Mrs. Berlin Sherman, 812 Herring Ave., who is the only charter member of the Torrance camp now residing in Torrance.

The camp was instituted May 21, 1896. The Royal Neighbors of America renewed their charter in 1896 from the state of Illinois and is the largest national benefit organization in the United States whose principal officers are women. Their national home is in Danversport, Iowa.

Guest officers will occupy the stations during the lodge session, coming from the various camps in the South Bay district. Neighbor Lucille Meyer will be the program chairman and Neighbor Dorothy Malloy is in charge of refreshments.

**DONALD WEAR**  
Mr. and Mrs. Denver Wear are announcing the birth of a son on May 10 at the Bay Cities Community Hospital. The young man who weighed 7 lb. 10 oz. has been named Donald Lynn. Mrs. Wear is the former Dorothy Indian. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Leo Indian and Mrs. Martin Lacey.

**WEEK END GUESTS**  
Visiting Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Jackson, 3480 Del Amo, were Mrs. Jackson's aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Olinger and their daughter Geraldine from Dinuba. They remained over the week end.

Other guests in the Jackson home on Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. John Underwood, their daughter, Mrs. J. D. Gobel, and her children, David and Betty. They are all residents of Orange.

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