



FUN AND BUSINESS . . . PTA presidents of the Torrance Council, council directors and council parliamentarian met for a morning session Tuesday at the R. E. Trimble home, 2706 Grand Summit Rd. Participation in the Pomona Fair, fall conference, workshops and the over-all PTA picture for the year were studied. After the strenuous morn-

ing, the presidents enjoyed a social. Some of them relaxing here are (from left, back row) Mmes. William Cassida, Kenneth McVey, Henry Graef, Clyde Miller, Gordon Stephens. Front row (from left): Mmes. Don Robinson, William Poser, Ben Holden, and J. J. Lawlor.

Exciting War Dept. Career Recounted by Local Woman

By VONDA CARLTON

In a house filled with exquisite oriental furnishings, lives a woman who spent an exciting 31 years as a civilian attached to the United States Army.

Miss Lillian Muhs, 2764 Sonoma Ave., retired nearly eight years ago—but not before she had accumulated a lifetime store of memories.

The memories include being in Manila before the outbreak of the second World War; a friendship with a Colonel who was to become the president of the United States; service in Japan during the evacuation of Korea before the war broke out there; and duty as a transcriber while the Army conducted war crimes trials of some of the most infamous Japanese leaders.

Miss Muhs embarked on her career during World War I. But for a slight matter of a living wage she might have been in the Navy.

"I went down to sign up as a Yeowoman in the Navy. But when they told me what they paid, and that I would have to provide my own quarters and uniforms, I couldn't live on the money," she relates.

Passing a civil service examination she soon was assigned to Trenton, N. J. where women were making shirts for the soldiers.

It was Miss Muhs' job to issue pay checks to the women for their work.

She was with the finance department, which was a division of the War Department, when it was first started.

Still with the finance office, she was sent to Manila for the first time in 1934. While there she met Colonel Dwight D. Eisenhower.

"I would make out his pay voucher and he returned it to me for processing, after he had signed it.

"Anytime I wanted information from him, he either called or came to my office. He was one of the most democratic officers I have met," Miss Muhs declared.

But not so with General Douglas MacArthur. He had his sergeant call and relay the message. "He was much more formal, but just the same, he was a great man," she avowed. Before returning home in 1939, there already was much

talk of war. Gas masks were distributed, drills were conducted and evacuations planned.

"We knew war was coming. The Japanese were fighting the Chinese and everyone in Manila knew it was just a matter of time."

"Officers coming in to the office with their pay vouchers carried stories of Japanese fortifying islands off the coast of the Philippines, so we knew there wasn't much hope for peace."

In 1946, Miss Muhs once again returned to Manila. This time for a serious task. She was to serve as transcriber during the war crime trials.

"I saw death sentences handed down, and I still remember the stone faces of the Japanese as they accepted the sentence to 'hang by the neck until dead.'"

The Torrance woman still has some of the trial transcripts, now yellowed with age but containing records of some of the most heinous crimes imaginable.

Still with the war department, Miss Muhs traveled on to Tokyo in 1947 where she was a chief clerk in the mining and geological department.

Once again came rumors of war. This time in Korea. And the evacuation of civilians was started.

Returning in 1949, she made her home in Torrance. Through-out the pleasant house are reminders of the places she has been.

Most of the furniture is beautifully hand-carved Chinese pieces. Oriental tapestries decorate the walls and silk screen prints also occupy places of honor.

And against one wall in the living room, stands a hand-carved chest—filled with exquisite linens and silks purchased in the 1930s when workmanship was still an art. The quality of the linen,



MRS. LILLIAN MUHS . . . Reading Trial Script

hand-weaves, embroidery around any room in her house work can not be found today. to be reminded of the 31 years. Although retired, Miss Muhs she spent in the service of this has only to cast her eyes country.

Christian Circle Slate

Circles of the Christian Women's Fellowship of the First Christian Church will meet as follows:

Kamikawa, Mrs. Elmer Moon leader, with Mrs. Ada Drake as hostess in the Fireside room at the church Tuesday, Aug. 13 at 1 p.m.

Hendricks, Mrs. Pauline Sharp leader, with Mrs. Lucille Forsythe, 18814 Haas Ave., Tuesday, Aug. 20, at 7:30 p.m.

Hughes, Mrs. Dorothy Smith leader, on Tuesday, Aug. 20, at 7:30 p.m. with Mrs. Smith, 23811 Madison.

Palmer, Mrs. Yolanda Stewart leader, at the home of Mrs. Barbara Parker, Tuesday, Aug. 20, at 8 p.m.

Rossman, Mrs. Connett leader, on Tuesday, Aug. 20 at 12:30 p.m., at the home of Mrs. Gladys Pietzschke, 2765 W. Carson.

Sharrock, Mrs. Grace Good leader, will not meet during August.

SEWING CIRCLE

The Sewing Circle of the Torrance Royal Neighbors will hold a potluck and card party at the local Woman's Club Tuesday noon. Margaret Stavens, president, will be in charge.

Parlor Seats President

Tierra del Rey Parlor 300, Hermosa Beach, Native Daughters of the Golden West, installed Mrs. J. G. Lawrence as its third vice president at its meeting Aug. 5.

During a business session, plans for the coming year were discussed. They include a potluck dinner for the September meeting, a rummage sale for Sept. 12, 13 and 14, with Mrs. William Rozaire in charge.

Oct. 26 is the date set for a fashion show and luncheon to be held at the Redondo Beach Elks Club.

A special guest at the meeting was Mrs. Edrene Carner of Glendale, deputy grand president of Tierra del Rey parlor.

Fun and Fund

Fun and Fund Club of Torrance Rebekahs will have a picnic in Torrance Park Monday at 6 p.m.

The event is open to all Odd Fellows, Rebekahs and their friends.

Minna Pistel is in charge. Those who plan to attend should bring their own basket lunch.

Lodge Night

Members of the Rebekah Lodge will meet Wednesday, 8 p.m., in the Torrance Masonic Temple. Juanita McNew will be hostess.

Rebekahs met last Wednesday for a card party and 14 tables were set up at the Temple.

Fronia Branagh and Retta Nelson were in charge of refreshments.

ME SOCIETY MEETS AUG. 13

Women's Society of Christian Service of the Riviera Methodist Church will meet at the home of Mrs. Lenora Anderson, 347 Calle De Andalucia, Hollywood Riviera on Tuesday, Aug. 13 at 7:30 p.m.

Mrs. J. T. McClure, president has announced that an interesting program consisting of slides of Mexico will be shown by Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Jordan. All members are urged to attend.

CIRCLE MEETING

Margaret Worrell Circle of the First Baptist Church will meet Tuesday evening at the home of Mrs. Bill Moon, 2910 Eldorado at 7:30 p.m. Guest speaker will be Miss Dana Cecil of the Riverside Baptist College.

Oracles Plan Picnic Here

South Bay Oracles, past and present, will meet Monday noon for a picnic in Torrance Park.

The Gardena Camp will be hostess for the event. Oracles from San Pedro, Redondo Beach, Ocean Park, Culver City, Inglewood, and Torrance as well as Gardena will be present.

On Tuesday evening, a group of Torrance members will attend the district meeting in Culver City.

ARIZONA GUESTS

Mr. and Mrs. Morris Branham and children, Shannah, Rodger and Rodney, left Wednesday for their home after a visit here with Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Allison on Glenburn Ave. The Allisons and their guests spent some time in Santa Barbara and visited places of interest in the area.

AT YOSEMITE

Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Beeton and Rodger and Cheryl, 3437 175th St., spent a week recently at Yosemite National Park.

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