

YMCA's Youth Program Booming As Holiday Spirit Grips Members

The Torrance YMCA youth program continues to boom as the holidays approach. One hundred and seventy-two fathers and sons attended the YMCA's Mistletoe Camp at Round Meadow last week end. The men and boys enjoyed hikes in the forest, snow sports, and a roaring fire in the huge dining lodge. More than 2000 cups of coffee were served to the dads during the crisp outing.

YMCA football and basketball tournaments were also held last week end for older youth, and teenagers attended a dance at the Y.

SEVERAL YMCA clubs pitched in to help prepare the YMCA Christmas Tree lot now in operation. The youth agency is conducting its annual tree sale at the corner of Cota Ave. and Torrance Blvd. The lot will be manned by various Y groups, and all proceeds will be used for local youth work projects.

The YMCA staff is mailing an eight-page "Family Christmas Ideas" to all members

and friends of the Y. This service seeks to enrich the companionship of each Torrance family as they celebrate Christmas this year. Included are stories, poems, the real Christmas story, decoration ideas, things to do as a family, and craft ideas. Any family desiring a copy may call the YMCA at FA 8-1272, and it will be mailed as a gift.

THE YMCA headquarters at 2080 Washington Ave. looks like a bulging warehouse this week as canned goods, workable toys, and warm clothes continue to pour in for the Y's Needy Navajo project. Twenty-five teenagers are preparing to deliver several tons of desperately needed gifts to the Navajo Indians in Moenave, Ariz. The sorting job will keep many hands busy until the departure date of Dec. 26.

The Navajos will celebrate their Christmas on Dec. 28, so that the Torrance YMCA trucks can be on hand with gifts for these destitute people. Local boys and girls will see that all donations reach proper desti-

nations. The Y still is short of canned food, nuts, and workable toys for the 2000 people depending upon Torrance charity.

ANOTHER group of teenagers are readying themselves for a rugged expedition up the Colorado River by boat. On Dec. 29, a select group of older boys will depart for this trip with the YMCA. They will camp out in the snow, boat up into the Grand Canyon to the bat caves, water ski on icy Lake Mead, and visit Hoover Dam.

Funds are also coming in for the YMCA's World Service program launched on Thanksgiving Day. Thus far, \$750 has been contributed to the YMCA Orphanage at Seoul, Korea. These funds came from a Rummage Sale; personal giving by YMCA kids in camp and club; and, donations for world brotherhood from scores of adults. Teenagers will also hold a World Service Dance on Dec. 16 to add more to these gifts.

ON MONDAY, Dec. 19, all

children are invited to the YMCA from 10 a.m. until noon to learn to wrap Christmas gifts. Mrs. Opal Herrmann will teach the youngsters to tie ribbons and prepare beautiful packages for their parents. The event is free of charge, but youngsters are asked to bring paper, ribbons, and gifts to be wrapped. The program will be concluded with caroling and a brief Christmas worship service.

Many parties and service projects, as well as caroling and Christmas worship, will be conducted in the regular meetings of the 100 YMCA youth groups meeting regularly in Torrance.

Marine Pvt. James F. Perry, son of Mr. and Mrs. John F. Perry of 619 Arlington Ave., completed the four-week Aviation Mechanical Fundamentals School at the Naval Air Technical Training Center, Memphis, Tenn.

The course, which ended Dec. 9, prepares graduates for study of the more technical phases of Marine Corps Aviation.



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