



A COURTROOM SCENE . . . Is portrayed as El Camino College dramatics students rehearse for the forthcoming production of "Inherit the Wind" in the Campus Theater. Portraying lead roles will be (l-r) Gary Sturm, Silvia Granieri, Irvin Shilvey and Ed Crosby.

El Camino Thespians to Present 'Inherit the Wind' in January

"Inherit the Wind," El Camino College midwinter play, will be presented in the college campus theater, Jan. 13, 14, 20 and 21.

Directed by Burnett Ferguson, theater-arts instructor, and student assistants Cliff Potts and Ed Crosby, the play is scheduled to feature experienced theater arts majors.

THE TWO main leads in the production, Henry Drummond and Mathew Harrison Brady, will be played by David Violette and Gary Sturm, respectively.

appeared in the El Camino production "Kiss Me Kate" and in local plays, "Mousetrap," and "White Cargo." He directed "Speaking of Murder." Violette has hopes of becoming a professional actor.

PORTRAYING William Jennings Bryan (Brady in the ECC production) will be Sturm, who resides in Hawthorne. Sturm played the lead in "White Cargo" at the Chapel Theater and the lead in "Holiday for Lovers" at Hampton Players. Intending to enter theater work as a career, Sturm has studied for a year under Eric

Feidary. Ed Crosby, Torrance, plays the part of Bertram Cates, a young school teacher. Crosby has previously played in ECC productions "Guests in the House," "Twelfth Night," and "The Remarkable Mr. Penny-packer." He has gained other experience in "Compulsion" at the Chapel Theater. This is Crosby's first attempt at directing a play longer than one act.

FROM THE recent ECC play "Ladies in Retirement" comes Cliff Potts of Manhattan Beach, the radio announcer in "Inherit the Wind." Potts has

previously held leads in several productions on campus. Other cast members include Jim Sena, Redondo Beach; Silvia Granieri, Inglewood; Kathleen Dosche and June Doty, Manhattan Beach; Frank Corsentino and Lorraine Struckman, Torrance; Dean Robles, Gardena, and Phil Di Groia, Hawthorne.

"The play is not aimed at Bible-haters but is a play dedicated to the abolition of bigots," stated Ed Crosby. The non-religious side happens to lose only because the religious side is protected by knowledge," he continued.

Assemblyman Says State Must Aid Local Schools Build Classrooms

By VINCENT THOMAS
Assemblyman, 68th District
Children cannot be stacked like logs to wait for classrooms to hold them when they are ready for education. Rooms must be ready for them, even if some piling up in double sessions is necessary. But local school districts, most of them already bonded to the legal limit, are no longer able to keep the population pressure on schools under control without financial help from the state.

More than \$1.2 billion in state bonds has been approved by California voters since 1947 to make loans to local school districts for classroom construction. The last addition to this huge sum, \$300 million, was approved at the primary election in June. But some kinks in the loan system have developed, and a sizeable backlog of construction needs is piling up.

RECENTLY AN extraordinary conference of Legislators was called at the Capitol to discuss the emergency with "experts" from the departments of finance and education. A spokesman for the state's local allocations board, which handles the loan funds, told the lawmakers attending that the present backlog of unfilled requests totals more than \$29 million. It was said the program is getting more costly, too, because of increases in the cost of school sites and construction.

In order to make the best possible use of proceeds from sale of the bonds, a limit of \$5 million per month in loans was originally set, which was raised at our 1960 session to \$10 million. It is apparent, however, that even this ceiling is too low and must be raised if we are to meet our ever-growing school building needs.

UNDER THE LAW, these construction loans to school districts must be paid back to the state over a thirty or forty year period on very easy terms

related to the tax rate levied locally for school purposes. Under certain circumstances, particularly poor districts may be forgiven entirely any obligation to repay. But the loan system does not lend the greater credit of the state as a whole, as well as its larger tax resources, to the local districts. At this meeting, a definite commitment was made that legislation would be introduced early at our coming session to authorize immediate use of \$30 million in bond funds to wipe out the existing backlog of loan requests. This would enable construction of many rooms to house next year's classes.

IT WAS also agreed that the monthly ceiling on the amount which can be loaned should be increased. Legislation to raise it to \$12 million per month will probably mean that a new multi-million dollar bond issue will have to be put on the ballot for approval by the voters earlier than anticipated. The rise in school site and building costs was a matter for considerable discussion. It was emphasized that the departments of finance and education would continue their close supervision over plans and specifications for schools coming under the loan program; to make sure that they are kept in line with average construction costs in various parts of the state. This control also insures that the taxpayers get the greatest number of classrooms possible from the amount of money available.

ALTHOUGH THIS particular meeting was not a regularly scheduled meeting of an official interim committee, its effectiveness will do much to speed up our work on educational affairs when we convene next month. It also serves to illustrate well that our legislative organization is sufficiently flexible, and our members are sufficiently concerned about important matters, to deal promptly with any serious emergencies.



HEART MESSAGE METHOD . . . Dr. Richard J. Lescoe of Torrance (left) a member of the Professional Education Subcommittee on Cardiac Resuscitation for the Los Angeles County Heart Assn., and staff member of the Little Company of Mary Hospital, observes newly developed closed-chest cardiac massage performed on Robley Evans by Dr. John P. Meehan, chairman of the cardiac resuscitation subcommittee. The closed-chest method has been adopted officially by the county's Heart Assn., according to Dr. Arthur Feinfeld, president.

Hahn Charges State Committee Snubbed County Road Official

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn yesterday charged that discourteous treatment of County Road Commissioner N. H. Templin by the State Senate Transportation and Utilities Committee, headed by Senator Randolph Collier of Yreka, amounted to a "direct insult" to the motoring public of Los Angeles County, which pays 42 per cent of the State gas taxes but only gets back about 37 per cent in money for road improvements.

The Committee held a day and a half of public hearings in Los Angeles last Friday and Saturday. "Mr. Templin was prepared to testify before the Committee on the urgency of revising the Mayo-Breed formula for distribution of gas tax funds so that the 6,000,000 people of Los Angeles County would receive their fair share."

REVISION OF the Mayo-Breed formula in accordance with Templin's recommendation would return an additional \$5,000,000 in State Gas tax funds to the residents of Los Angeles County, which could

be used in eliminating some of the most serious road and traffic problems in the heavily populated metropolitan area which is faced with the State's most severe congestion. "The Committee was fully aware that Mr. Templin was present in the hearing room all day Friday and Saturday. Yet, the Committee adjourned its meeting at 1 p.m. Saturday, following testimony by representatives of Calaveras County (population 10,289) without inviting Mr. Templin to testify," Supervisor Hahn declared.

HE POINTED out that members of the Committee knew that Templin desired to testify, that his proposed testimony had been discussed during a luncheon attended by Committee members, and that Los Angeles County had six exhibits on display in the hearing room immediately behind the seats of the Senators. "The Committee could not have been unaware that Mr. Templin desired to testify," Supervisor Hahn stated. He added that the breach of courtesy was all the more unusual because the Committee held its hearing in the Board of Supervisors hearing room in the new Hall of Administration.

HE SAID that it seems to him that the people of "cow counties" get preferential treatment over those living in heavily populated counties. In fairness to the motorists of the heavily populated counties, they should get a greater share of gas tax funds to help in making up for all the years that they have not had a fair share, during which time the road deficiencies in heavily populated areas increased much faster than in rural areas, Supervisor Hahn concluded.

North Torrance Man Joins Insurance Firm

Leonard A. Page, of 17025 Spinning Ave., has been appointed a sales representative for Allstate Insurance Companies after completing an intensive three week training course in the companies' Pasadena regional office. He has been assigned to work in the Torrance area, and will also serve as a local representative of the Allstate Safety Crusade, a nationwide safety emphasis program. Page attended El Camino College, and prior to joining Allstate he was sales representative for Virco Manufacturing Corp., of Los Angeles.

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Council Has Election

Long Beach Council 17 met at the Torrance Woman's club on Engracia Ave. Thursday, Dec. 1, at 7:30 p.m. with Mary Chiara in charge.

Election of officers was held, followed by initiation of four candidates into the order. A number of visitors were present from Los Angeles Lodges. Installation of officers will take place Jan. 5.

On Thursday, Dec. 15, the lodge held its annual Christmas dinner and gift exchange at the clubhouse amid holiday decorations. A business meeting followed the dinner.

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