

CLOSE-OUT! . SUN BRAS Downtown **Torrance** USE OUR LAYAWAY FREE STORE HOURS: A.M. to 6 P.M. Week Days Open Friday Night 'til 9; Saturday 'til 6 P.M. BANKAMERICARD **PARKING**

TV CANDIDS by Terrence O'Flaherty

It all came to me - the whole terrible thing - as if I had been dreaming a strange dream. Let me tell

One evening I had been watching a television show here which showed the progress being made on the great multi-million-dollar Los Angeles art center rising on Wilshire Boulevard-smack in the middle of what has been known as the La Brea Tar Pits. For ages the site has been a big pool of oil with a bubble rising in the center, glistening briefly in the sun, and then collapsing to make room for a new bubble.

It said that the great saber-tooth tigers were trapped in the oil in prehistoric times and were drawn to a slow death in the bottomless pond.

It was then that I dozed off. When I awakened, I could see it all just as plain as day - the buildings being dedicated . . . the interiors emblazoned by miles of abstract paintings . . . the marble floors reflecting thousands of celebrities gathered from all over the world for the occasion.

The television cameras of Los Angeles' ten TV stations will transmit the event, via Telstar, to millions of Europeans. The skies will be a haystack of searchlights for the Greatest Premiere of All.

Music will be provided by the combined orchestras of Lawrence Welk, Spike Jones, and the Beverly Hills High School Band — conducted jointly by Igor Stravinsky and Liberace on separate podiums

Soloists will include the Lennon Sisters, Judy Garland, Nat King Cole, Eddie Fisher, Larry Parks dressed as Al Jolson, and Tuesday Weld dressed to resemble Aimee Semple Macpherson. (Miss Weld's voice will be dubbed in by Marian Anderson.) They will be backed up by the combined voices of 4000 school-children from Protestant, Catholic and Jewish groups led by Jerry Lewis and the Three Stooges.

The selections will be introduced by Milton Berle Bob Hope, Jack Benny, Mickey Cohen and Charlie Chaplin, who will be allowed back into the country for the occasion, guarded by Jack Webb and the elite corps of L.A. cops dressed as Mouseketeers.

The dignitaries from foreign lands will be shown to their seats by a corps of honorary ushers including Brigadier General David Sarnoff, Frank Stanton, the Beverly Hillbillies, the Real McCoys, The Nurses, My Three Sons, McHale's Navy and the 500 most recent Queens for a Day — all gowned for the occasion by Abbey Rents and flown in by American Airlines. Everyone will be housed in pool-side rooms at

the glamorous Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel. Charm bracelets will be provided by Marchal and all those participating will receive a 16-millimeter film of the proceedings to show their friends.

Yes, I can see it all now — the bands playing, the

air full of pigeons and searchlights, the voices rising toward Telstar . . . when suddenly, somewhere back of the statue of Michaelangelo's David (loaned by Forest Lawn), a tiny bubble of oil rises slowly through

a crack in the marble floor. The bubble gets larger and larger. The Lennon Sisters are the first to notice it. The marble floors start to sink. Liberace leaps to the top of his piano. As the bubble enlarges to enormous size, the oil begins

One by one, the searchlights are extinguished. Tuesday Weld is the first to be drawn under. The boys in the Beverly Hills High School Band are next to go

It all happens very fast. Soon the Wilshire area is one vast pool of oil and as Lawrence Welk goes down for the last time, all is deathly still and very dark . . . and slowly, out of the center of the great black pool rises the oily head of a giant saber-tooth tiger.

And if only the searchlights hadn't gone out, one could have seen his single shiny tooth exposed in a gloriously satisfied smile .



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