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# Tryouts Start **Tonight For** 'Stalag 17'

Accent Theatre tryouts for "Stalag 17" will be held Thursday, February 14, and Friday, February 15, at the home of M. L. Sagenkahn, 903 Madrid ave., 8 p.m. The rowdy comedy has an

all-male cast and is scheduled to open the latter part of April.

Their new director, Charles Gray, has an impressive background as an actor and director, in the theatre, as well as motion pictures. He holds a BA and MA in Theatre Arts and has been instructor and staff director at Omaha University, Tulane and the University of Houston.

His acting experiences include work with the Black Hills Summer theatre, North Star Drama guild, Motion Picture assn. and the famous Alley theatre.

The talented Mr. Gray has also directed for the Nord Theatre, Algiers Theatre, Houston Music theatre and the Alley. He has been featured on such TV programs as "Gunsmoke," "The Sheriff of Chochise," "Man Called X." "Those Whiting Girls," "Highway Patrol," and "Wyatt Earp." Motion picture credits include "The Houston Story," "Tension at Table Rock," "The Black Whip," "Tension at Table "Interlude," and "Trooper Hook.

At present he is working on an unreleased TV series and is signed for eight feature motion pictures to be filmed in the near future.

## HOSTS ESA

prising five soliciation teams, Memorial Hall of the new hos-Eta Kappa chapter of Epsilon the Torrance corps will be com-Sigma Alpha sorority met at posed of women volunteers, pital," Post said. "Pledges will he home of Mrs. Kenneth W. who will be led by two Torrance afford to every citizen of Tor-McVey, 3825 W. 176th st. Mrs. General Gifts co-chairmen, Post rance an opportunity to particidisclosed. Appointment of these pate in this humanitarian effort Charles Pfeffer presided. Mrs. Carlos Espinosa, Mrs. co-chairmen is expected soon. to help create hospital beds for Vera Truijillo were appointed Objective of the home-to-home representatives to the district solicitation is to secure gifts in the sick and injured."

council for February. form of pledges, making is con- Meanwhile, work is underway Mmes. Roland Stamm, Charles venient for donors to budget to assure that sufficient women Leichtweis, Eugene Phillips, their contributions over three volunteers will be on hand for Robert Holmes and Kenneth Mc. years. Memorials will be avail- the big drive. Pastors of all Vey will attend "Fashion Frol. able for all persons donating to churches in the area met this ics," the tenth annual fashion the proposed 125-bed hospital, week to formulate plans whereshow given by the Hollywood which will be located in Tor- by women's church organiza-Epsilon chapter at the Ambas-sador hotel on February 24. rance near the intersection of tions might form the nucleus for the 500-strong Torrance General Gifts corps.

teer army which will be re-

To be organized into 16 divi-

sions, with each division com-

story into every home.

service and the service of the servi

**BIG AND LITLE FEATHER** 

Lester Foster, and his son, Billy, are typical of the father-son teams participating in the Y-Indian Tribe movement whose aim

is to foster closer father-son relationships and to interest young-

sters and their families in the YMCA program .- Press Photo

The Torrance General Gifts drive for the Little

Company of Mary Hospital campaign took another step

forward today with the announcement by General Gifts

Director George W. Post of the almost 500-strong volun-

cruited to bring the hospital "Every gift, even as low as

Volunteer Army Of 500

To Raise Hospital Funds



## Thursday, February 14, 1957 TORRANCE PRESS Page 11

## Y-Program Forges Ahead

#### (Continued from Page 1)

year, especially in the light of the small staff and limited facilities available, have been impressive.

What YMCA Has Done Here

Here is what the Torrance YMCA has done: It has grown from 27 groups to 63 clubs, councils and committees.

It has increased its youth membership from 307 to 2,830. It has made extensive improvements to its buildingincluding the burning of the mortgage.

It operated one of the largest, camping programs in Southern California, with 550 boys going to five summer camps.

It gave swimming instructions to 200 boys at Easter. It operated Y-football leagues for 400 boys.

It involved over 300 high school boys and girls in the program on a weekly basis.

It organized 24 new Y-Indian Guide tribes with 400 dads and their sons

It started Gra-Y clubs for 150 boys and many dads.

It had 150 boys in the Christmas Fun clubs during the holidays

It has over 500 boys now involved in the Saturday Adventure clubs.

Accurate records reveal that 3,964 persons were involved some Torrance YMCA program during November, 1956.

Largely responsible for the dynamic development of the 'Y' program during the last year is Joe Wilcox, executive secretary.

A staff of four-Bettie Burnam, office secretary; Jack Breglio and Joe Predisic, part-time program assistants; and John Balwanz, custodian-as well as the large army of volunteer workers participating in the campaigns as well as the YMCA program itself have made the local YMCA the success that it is.

**Camp** Trips

One of the outstanding features of the 'Y' program is its summer camps.

Day camp, which ran for two weeks but will be extended to four weeks this year, is geared toward the 8-12 year old group. More than 150 youngsters participated last year, visiting such spots as Disneyland, Mount Wilson, and the harbor at a cost of \$12.50 per child. More than 500 are expected to participate this year.

Youngsters between the ages of 9-12 years have a chance to attend Camp Round Meadow in the San Bernardino mountains. Two one-week camping sessions are held there with all the trimmings. One hundred and fifty youngsters participated last year. The fee-\$25.50 per child.

Among the most exciting campaign programs offered are the caravan camp trips. Aimed at the 12-16 year-old group, the trips offer out-door adventure, involving trips covering 1100 to 2700 miles.

One trip leads to the High Sierras; the other involves Sequoia, King's Canyon, and the Yosemite Valley; while a third goes to the Grand Canyon, Bryce, Zion, Boulder Dam, and Indian country.

About 100 youngsters participated in the 11-day trip last year. Trips cost around \$35 per youngster.

### **Y-Indian Guides**

Another novel feature of the 'Y' program is the Y-Indian Guide movement, purpose of which is to foster companionship between fathers and sons. Using the colorful Indian lore for its ritual, the program is aimed at the 6-9 year-old group. This program lays the foundation for all subsequent programs with parents as well as youngsters.

Highlight of the Hi-Y clubs aimed at high school youngsters is the "YMCA Youth and Government" program in which youngsters take over the State legislature for four days.

Local representatives this year are David Shinoda, Ollie Lessin, Denis Brown, and James Patrick. They will present a bill asking that some of the gas tax money received by cities from the State be permitted to be used for drag strips if approved by the cities involved.

No such law is on the books at present. The real Cali-



regularly in popularity and entertainment value, and this

twenty-five cents a week, will

be recognized by an honorary

Thirty-four acts in all will be presented for two nights, February 15 and 16, at the high school auditorium, 2200 Carson,

The theme this year is "What's Happening," and the audience will be transported to three major cities within a two hour period. Act I takes place in New York, the second act in New Orleans, and the final act

Three masters of ceremonies. one for each of these scenes, are Steve Smith, Claudia Smith

A large staff of students has been working on this production for several weeks. The student directors are Gail Davis and Eddie Shaw, while the bulk of the direction is in the hands of Von Hershey.

Jim Nichols and Glen Hawley of the music department are helping with vocal and instru-

Featured among the various acts will be a skit put on by the faculty of Torrance High, entitled, "Last Days of Mr. Oglefornia legislature actually studies proposals made by the "model legislature."

A Learn-to-Swim program, co-sponsored by the Lions club, is also an annual event, which, in the past, has involved as many as 200 children.

Wilcox hopes that the present drive will reach its quota inasmuch as the campaign is the organization's only source of revenue locally. The YMCA does not receive Community Chest support.

#### What To Expect

If the \$24,000 goal is reached, Torrance residents can expect the following:

A second full-time professional youth worker which will enable expansion to some 125 youth clubs involving more than 4500 youngsters.

The camping program will be expanded from 550 boys to 1200 boys.

Continuation of the building improvement plans, including added athletic equipment, outdoor play areas, and badly needed club room furniture.

Localized neighborhood programs involving the entire family.

Service programs involving recreation, informal education, service projects, and worship experiences.

Any youngster can join the YMCA by just walking in the door, Wilcox stated. Each club sets its own dues which are always nominal.

Wilcox, as well as every individual active in YMCA affairs, is sold on the program. Cost of the program to the YMCA is \$12.50 per child per year.

The investment is negligible. The dividends are immeasurable.

For the YMCA program is more than just organized recreation. Running through the entire program like a silver thread is a spiritual purpose designed to shape character and mold a strong and lasting belief in all that is upright and good.

Zone

State

Talking About The Weather

By MARK EUBANK

During the past week Torrance received only .01 of an inch of rain from scattered sprinkles. These sprinkles have resulted from a moist flow of air from the southwest. This air, at upper levels, condenses into clouds when met by colder air. The scattered light showers will continue as long as there is a low pressure area, off the coast of San Diego, pumping moisture northeastward.

Tuesday the sun sneaked out from behind the clouds long enough to send the temperature to a warm 90. This is the highest it has been in Torrance since November 10 when the temperature climbed to 96

If you think is has been warm you should have been in Azizia, Libya on September 13, 1922 when the temperature soared to 136. This is the world's highest official temperature.

The low for last week was 'taximum