

### Danger of Oleanders Cited By County Health Officer

Roy O. Gilbert, M.D., Los Angeles County Health Officer, said that small children are usually the victims, and each year a number of them are treated for oleander poisoning. Occasionally, a fatal case occurs.

The oleander is one of the most common poisonous shrubs in Los Angeles County. Although perhaps less numerous evergreen shrub that is native than the castor bean plant, it is to the Mediterranean region and the more poisonous of the two grows abundantly in California.

It has narrow, leathery leaves that exude a milky substance when punctured. The rose-like blossoms may be white, pink, or red, and form a cluster at the end of the stem.

All parts of the oleander shrub are poisonous, and it does not take very much of it to cause severe poisoning or death. In southern Europe the plant is used as a rat poison since its action on rodents is much the same as that of red squill, which is widely used in this country as a rodenticide.

Examples of the oleander's potency as a poison are recorded in medical literature. A few years ago, two soldiers died following the eating of steaks that had been speared on peeled oleander sticks and roasted over a fire.

Even the smoke from a burning oleander bush may be hazardous. In Florida, about 10 years ago, a fireman was reportedly overcome by the fumes of a burning oleander hedge.

The active and poisonous principle of the oleander (oleandrin)

is similar to digitalis, a drug that is used widely to treat certain heart disorders.

The usual symptoms of oleander poisoning are similar to those induced by an overdose of digitalis and include abdominal pain, vomiting, convulsive movements, dilation of the pupils, rapid respiration, and a slow irregular pulse which may become rapid and weak in those instances where the poisoning is serious. In fatal cases, death is due to paralysis of the heart.

It is important to obtain medi-

### Southwest Park Dance Scheduled

Annual dance of the Southwest Park Civic Association will be held Sept. 19, according to President Eva Bisou. Proceeds from the event will go to the development of La Romeria Park.

She also warned that petitions must be signed if street lights are to be installed in the entire district. She said that several streets are now not included in the lighting district. She urged residents on streets where no petitions have been circulated, to call her at FR 9-1338.

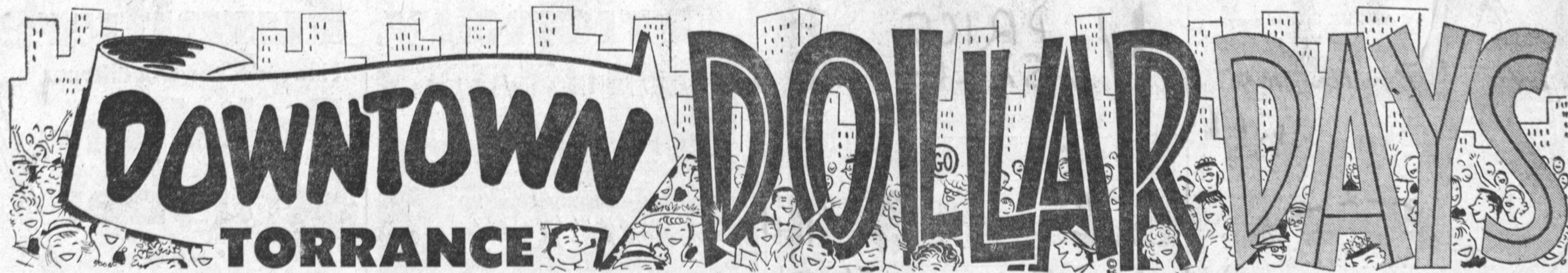
### Bowling Clinic Offered Here

A free bowling clinic, sponsored by AMF will be held at the Bowling Club, 220th St. and Western Ave., July 19 from 2 to 4 p.m.

Among the big name bowlers to give instruction are Frank Clause, Anita Cantelino, Jack Aydelotte, Hank Lauman, assisted by Bowl-O-Drome's instructors, Frank Chatterton, Nancy Morgard, Kay Roddan, Dick De Francesco, Connie Montgomery and Jack Zive.

Free door prizes will be offered.

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**WASHABLE WALL PAINT \$1<sup>00</sup>**

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**LADIES' DRESS SHOES**

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