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A Lesson in Human Relations

West High Speech Class Aids Student Thinking

By RONNIE SAUNDERS Torrance High School.) Woman's Editor

Page A-2

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(Editor's Note: The fol- Unlike courses discussed a course outline based on its themselves. lowing article, which deals in previous articles in this own past experience, curri- When a student is going with Speech curriculum at West High School, is sev-enth in a series concerning of the series arrange an in a speech classroom beenth in a series concerning cause he has to be there. He framework. what is being taught in the is there by choice.

high school classrooms of opened its campus for the at West, emphasis is on us- as to why they liked or dis-Torrance. Previous articles West High School, which have realt with home eco- first time last September, is nomics, English, and social presently offering Speech 1 studies at South High as an elective for students ing. School, advanced placement at all four levels. As enrolland boys' physical education ment and curriculum exgirls' physical education at pand. Speech 2, 3, and 4 will to think in terms of sources tions are a by-product of at North High School, and be offered.

Welcome to City of Torrance GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE 'SEVEN LAST WORDS' 12 Noon to 1:30 P. M. FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 2118 Carson St.

Although the new school coming critical of establishis too young to have devised ed authors, their peers, and

tice in front of a class. The

Within the three speech student benefits by the criclassrooms, as in all classes tical thinking of classmates ing the school's library ma- liked a speech, why they terials to add depth to learn- lost interest, and their suggestions as to how to main-

It is the philosophy of the tain interest. school to train all students. Lessons in human relaof reference material rather speech class because the

than to be dependent upon students are taught to acthe teachers to answer all cept one another and one another's ideas, to disagree questions. For speech students, agreeably, and to respect hours of library preparation one another's right to have pay off in speeches based on different opinions,

fact, rather than on emo- The unit on parliamentary procedure gives the

According to Mrs. Miland students an insight as to the Annis, speech teacher, a stu- mechanics of democratic dent who has facts to back procedure. They are taught up his views, feels confident to be a source of authority in taking a stand and in in clubs and encouraged to forming his own conclu-participate in community sions. Speech students are organizations in their adult taught to think for them- lift.

selves. They become indivi- Many speech students duals rather than stereo- choose to go into public types, states the lady in- speaking and debate as an extra - curricular activity.

structor. Critical thinking and Community service organijudgment are developed in zations such as the Lions interpretive reading studies Club, Optimists, and Amerwhere students are encour- ican Legion offer students aged to get beneath the sur- opportunities to speak pubface and get the author's licly in competition.

real meaning across by use Prior to community apof voice. As a result, stu-dents find themselves ques-dents go through eliminationing the classics and be- tions at school. The winner,

or top two candidates, are invited to speak in public. Time spent preparing speeches for public competition is done before, after school, and during lunch hour. Students put in many hours of library preparation and write their own speeches. Private tutoring on speaking techniques is given by the instructors on their own time.

The aim of the school, according to Roland Glover, speech teacher, is to help students develop their ability rather than to win contests. Advantages of competition, are that students are afforded an opportunity to see if they can accomplish what they believe they can accomplish, and, that



CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM is one of the by-products of speech class at West High School. Students are taught are art of "disagreeing agreeably" while learning to be critical of themselves and one another.

Speech is an elective course at the new school. Pictured are: Margo Redford, Shelby Peterson, Patricia Deikel, Angela Ford, Melinda Toomey, Barbara Contelon and Miss Bertha Daigle, teacher.-PRESS photo

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13



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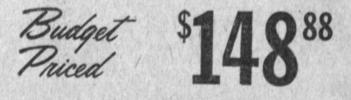


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they are given a chance to meet students from other environments to exchange ideas with one another.

West High School is presently a member of the Southern California Debate League, which is a branch of the National Forensic League. The school looks forward to being admitted to the national league as a school.

Another area of speech of-fered at West High School is speech correction, which is taught by Irene Harter. district specialist.

Students in corrective classes are offered the opportunity to criticize and be criticized by students in ordinary class situations when they come to visit. Purpose is to help them accept themselves and to help them work towards overcoming their handicap.

In addition to Mrs. Annis and Glover, speech teachers at West High School include Miss Shively and Miss Bertha Daigle.

Objectives of the speech curriculum set forth by the Torrance Unified School District are sixfold:

1. To increase ability to use the English language more effectively.

2. To overcome self-consciousness before a group by developing poise and personality.

3. To formulate and present an effective speech. 4. To develop the ability

to think logically. 5. To develop better citizenship through tolerance, courtesy, and respect for other people.

6. To meet the needs of the individual student and any speech problems that students may have.

As Mrs. Annis puts it. "The area of speech has something to offer every student, regardless of ability -- and to help each student to grow at his own rate."

Edwin Tillman Elected

The board of directors of S. Science Corp. has elected Edwin J. Tillman, of Torrance, Vice President of Operations, U. S. Science, of Inglewood, is a subsidiary of United Industrial Corporation, New York City.