

What the Chiefs Are Doing While the Indians Vacation



WHILE INDIANS VACATION, chiefs lay groundwork for the year ahead. Busiest time of the year for officers of Torrance clubs and organizations is summer, when skeleton plans must be formulated and a calendar of activities drawn up. Pictured digging into

the paperwork which has occupied their summer months are, from left, Mmes. Bernard Dubrow, O. W. Christianson and C. R. Berwanger, secretary, vice-president and president of the Torrance League of Women Voters. —PRESS Photo

Somebody once said, "An organization needs Indians. You can't get any place if everyone's a chief."

That statement is as true today as it was when first uttered. Organizations need both chiefs and Indians. Without wise, well-functioning leadership, a group will accomplish little.

And without the support of the individual women who comprise the membership of an organization and believe in the aims of the group, there can be no organization.

Throughout the year the general membership gives evidence of its support by attendance at meetings and events scheduled before the fall season gets under way.

In every group which meets in Torrance next month, a calendar for the '63-'64 season will be presented. The general framework for the year's activities will be laid.

A well-organized bird's-eye view of the year ahead will be projected. The Indians will know where they are headed.

But before that picture can be brought into focus, hours of preparation must take place. Good programming requires planning. And planning requires time. So while the Indians are off on vacation and all is seemingly quiet on the organizational surface, activity is stirring behind the scenes.

What are the chiefs doing while the Indians are on vacation?

To answer this question, the PRESS photographer goes behind the scenes with the Torrance League of Women Voters.

President of the league, which achieved official status in April, is Mrs. C. R. Berwanger.

Her summer schedule has included such league activities as attending area workshops, meeting with individual members of her board of directors to formulate overall plans for each phase of league activity, supervising establishment of tentative calendar for the coming year, conducting summer board meetings, reading state and national material, answering phone calls, and attending to dozens of uncategorized minute details.

Besides organizing their individual committees, during the past two months, assistant chiefs, together with busy Indians, have observed both city council and commission meetings and county board of supervisor sessions, spent hours among research shelves doing preliminary work for forthcoming league studies on the local, national and state level, have balanced budgets, written an outline for a booklet to be published this year, called "Know Your Torrance," and put on a skit for prospective members.

Comprising the Torrance League of Women Voters are 125 women whose prime goal is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government.

Members gather twice a month in unit meetings conducted in members' homes to discuss material presented by research teams. General meetings which are open to the public are held four times a year.

Items being researched at present on the local, state and national level are the Torrance library system, the state legislature, and foreign economic policy and United Nations.

Membership in the league is open to women of voting age. Non-partisan in nature, the league does not back candidates or political parties. It does, however, take a stand on issues.

Prior to elections, the league conducts open meetings at which speakers discuss pros and cons of issues to appear on the ballot. Last April, candidates for school board election were presented at a "Know Your Candidates" meeting.

Voting information is also distributed to the community through pamphlets, newspapers, radio and television.

Purpose of observing city council, municipal commission and county board of supervisor meetings is to keep members informed on phases of city and county government.

Before achieving status as a full-fledged league in April, the group was known as the Provisional League of Women Voters of Torrance. During its provisional year, members studied all phases of local government. Results of the study will appear in the forthcoming publication, "Know Your Torrance."

Research areas in last year's local study included: general structure of government, education, planning, zoning, housing, police, fire, traffic, civil defense, transportation, utilities, libraries, public welfare and sanitation.

As summer draws to a close and league chiefs jug-

gle their off-season schedule to include time out for vacation trips with their families, they do so with one eye on the calendar.

Because come Sept. 17, the seeds of careful planning will begin to bear fruit. With the advent of the all-membership tea on that date vacation-time for Indians grinds to a halt and the organizational year is just beginning.



DRAWING UP MASTHEAD for the Torrance Voter, league publication, was one of the numerous tasks that kept Mrs. Berwanger a busy president this summer. Although meetings don't officially get underway until next month, her summer schedule has included attending workshops, conducting board meetings, making decisions regarding policy and reading league material. She is pictured showing masthead results to Mrs. Donald Brink, left, who spent part of her summer training league discussion leaders who will conduct study sessions throughout the winter season. —PRESS Photo

Women

RONNIE SAUNDERS, Society Editor



BEATNIK AND HARRIED HOUSEWIFE are portrayed by Mrs. Sydney Weiner, left, and Mrs. Howard Foote, right, as they reconstruct scene from skit presented by the league before a group of prospective members this

summer. Membership activities will get off to an early fall start with an introductory tea slated for Sept. 17. Chairman is Mrs. Margaret Thompson (not in picture). —PRESS Photo



LEAGUE OBSERVERS don't gaze at the heavens. They focus down-to-earth attention on what is going on in city government chambers. Observers attend meetings of city council,

county board of supervisors, and municipal commissions on a year-round basis. Pictured are Mrs. Burton Peters, left, and Mrs. James Anderson, right. —PRESS Photo



UP TO THEIR EARS IN BOOKS are Mrs. Mark Kellman, left, and Mrs. Robert Sullivan, right. Not only have league members been wading through research material for local, state and national studies this summer, but they have interviewed librarians as well in order to bone up on

library set-ups for a year-long study on the Torrance library system which resource committee members will present to the general membership at discussion unit meetings next winter. Chairman of the library study item is Mrs. Howard Foote. —PRESS Photo



BALANCING THE BUDGET is a challenging prospect for finance committee members. Under the chairmanship of Mrs. E. R. Knapp, center, plans were formulated during the summer months to coordinate efforts with the Palos Verdes League of Women Voters

in soliciting contributions during an intensive finance drive this fall. Assisting Mrs. Knapp in weighing anticipated income versus expenditures are Mmes. Frederick Van Oppen, left, and Irving Boxer, right. —PRESS Photo