



AND THE WINNER IS . . . Richard Mitchell's Spanish lesson is handled each day by a machine which Richard's teacher, Mrs. Bonny Cook, is "competing with" in an experiment by the California State Department of Employment. Object of the experiment is to determine if the language teaching machines can do a better job than the teacher in helping a student learn Spanish.

## Kids Will Decide Winners In Teacher-Machine 'Race'

A group of sixth graders are helping the California State Department of Education find out whether teaching machines can do a better job of teaching Spanish than a classroom teacher. Two sixth-grade teachers are supervising the experiment.

Involved in a pilot program which got under way less than a month ago are six grade students at Carl Steele School. Teachers are R. V. Freeman and Mrs. Bonny Cook. The program is part of a field test being conducted by the state department of education in 25 districts to determine the effectiveness of three types of teaching methods and materials.

Students in Mrs. Cook's class utilize the language lab mornings and students in Freeman's class take their turn afternoons. There are 34 students in each class. None of them had any previous experience with the Spanish language. Ground rules of the program specify that they are not to read or learn Spanish in any other way while participating in the experiment.

tape recorder with foot control, headphones and microphone; six programmed learning books, and 42 tapes. In addition, each recorder is equipped with a monitor so that the teacher may listen in on the student's lesson.

The student progresses with his individual materials at his own speed. After turning on his recorder and locating the accompanying page in his book, he listens to his taped instructions. As he answers questions, he verifies his answer by checking the printed page and the voice on the tape. Each time he has answered correctly, he goes on to the next question.

Each Monday a class monitor passes out tapes for the week to the numbered seats. At the end of 30 weeks students will take a taped test to see how far they have progressed.

IN ADDITION to seeing it that the students have the equipment they need and listening in on their individual lessons, the teacher is taking the course along with them. The purpose is to determine the value of the materials for in-service training of teachers.

## Panel on Stolen Cars Set at Safety Meeting

"Care and Protection of the Automobile, or How to Keep Out of the Stolen Car Business" will be the subject of a three-man panel during a meeting of the Community Traffic Safety Forum in Torrance next Wednesday.

The luncheon meeting will be held at the Jump 'n Jack Restaurant, 2900 Pacific Coast Hwy. The Greater Los Angeles Chapter of the National Safety Council and the Torrance Safety Council are sponsoring the meeting.

Dick Newsome, special agent in charge of the Los Angeles office of the National Auto Theft Bureau; Sgt. Richard Dolmseth of the California Highway Patrol, and Walter Lunsford, Auto Industries Highway Safety Committee, will make the presentation.

Awards for community and school vehicle safety check programs will be presented during the meeting.

Reservations, at \$3 each, may be made through the Torrance Safety Council.

Each student has a

## Pack 730-C Holds Yearly Yule Party

The annual Christmas party of Cub Pack 730-C was held in the Casimir School Cafeteria, with Den 5 leading the flag ceremony.

Herb Bayles, committee chairman, introduced Sid Posner as new cubmaster, Tom Hata as Webelos leader, and Nate Kamins as activities chairman.

Cubs awarded for achievements included Wayne Griffin, David Schaffer, Jim Van Doren, Robert Elliott, John Prentiss, Ricky Terrill, Ben Ramack, Arnold Hata, Mike Baker, Richard Kamins, Charles Kappus and Larry Posner. Billy Ryan and Zane Buniel told of their good deeds for the month and their Bobcat pins were turned. Steven Halvorsen was inducted as a new Bobcat by Cubmaster Posner.

Balloon games were played by the cubs under the direction of Nate Kamins and Anthony Gugliotta. Cubmaster Posner gave each cub a candy cane and Pinewood Derby kit as gifts from the pack.

**SIDEWALK SLATED**  
Construction of sidewalks on Crenshaw Boulevard between Crest Road and Seacrest Drive has been authorized by the Board of Supervisors. Plans for the \$5,000 project were prepared by the County Road Department.

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## New School Term

# Health Exams Advised For Mid-Year Beginners

By K. H. SUTHERLAND, M.D., County Health Officer  
Within a few short weeks, thousands of youngsters in this area will be starting school for the first time. Whether or not they will enjoy the experience and profit from it depends to a large extent on the state of their physical and mental well-being.

The National Congress of Parents and Teachers supports and encourages the recommendation of doctors and public health experts in advising continuous health supervision of children from birth through school age. However, there is a great deal of evidence that many children from infancy through the teen years receive no health supervision and many others receive less health attention than they need for optimum development. Therefore, a health examination prior to the child's entry into school takes on particular importance.

WHEN A CHILD enters school for the first time, he comes into a much larger world than he has known before. This larger world contains for the child more chances for exposure to communicable diseases as well as increased physical demands which he may not be able to meet if he is not physically fit.

The pre-enrollment health examination of every child should, in addition to the usual procedures, include a careful check of vision and hearing. Often a beginner's poor adjustment to school or his inability to cope with school work can be traced to defective eyesight or hearing. It is not rare that the child with undiscovered vision and hearing problems is thought to be mentally slow and lacking in capacity to do school work. Many conditions discovered through the physical examination may be easily remedied. This means the child may much more happily and successfully participate in school life. One's own family doctor is the best source of such examination and help in correcting conditions which might interfere with the child's development. Immunizations against communicable diseases should be brought up to date. In California, it is a requirement that the newly entering child present evidence of polio immunization. Other dangerous diseases — diphtheria, tetanus and smallpox — should be eliminated as threats to the child through proper immunization.

the weeks before school starts will lessen feelings of strangeness and apprehension. The child should be helped to become familiar with the route he will take, learn how safely to walk or how to ride on a bus to school, if these are to be part of the new routine. The morning ritual of the child's getting himself up, washed, dressed and fed on schedule may need some practice. A little effort now may save the child major problems later.

A leaflet on helping children to start school more easily and healthfully will be sent to anyone sending a written request to the Division of Public Health Education, Los Angeles County Health Department, 220 N. Broadway, Los Angeles 12.

## PUC Orders Express Station To Stay

The proposed discontinuance of the Torrance station of the Railway Express Agency will be held in abeyance following an order from the Public Utilities Commission.

A formal protest against such action was initiated two weeks ago when Arthur L. Reeves, president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, filed a letter with the PUC in San Francisco.

Reeves pointed out the necessity for maintaining the Torrance station as a service to local business and residents. He further noted that Torrance is the fourth largest city in Los Angeles County, the geographic center of the Southwest county area, and the trading center of more than a half million persons.

A VISIT to the dentist is important, too. Proper care of baby teeth is considered by dentists to be very important to the good health and structure of permanent teeth.

Consideration of the child's fears and feelings make it necessary to begin preparations for school soon enough to allow the child to adjust to what to him is a big, often frightening change in his life. Parents can help children to develop more secure feelings. An informal visit or two to the school grounds in

## Day Dreams Cause Many Car Crashes

Day dreaming and "high spirits"—in the literal sense—are responsible for the majority of Holiday-season automobile accidents.

This was noted today by J. P. Leggett, manager for Pacific Telephone, as part of that company's continuing safety program.

"That the average auto accident occurs within 10 miles of the driver's home, at speeds less than 35 mph and involving only one car," Leggett said, "attests to the fact that complacency on the highway kills more people every year than excessive speed or mechanical failure of the machine."

"An example," stated Leggett, "is the Pennsylvania Turnpike story. When it first opened, studies were made, resulting in the finding that 55 per cent of the accidents involved only one car. It's also interesting to note that the largest percentage of truck accidents on our highways involve no other vehicle."



ALL-ELECTRIC . . . W. H. Greenwalt, Edison district customer service manager, presents Gold Medallion Award to Mrs. James F. Casey, owner of The Madrid, a 78-unit all-electric apartment complex in Redondo Beach. Furnished models are now open at 512 Avenue G., one block north of Pacific Coast Highway in Hollywood Riviera district.

## Spring Deadlines Set For Harbor Enrollment

Admission procedures for students seeking admission to Harbor College during the spring semester have been outlined by William H. McMasters, assistant dean of admissions and guidance.

"Since the Jan. 22 deadline for applying for admission is fast approaching, it would benefit all prospective students to complete all the necessary steps as soon as possible," McMasters said. A wider choice of classes and hours is available for the student completing admission requirements early, McMasters emphasized.

New and returning students in both the day and evening divisions must file an application for admission

with the admissions office. A permit request and a statement of residence are required at the same time. All applicants must submit evidence of immunization against polio and those applicants under 25 are required to furnish high school transcripts.

Entrance tests are required of all entering freshmen and transfer students with less than a C average. Appointments for the tests may be made in the admissions office.

The battery of three tests require about 3 hours and 15 minutes, McMasters said. The tests will be given at 6 p.m. Jan. 8, 12, 15, 19, and 22. The tests also will be administered Saturday, Jan. 16, at 9 a.m.

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