

Hemispheric Enthusiasm For Alliance Declining

By ALPHONZO BELL, Congressman, 28th District
 A little over four years ago great expectations about our future relations in Latin America accompanied initiation of the Alliance for Progress with the signing of the Charter of Punta del Este. The intervening years, however, have witnessed a decline in enthusiasm and an increase in doubt as to how far the Alliance has actually progressed.
 The Alliance's purpose is to promote the social, economic and political development of our neighbors in Central and South America. The keys to such improvement are internal reform and self-help. Terms of the mutually agreed upon Charter call for land and tax reform,

for economic growth and broadened distribution of new wealth, for improved education and housing and public health. The per capita income growth goal is 2.5 per cent per year.
 Some Latin American nations need virtually to rebuild their institutions to replace the feudal hierarchies which have traditionally dominated them. Alianza funds come not only from United States aid but from Latin American countries themselves. The 4½ billion in grants, loans, goods and expert assistance contributed directly by the United States for the first four years is only about one-fifth the amount invested in development by other participants.
THERE HAVE been solid and notable achievements, and, of course, variations from country to country. Overall economic growth exceeded the Charter's target in 1964. More than 15 million people in over 1,000 villages and towns now have clean water supply systems. An estimated 22 million persons have been fed. Over 327,000 homes, 25,000 classrooms and 800 health centers, hospitals and mobile clinics have been built.
 It is in the area of structural reform, however, that some analysts have found progress disturbingly slow. Perhaps this should have been foreseen, and perhaps the Alliance began with unrealistic expectations. Centuries-old patterns do not

lend themselves to rapid change. In land and tax reform, an enlightened policy redistributing burden and benefit must be harmoniously reconciled with property rights.
 Careful planning must assure that programs to encourage redistribution of large land holdings will not result in greatly decreased agricultural yield. In Mexico, Bolivia and Venezuela, where agrarian reform was instituted before 1961, the impetus of the Alliance speeded the process and substantial further progress has been made. A number of other countries have recently initiated redistribution and still more plan to begin soon, but Latin American experts are skeptical as to the actual extent of the announced programs.
STRUCTURAL tax reform, too, is lagging. Improvements in collection and administration have apparently won an uphill battle against extremely complex systems and widespread evasion. But little has been done to change the regressive nature of taxation in most Latin countries and the poor are still paying an undue share.
 Today's relative calm throughout Latin America may be deceptive, and we may find that money distributed for the Alliance has bought nothing but time. Perhaps it is a new approach that is needed, tempering renewed enthusiasm and reform with an appreciation of the difficulties involved. The recent

Recreation Department Joins National Group

Association of the Torrance Recreation Department with the newly organized National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) has been announced by Harry E. Van Bellehem, director of recreation.
 Goal of the merger is to develop a single organization, supported by private citizens and professional groups, dedicated to helping all Americans make the best use of expanding leisure time, Van Bellehem explained.
 Laurance S. Rockefeller, who served as chairman of the White House Conference on Natural Beauty held in May of this year, has been elected president of the new association, Rockefeller is chairman of New York State Council of Parks.
 Turn off Christmas tree lights at bedtime, and when there is no one in the room—and always when nobody is home.
 NRPA was formed as a non-profit, educational and service organization by a merger of final national agencies concerned with recreation, parks, and conservation, Van Bellehem said.
 The five groups include the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums, the American Institute of Park Executives, the American Recreation Society, the National Conference on State Parks, and the National Recreation Association.

Library Slates

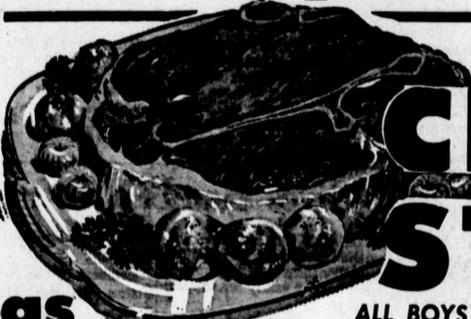
Three New Films

Three children's films will be shown at Torrance Library, 1435 Post Ave., on Saturday beginning at 10:30 a.m. Scheduled for showing are "Snowy Day," "Christmas Cracker," and "The Hound That Thought He Was a Reindeer."



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MORTONS ASSORTED Frozen Dinners 11 OZ. EXCEPT SHRIMP **39¢**

C & H SUGAR 5 LB. BAG **49¢**

DOWNEY FABRIC SOFTENER QT. SIZE **79¢**

IVORY Liquid Detergent 22 OZ. BTL. **59¢**

WESTPAC FAMILY PACK 20-OZ. ASSORTED VEGETABLES Except Cob Corn and Baby Limas **29¢**

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LION—2 lb. Box Raisins **49¢**

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