

# They Tell Me

## The Mystery Writer

Almost everybody knows that at the Rancho Del Palmar in Temecula lives Earl Stanley Gardner.

But people don't really know that Gardner came to Temecula to live 30 years ago because of a dog and a man. The dog was Tim, but only, which he describes as "the most intelligent animal I have ever known."

The man was Albert F. Neeke, a nature lover from the East who had brought a tuberculosis-stricken wife to Southern California because his doctor had taught the climate would prolong her life.

The story is delightfully told (and read) in a letter that Gardner wrote in the November issue of "The High Country," a quarterly publication published by High Country Associates, an organization of authors, artists and historians of the Temecula-Elsinore area. Tom Hulse, former Elsinore newspaper publisher, is the High Country's editor.

As a forerunner to Gardner's story, "The Measure of a Man," Sam Hicks, a long-time associate and author in his own right, writes charmingly of "Uncle Ernie," as Gardner is known to him.

"He," writes Hicks, "the most widely read author in the world more than 10 million Gardner books have been sold and he is currently at work on his last book, but only, which he describes as 'the most intelligent animal I have ever known.'"

Hicks' reference is something like a graphic sketch of Gardner. Gardner grew up in California, Hicks writes, with his father, a gold-mining engineer, who installed the first giant gold dredger at Orville. Later, he began writing at Orville. Later, he began writing at Orville. Later, he began writing at Orville.

And Hicks tells of Gardner's a battery of secretaries and machines, an accumulation of typewriters, typewriters, typewriters. Gardner had turned to writing when he got tired of being a secretary.

He relates briefly, Gardner's farming of the "Court of Last Resort," a nation-

(Continued on B-5, Column 1)

## SHORT SHIRTS

By ROSS HAYNES

In some respectable cases, a man's home is his hassle.

## A Thought for Today

All we can do is to make the best of each day.

—Edith Carter

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# County to Request State, Federal Funds for East Slope Mountain Road

By JOSEPH P. MCCARTHY  
San Francisco Staff Writer

A resolution asking state and federal highway officials to provide the estimated \$2 million for the construction of Pioneer Loop Road between Big Bear and Yucca Valley was adopted yesterday by the Board of Supervisors.

Supervisor Dave Bane, who introduced the resolution, said the county would never be able to finance the cost of the road and that the federal agency are the ones most likely to be interested in the development of the road.

He pointed out that if developed, the road would open to the public a vast amount of "scenic and historic" lands and would help satisfy an increasing demand for recreation areas.

The road now is a twisting, treacherous, narrow dirt road that winds down east-south-east slope of the San Bernardino mountains.

The present condition of the road is considered the same as it was when the covered wagon pioneers used it to cross the mountains.

A group of Yucca Valley residents has been organizing for improvement of the highway. They claim it will be an important tourist attraction which will bring more money to the mountain and high desert areas.

The resolution also asked that the road be included in the State Highway System as well as the Master Plan for Scenic Highways.

County Engineer M. A. Nicholas said the road would have to be incorporated before funds could be provided for development.

## 'Trade and Aid' Discussion Set

"Trade and Aid" will be discussed tomorrow by the San Bernardino League of Women Voters at its annual Local League Day program.

Charles C. Bunker, director of the Commerce Department's Los Angeles field office, will explain effects of the Kennedy Round on inland Empire business during the morning session, said Mrs. John Mahoney, president.

John Heston, chairman of Valley College's business and economics division, will speak during the luncheon hour. His topic will be "The Danger of Regional Economic Development without Regional Government."

Husing is director of VC's quarterly conference program for the San Bernardino region.

Reservations for the event, beginning at 10 a.m. at the Holiday Inn, may be made by calling the league's office or Grace Lee Long.

## Annual Christmas Drive Yule Gifts Needed at Patton

So you think you've got a wrapping problem this Christmas.

How would you like to wrap packages for 2,300 people?

The Patton Volunteer Service Association says it isn't that much of a problem — wrapping packages for the patients at Patton State Hospital. The real problem is obtaining the stuff — the items to go inside.

Especially needed are cosmetics and toiletries, arts and crafts supplies, toys and teenage items, clothing, musical items such as radios, records, harmonicas and other instruments, and clothing.

Gifts can be for any age group. Mentally retarded patients as well as children can use soft toys, coloring books, children's storybooks and educational toys.

Items need not be new, but should be in good condition. Clothing is needed not only for Christmas gifts, but also to stock the clothes closet which the Volunteer Service operates for the patients.

Donations of money will be used for certificates with which looks can be purchased at the Patton canteen. Checks should be made out to "Patton Volunteer Service Association, Inc."

Gifts need not be wrapped. They can be dropped off at Building B at the main gate in Patton Hospital or sent to the Mental Health Association office at 1999 D St., San Bernardino.

## KIOT Radio Sales Pending The Federal Communications Commission

Commission announced yesterday receipt of an application from Barlow, requesting transfer of KIOT's license to Fred Cental Broadcasting Co.

## Prisoner Flees County Hospital

Meeker was arrested on Nov. 6 for a parole violation. He was being held in the county jail.

Schloss said Meeker was on an LSD "trip" at the time he was arrested and was immediately lodged in the hospital for his protection.

Meeker ran out of a hospital door, head in a doorway, after a parking lot, climbed a fence on 4th Street and disappeared. Schloss said Meeker had no shoes or clothing with him.

## Pancho, Pat O'Mara Find Their Santa Claus

MARIE SHOEMAKER  
San Francisco Staff Writer

A San Bernardino law firm has volunteered to play Santa Claus by taking the case of Pancho, a 12-year-old boy who is clinically insane and faces possible deportation to Mexico.

Arthur C. Bayton, a partner in the firm of Hayton, Whitlock and Rankins, said yesterday he will meet at 9:30 a.m. today with Pat O'Mara of Redlands, who would like to adopt the boy.

O'Mara has been seeking legal help for Pancho for several months. The assistance finally came after a story in the San Bernardino County Record about Pancho's plight and seeking a Santa Claus for him appeared in the San Bernardino Post Friday.

Bayton said he was very concerned about Pancho's problem.

"We'd just like to help him," Bayton said. "We want to investigate him, and follow it through."

If that happens, he may be deported to what has been described as a child's prison. O'Mara hopes to prevent Pancho's deportation and adopt him but first serious legal questions must be settled in court.

Pancho was sent to Camarillo State Hospital as a ward of the state one year, but that year will end next month. O'Mara fears the boy will be committed to Mexico.

If that happens, he may be deported to what has been described as a child's prison. O'Mara hopes to prevent Pancho's deportation and adopt him but first serious legal questions must be settled in court.

## Five Arrested. Dope Seized in House Raid

Five persons were arrested and 25 pounds of marijuana worth \$12,000 and large quantities of dangerous drugs were confiscated early yesterday as narcotics officers, from two agencies raided a San Bernardino home.

Sheriff's narcotics detectives said the raid culminated a month-long investigation into the importation and sale of large quantities of illicit marijuana and drugs in San Bernardino.

Based at County Jail for investigation of possession of marijuana and dangerous drugs were Larry Ortiz, 34, and Lela French, 41, both of 252 E. 40th St., Larry Lakich, 21, of 224 Central Ave., Mildred Clark, 71, all of San Bernardino, and Donald Moore, 23, of Cal-

ifornia. Officers of the sheriff's and San Bernardino police departments found quantities of what they believed to be marijuana stored in four of the 40th Street home and in a car.

Also recovered were about 2,000 amphetamine tablets. Officers said they had "taken out" the residence for a period of time prior to the arrest.

## DPC Centers Mark Human Rights Week

All service centers and contact referral stations of the Dependency Prevention Commission (DPC) will hold open house from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day of the week in observance of National Human Rights Week.

David Whitaker, executive director of the DPC, announced that the staff of the DPC, national classrooms and child care centers will also be open to the public during the week. White-

head said, "So informed the public has been set up at the DPC administrative office at 106 W. 4th St., San Bernardino."

DPC service centers and contact referral stations are set up in Redlands, Glendale, Fontana, Victorville, Brea, Ontario and Camarillo as well as in San Bernardino.

Thomas R. Meeker, of Hollywood, Fla., broke away from reserve Deputy Fred Davis about 8 p.m. Sunday as Davis was taking Meeker from his hospital room to the showers.

Sheriff's Det. Joseph Schloss said Meeker was arrested on Nov. 6 for a parole violation. He was being held in the county jail.

Schloss said Meeker was on an LSD "trip" at the time he was arrested and was immediately lodged in the hospital for his protection.

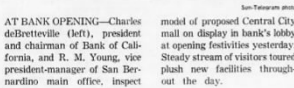
Meeker ran out of a hospital door, head in a doorway, after a parking lot, climbed a fence on 4th Street and disappeared. Schloss said Meeker had no shoes or clothing with him.

## Freeway Traffic Hits Logjam

Traffic was blocked off for nearly two hours yesterday on the connector road from southbound U.S. 395 to the eastbound Redlands Freeway at the San Bernardino interchange when

this log truck turned over. California Highway Patrol Officer Joe Ward said the truck struck a guard rail, rolled and slid 260 feet down the ramp. Two giant tires were used to remove

the truck and the logs from the roadway. The driver, Johnny Brunton, 23, of 24258 Caroline St., Long Beach, was uninjured in the accident. The truck was en route to Redlands area.



San Bernardino photo

## Traditional Bank Rite Heralds Bank's Opening

By JOE BAKER  
San Bernardino Bureau Editor

A big ribbon-cutting marked the opening of a million-dollar bank here yesterday.

The ribbon was a string of 40 smaller bills stretched across the Third Street entrance of Bank of California's new San Bernardino Main Office at Third and D streets, San Bernardino.

Top officers of the Bank of California — Charles deBretteville, board chairman and president, and John M. Schutt, board vice chairman — and Robert M. Young, vice president and manager of the branch, cut the ribbon.

Joining them in the ceremony were civic and business leaders, including Warren E. Freeman, president, S. A. Bernardino Chamber of Commerce, Nancy E. Smith, county supervisor, San Bernardino Mayor Al C. Ballard and

model of proposed Central City mall on display in banker's lobby at opening festivities yesterday.

Steady stream of dignitaries toured plush new facilities throughout the day.

Many in the crowd of several hundred persons who watched the ceremony exclaimed over the bank's plush carpeted, the painted mural and paneling on the walls, and the open mezzanine and skylight over the first and second floors.

Patrons apparently were provided for having making plans, for their use at the lobby desks, for the men who said they had been having trouble reconciling their bank statement added up a long list of figures and exclaimed with a smile, "It Balances."

Honored service officer, bank and cookies from glowing showers in the lobby near the D Street entrance, and passed out entry bills for awards

(Continued on B-5, Column 1)

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Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Mon. thru Friday.  
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