

STAND UP SIT-DOWNER

Richard Brunswick, amiable yet sardonic watch fixer-upper over at Alden Smith's jewelry emporium, sits all day on a low stool looking popeyed at main springs that won't budge, at hands that won't move. This week he remarked that there was no use for him to go on a sit-down strike—he sits so much no one would ever notice. Richard is quite the eccentric. Born and raised in Germany, Richard saw much of the war, wants to see no more. He lives and loves in San Pedro, is single, very well read, speaks several languages, and goes for a three-mile swim in the blasted ocean every Sunday morning, come rain, snow, ice or hurricane. The "season-be-damned" swim alone qualifies him as a top-notch eccentric, while his liberal social beliefs further convince a sceptic that poor Richard is an arch leftist or a rabid rightist. I've never been able to figure out which, and though we indulge in tall talk every few days, Richard still remains an enigma who may have a black heart and a sharp tongue, but who probably has neither.

But Richard does have a sense of humor. To him most tragedies are comical and he often quotes thus . . .
"To the man who thinks, life is a comedy.
To the man of emotion, life is a tragedy."

LIFE'S AMBITION

After seeing the Meglin kiddies in action the other night at the Kiwanis show, Weston Leech, oldest son of Florist Harriett Leech, confidentially and in greatest secrecy confided in me that he is seriously considering joining the local dancing class. Picture, if your heart can stand it, Weston garbed in a pair of black silk tights . . . or a pair of short shorts, doing a buck and wing.

HALLIBURTON HERE

One of the best-known contemporary authors in the U. S. and probably the most famous personage to visit this here town in many moons is Richard Halliburton, lecturer, traveler and author of many best sellers, who appears at the civic auditorium, May 3, both afternoon and evening.

Halliburton comes under the auspices of the Torrance Herald, which in bringing this man here, hopes also to bring to this city a cultural touch that is sorely needed, seldom appears. Removed as we are here in Torrance we must rely on the cinema for our amusement, on our individual initiative for knowledge and culture. Seldom, if ever—unless we travel to Los Angeles—are we able to hear an excellent speaker, listen to a brainy man, enjoy seeing and watching a person smarter than we give his or her interesting, mentally-refreshing summations of this thing called life. We laugh at Jack Benny, smile with Eddie Cantor, sing with Bing Crosby. But when I ask you, do we get the chance to hear a GOOD speaker, see with our own eyes an intelligent man who really digs deep in our souls, waters and fertilizes our sluggish brains?

Not very often!
But we have the chance on May 3, and I want to go on record right now as one who seriously urges every man, woman and child in this community to be present at Halliburton's performance.
Believe you me, it will pay!

HILL TOPPERS

Several Torrance residents have recently purchased home sites at Rolling Hills, the beautiful country south of Lomita. Among them are Floyd Jones, Alden Smith, Guy Claire and Dick Whittington. Alden Smith's home, an extremely beautiful ranch-house type, is already under construction and Alden is busier than the fabled one-arm paperhanger, what with contractors, plumbers, electricians, etc., etc., bothering him all the time.

Purchases in exclusive Rolling Hills are made only with the provision that construction shall start within 90 days. I believe it is. Naturally, the realtors are anxious to make a showing of new homes.

The others mentioned are all past the planning stage and will pour the foundations of their "dude ranches" very soon.

Since man began building homes quite some few years ago he has preferred to live on a mountain, a hill or even a slight rise of the terrain. Out on the prairies of Kansas, where flat land abounds but few if any hills, residents search for

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TWENTY-THIRD YEAR—No. 14.

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 1937.

\$2.00 PER YEAR — SINGLE COPY 5c

FREE SYMPHONY CONCERT TOMORROW

**Orchestra
Will Play
Beethoven**

A program of unusual merit will be presented free to the public tomorrow night at 8 o'clock in the civic auditorium by the Torrance Symphony orchestra and George Luddecke, baritone, under the joint sponsorship of the city of Torrance and the Symphony association. This will be the third free concert to be given here.

George N. Mershon will conduct and Torrance C. Welch will serve as master of ceremonies. The orchestra of 30 pieces will play Beethoven's seldom-heard Second Symphony as the principal number and another unfamiliar composition, Mazurka, Die Libelle (The Dragon Fly) by Josef Strauss will also be heard. Another Strauss, Johann, brother of Josef, wrote the famed "Blue Danube" which will be played by popular request. The overture will be the spirited "Jolly Robbers" by Suppe and the final orchestral contribution to the program will be "The Star Spangled Banner" with the audience joining the symphony in singing the anthem.

One event on previous concerts that will not be included on tomorrow's program—and will not be missed—is the alleged "comedy skit." Conductor Mershon has given up this clowning effort by popular demand. He is to be congratulated.

Conquers Deafness
Soloist Luddecke will present the Largo from Dvorak's New World Symphony, Carrie Jacobs Bond's "A Perfect Day" and the intriguing "Short'n' Bread" by Wolfe. He is known to a number of local residents from his teaching work at the Christian church. A baritone of unusual tonal qualities, he has appeared as soloist in San Diego with the Ford symphony, at the Organ amphitheatre and with the Hollywood Women's chorus. Luddecke is leaving shortly for New York to participate in auditions for radio work.

Beethoven's Second Symphony, whose five movements will be the Torrance orchestra's feature attraction Friday night, was written during closing months of 1802 when the great composer's deafness was merging into something more serious. It gave him keenest distress but so great were his resolution and confidence that not even the prospect of this tremendous affliction could subdue him.

The Second Symphony reveals Beethoven's adaption of Mozart and Haydn's styles although the scherzo movement is particularly his own and shows the first concept of his future great compositions—the "Eroica" (Third) and six other symphonies. The easy breadth and power of the Second represents

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SOLOIST ON PROGRAM



GEORGE LUDDECKE, Baritone

The Largo movement from

the New World Symphony by Anton Dvorak may be a strange title to many but its theme, the Negro spiritual, "Goin' Home," will be familiar to those who hear George Luddecke sing it with the Torrance Symphony orchestra tomorrow night in the civic auditorium. Dvorak (1854-1904) was a Czech composer, conductor and teacher who came to America in 1892 after great successes in Europe.

He met a splendid reception and remained here three years, aiming to develop a national school of composition among his American pupils but this was not to be. In an effort to emphasize the novelty of the impressions he received in this country and in order to give distinctive and characteristic expression to them, he chose for some of his compositions which originated here, themes built on certain typical features of the folk songs of the Indian and

**Hospital Nursery
Gains Three Babies**

Three babies arrived this week at Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital. They were: A son born to Mr. and Mrs. Thaine Chapin of Wilmington, April 5.

A son born to Mr. and Mrs. Paul L. Francis, 24523 Eshelman avenue, Lomita, April 6. Francis is a tractor contractor. And a daughter born to Mr. and Mrs. Linden Johnson, 2823 23rd street, April 7.

**Wave of Petty
Thefts Strikes
Food Markets**

Until this week local store managers merely tried to grin and bear it. Now, in several food stores at least, they resolved to put a stop to the form of petty theft that has assumed the proportions of a miniature crime wave.

That is shoplifting. For several months close checks of inventory and sales have revealed a wide discrepancy—amounting in the case of one food store to almost \$300 a month. This was far and above the usual breakage, rejections and the other ordinary causes that are credited to the "loss" column.

Then the store managers began watching their shelves with greater care. They discovered that a major part of the loss this way—a pound of butter here, a can of this, there, a box or two of this product.

Judicious Suggestions
It was not children but mature adults, people whose financial standing is unquestioned in the community were found to be among the offenders. Obviously, the storemen were faced with a delicate problem: How to put an end to their shoplifting losses without attracting public notice to the persons doing the thievery?

One store manager informed The Herald that he has stationed observers at points commanding unobstructed views of the aisles of merchandise. He says that a judicious suggestion to the person found stuffing some article away in his or her clothing that "perhaps you'd like to try this brand instead of the one you have selected" is having good results.

Another says that he is contemplating hiring extra clerks to watch his shelves. But in no cases has an actual arrest been made. It is hoped that none

**Relative Long Believed
Dead Found by Chance**

A casual exchange of business cards between Jack Schwimmer, who has charge of the men's furnishings at the Star Department Store, and a traveling salesman about a month ago led to Schwimmer's meeting an uncle his family had believed dead for about 45 years.

**Traffic Death
Toll Brings
Warning**

Death's undulled scythe swept through the ranks of California motorists with renewed vigor in the first two months of this year, Ray Ingels, director of the State Motor Vehicle Department, announced this week.

With 305 fatalities in January and 206 in February, Ingels said, the total for the two months was 511, an increase of 35 deaths, or 7.35 percent over the 476 killed in the same period last year.

A grim warning was given by Director Ingels, who said: "If the present upward trend of highway accidents continues, there will be an average of one person killed, or injured for every family in California within the next decade."

LOMITA SING TONIGHT

The Lomita Community Sing will be held tonight but Mrs. Peter Andrews will not present her travel talk as previously announced. She will speak at the gathering scheduled for May 13.

will be necessary and that the wave of shoplifting will pass away without serious consequence to those who are known offenders.

**Noted Rotarian
Speaks Tonight**

A Rotarian since he was 24, member of the Vocational Service committee for the International service organization, governor of the Fifth district (Utah and his home state of Idaho) and a participant at 10 district conferences and two international conventions, Richard H. Wells will appear at the local service club tonight as principal speaker. President Charles Jones will also be in charge of the dinner program.

Wells, proprietor of the Idaho Coal & Ice Company at Pocatello, has served his community as president of the Chamber of Commerce, chairman of the board of education, director of the State Mental hospital, vice president of the Boy Scout area council and is active on committees in state affairs. He was named a member of the International's vocational service committee for 1936-37 at the last international convention.

**Claims Husband
Posed As Single;
Seeks Divorce**

After his marriage to her in Torrance in February, 1933, James A. West posed as a single man, Doris J. West declared, filing suit for divorce in superior court this week.

The wife, daughter of Mrs. Phoebe Milburn, well-known resident of this city, asked custody of their two children, Elizabeth Ann, three, and Jacqueline Doris, one year, and \$70 a month for support of them and herself. The couple separated last July, according to the complaint.

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ever to visit Torrance! Plan
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CHARLIE SAYS . . .

"Twenty years ago Tuesday of this week the U. S. plucked itself into history's biggest mess, the World War. Unable to resist jingoists, munitions makers, and pacifists turned bloodthirsty, President Wilson proclaimed a state of war with Germany, whipped an army together, plunged ear-deep into the sloppy gore of Europe. The whole stupid thing was labeled 'The War to End War' . . . the war to 'make the world safe for democracy' . . . and other ashline drabble."

"How hopeless, how unsuccessful, how neoronic the whole thing was is now well established. Nothing gained, everything lost."

"God save us from another; God give us the common sense to deal with our neighbors peaceably, tolerantly, kindly."

"Yours for Stewart-Warner,
"Charlie LeBoeuf."

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