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# Santa Swoops From Skies Tonight!

## Columbia's Provo Furnace is Being Reconditioned

With the work of relining and reconditioning the Provo, Utah, furnace of the Columbia Steel company rapidly nearing completion, company officials announced this week they believe the furnace will resume the manufacture of pig iron by Dec. 4.

Besides replacing worn out brick lining and water pipes numerous other repairs and improvements are being incorporated in the work.

An electrically operated clay gun for closing the iron notch is being assembled. This will improve working conditions for the employees involved in this operation and will provide a safer method for closing the iron notch when the furnace is tapped. It will also eliminate the necessity of taking the wind off the furnace after each case during the period the iron is being stopped.

Residue Weighs 100 Tons Another convenience being installed is a new automatic stock line recorder which will enable the operating department to control the distribution of materials to the furnace. A new automatic "hot" blast temperature control which will maintain uniform temperature in the hot blast between changes made by the operating force is also being installed.

New copper plates are being erected in the wall section of the furnace lining for a distance of approximately 30 feet above the mantle. These will lengthen the life of the furnace lining.

The present furnace was last relined in 1931 and has been in continuous operation until September 30 of this year when it was blown out for the present repairs. It is interesting to note that when the "salamander" residue iron forming in the bottom of the hearth, was removed it weighed approximately 100 tons. The enormous chunk of iron has developed since the furnace was blown in during 1931.

## Kiddies to Give Operetta Here

"The Princess Has a Birthday," a colorful operetta is to be presented by a group of the famed Meglin Kiddies at the Civic Auditorium Friday evening, Dec. 3, on the benefit program sponsored by the Torrance Relief Society. All proceeds from show will be used to fill Christmas baskets with food for local needy families.

The entertainment will be in the nature of a "try-out" for the Meglin Kiddies' troupe because the operetta is to be given in the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles the following week with Eddie Cantor playing a leading role. Tickets for the local showing will go on sale shortly.

## Rippy Believes Colorado Water Will Cut Rate Here

Officials of the Metropolitan Water District were in Torrance this week making inquiries as to the estimated amount of water this city is likely to use when the Colorado River aqueduct is finished in 1940, according to City Attorney C. T. Rippey, who is this city's director on the MWD board.

Rippey told the city council Tuesday night that Torrance's allotment is 8,500 acre feet or 15 second feet—many times the present water production from the two wells being pumped by the Torrance Municipal Water district.

"I estimated that if we could interest the Columbia Steel, General Petroleum corporation and other industrial concerns who are now pumping from their own wells in obtaining water

## Just Before a Shell Struck Them



This picture was taken just before a Japanese shell exploded in their dugout, killing William Christopher Howard, who is shown slinging the Lewis gun, and James Mellon, who is holding the gun mounting with both hands. Both were British soldiers stationed in an outpost in the International Settlement at Shanghai.

## GROUP HOSPITALIZATION AVAILABLE AFTER JAN. 15 AT LOCAL INSTITUTION

Subscribers to the group hospitalization plan, provided under the law enacted at the last Legislature and administered by a newly-formed non-profit corporation covering all Southern California, will be accepted by the Torrance Memorial hospital beginning Jan. 15, 1938, it was announced this week.

This plan, patterned after a similar arrangement that has proven an outstanding success in New York City, contemplates the enlistment of groups whose members, for approximately three cents per day, may secure free hospitalization at any of the hospitals certified by the State Board of Public Health. Other nearby hospitals accredited with the Associated Hospital Service of Southern California are the Long Beach Community and Seaside institutions, Santa Monica hospital, San Pedro General hospital and seven in Los Angeles.

The objective of this non-profit community service is to enable groups of people with moderate incomes to pool a small amount regularly so that they may collectively reimburse hospitals for services rendered to their individual members. The plan enables the subscriber to receive adequate hospital care when he needs it without the usual burden of expense. If a person could know in advance when he would need hospital care, he could save to meet the expense but illness and injury are unpredictable.

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## \$37,500 in Yule Savings Being Released in City

### Fence Tops Fire Hazard in Interest

Apparently it takes the Los Angeles board of education longer to act on a notice from the city of Torrance that a fire hazard exists at the Walteria school than it does to have a fence built around the Torrance Elementary school.

That was the conclusion of city councilmen here Tuesday night after they had heard City Clerk A. H. Bartlett read two letters from the school authorities. On Nov. 17 City Engineer Frank R. Leonard wrote the school board concerning the need for a fence on one side of the Elementary school grounds.

The board replied this week that the matter had been referred to Dr. Frank O. Evans, assistant in charge of housing, by W. C. Conrad, assistant superintendent, and that early action was promised.

But the school board delayed acting on Engineer Leonard's report—as of August 28—about the fire hazard at the Walteria school until Nov. 1. At that time the improvement was authorized "and has been made."

### Dominguez Land Down to Last Few 100 Acres

In 1911 the Dominguez Land corporation, original subdividers of the city of Torrance, owned or controlled some 3,500 acres in and about this city.

Today, as result of gradual liquidation during the past 26 years, that corporation has less than 150 acres and less than 100 city lots on which it is paying taxes. It won't be very long before the last holdings of the original purchaser will be disposed of to private owners.

Brian K. Welch, president of the corporation, said Wednesday that recently announced sharp cuts in prices for lots and acreage has resulted in sales of considerable remaining property. Of the original 3,500 acres, 600 were subdivided into the townsite of Torrance and, with the exception of a few scattered lots, these have all been sold to home owners or investors.

### Re-Zone Plan and Law Ready for Council Dec 14

City Attorney C. T. Rippey informed the city council Tuesday night that he expects to have his report on the proposed re-zoning plan for the entire city complete and ready for submission with the proposed zoning ordinance at the next regular council meeting. This will be held Dec. 14.

### Coordinators Meet Again in 1938

Lacking a quorum, the Torrance Coordinating Council did not hold a regular meeting Monday night but considered a few reports and decided to assemble the next time on Jan. 24, 1938. It was reported that the Kiwanis and Rotary clubs will jointly sponsor the next student dance at the Civic Auditorium, Friday night, Dec. 3. The National Business and Professional Woman's club of Torrance sponsored the last student dance.

### ELECTION SET

Members of Torrance lodge No. 447, F. & A. M., will hold the annual election of officers Dec. 3. The installation is set for Dec. 29.

### 770 PEOPLE ON RECEIVING END HERE

First waves of a flood of good, hard cash in the form of Christmas Club checks this week began sweeping their way over Torrance and into the hands of those who weekly-weekly deposited various sums regularly in the two local banks. On Dec. 1 that flood will reach approximately \$37,500, it was learned by The Herald today.

The Torrance National bank started sending out the savings put away by members of its Christmas club this week and on the morning of Dec. 1, those who subscribed to the Torrance branch of the Bank of America's holiday-saving plan will receive their earnings.

More than 770 local people were members of the two Christmas clubs here this year. Last year about 750 collected \$34,000 thru this form of savings. The average check going to members this year is in excess of \$50, officials of both banks revealed.

Advices Continued Saving A companying the checks mailed by the Torrance National bank was this message: "It gives us great pleasure to hand you herewith this check for the amount you have accumulated in our Christmas Club. We hope it will help to make the holidays more enjoyable. Spend what you must in remembering those you love and cherish but don't spend all of it. We urge you to first open a regular interest account with all you can spare which will always be available when you must have money in the future. We have opened our club for next year and since you know the convenience and benefits of it, we invite you to enroll now so that you will receive another check next year."

Manager Dean Sears of the Bank of America has received word that Christmas Club funds saved by depositors in that institution increased their subscriptions about 35 percent this year thruout the state. He declared that Christmas Club savings represent one of the "best possible guides to economic conditions" and that "therefore there is every reason to feel that the coming Christmas will be California's merriest in many years."

Where Money Is Going In using the formula established in previous years from questionnaires to individual members, the estimated national (Continued on Page 2-A)

### Water Dist. Hearing Set for Nov. 30

An adjourned meeting of the city council will be held next Tuesday night, Nov. 30, for the purpose of hearing protests against the proposed formation of the Torrance Municipal Water District No. 2 to serve residents in North Torrance along Arlington avenue between 166th and 182nd street.

City Attorney C. T. Rippey informed council members Tuesday night that, from reports he has heard, the proposed water system is likely to be protested out at that meeting. Mayor William H. Tolson will invite those in the audience at 8 o'clock next Tuesday night to "speak out" pro or con on the contemplated extension of municipal water service.

The project will cost approximately \$8,244 to install and this sum is to be paid by property owners within the district by bond assessment, covering 10 years. Each of the 32 property owners affected by the proposed water system have received copies of City Engineer Frank R. Leonard's report on plans for the improvement and the notice of the time for the protest hearing.

If a majority of property owners signify they want the municipal water system, it will be installed. However, if protestants hold the majority, the year and one-half old subject of many a council session and North Torrance gathering will be summarily dropped.

### Storm Drain for City Said Needed by Engineer

This city must soon begin study of a storm drain system to serve North Torrance on Illinois street and the area where the Doherty Stone Drill company is located, City Engineer Frank R. Leonard informed the city council Tuesday night.

No storm drainage facilities have been needed here until now, he said. Leonard intends to hold a tentative plan of the new system for presentation to county flood control district officials in the near future.

### CHECKING NUMBERS

About half of the property in South Torrance has been checked by the city engineer's staff for correcting house numbers. Engineer Frank R. Leonard reported to the council Tuesday night.

## Masons to Burn Mortgage On Temple Tuesday Night

Fifteen years ago a group of Torrance men, members of Lodge No. 447, F. & A. M., re-organized a building association for the construction of a Masonic temple here. John Paul Beall was master of the lodge then and R. R. Smith was named president of the building group. A year later they had incurred a debt of some \$35,000—but they had a splendid, well-equipped Norman-Gothic building on Sartori avenue.

Since 1923 the Masonic building association has been whittling that debt down until the last payment was made last month. But the event that all members of the association have been anticipating for 15 years will not take place until next Tuesday night.

Then the mortgage on the Torrance Masonic temple will be ceremoniously burned at the close of a gala lodge meeting, according to announcement made yesterday by Willis Brooks, worshipful master of the lodge. Past Grand Master Will Fisher of Los Angeles will come here to be one of the speakers on this happy occasion and the other will be Truman Van Dyke, inspector for the 76th Masonic district. There will be special entertainment and refreshments are to be served.

The Masonic Building association is still functioning, Brooks said. It is a chartered corporation and recently under the direction of its officers the banquet room was repaired. The association's first president, R. R. Smith, was assisted by Paul Dines, secretary; G. W. Towne, treasurer, and George W. Neill and W. A. Renn, directors.

The lodge held its first meeting in the new temple on May 4, 1923, when Jesse Howard Sprout, now the veteran secretary of the fraternal order, was master. The dedication exercises were held May 18, 1923.

## RUSHES HERE FOR MAIL; TO LAUNCH TREASURE HUNT!

Late reports on the progress of Santa Claus' special flight to Torrance tonight to collect his mail and announce the start of the Second annual Christmas Treasure Hunt indicated that the old fellow is certain to arrive here shortly after 7 o'clock!

Wireless messages received from him a few hours ago reported that he would circle his plane in the full glare of the five-billion candle-power beam directed skyward from the triangular park at Marcelina and Sartori avenues and then land for a triumphal entry and parade thru the business district of Torrance.

All arrangements are complete to give Santa Claus a royal welcome when he lands and is rushed to the city to greet boys and girls of all ages—whom he has not seen for a full year. At 7 o'clock tonight all eyes should be trained on the sky above Torrance to watch the great searchlight hunt for Santa's silver plane and keep it in full view of the crowd downtown while the North Pole visitor waves his first greetings to the city.

### Band to Lead Santa to Town

Just how Santa will be escorted into the city is a mystery only The Herald knows. That newspaper has assumed full charge of his appearance here and has made special secret arrangements to provide him with unusual means of conveyance after he steps out of his plane on Torrance soil.

However, the Torrance Municipal band has agreed to provide a musical salute to the honored guest tonight and the musicians will lead the parade, which will start from Sartori avenue and Torrance boulevard.

The minute Santa Claus starts to lead the procession thru the business district the Christmas lights bordering streets and the decorated Christmas tree at the Marcelina-

## Mail Santa Letters Now

Boys and Girls! You still have time to write Santa what you want for Christmas and mail your letters at his special mailbox in the triangular park at Marcelina and Cravens avenue where he will collect them tonight. Write him now! No postage is required!

Sartori park will be turned on for the first time. From that moment on thru to January 1, 1938, the vari-colored lights will continue to send out their cheery reminder that

### "IT'S CHRISTMAS TIME IN TORRANCE!"

All merchants have been asked to keep their stores open tonight, their windows illuminated and stand-by to exchange greetings on the occasion of the start of the Yuletide season in this city.

### To Proclaim Treasure Hunt

When the parade winds up at the Marcelina-Sartori park, in front of the big searchlight, Santa will make a short talk of genuine interest to every man, woman and child in Torrance.

He will proclaim the start of the Second Annual Christmas Treasure Hunt—that event which proved so successful last Yuletide when hundreds of shoppers-in-Torrance were well rewarded for their support of home-town merchants by being presented with valuable prizes.

Santa Claus will then collect his mail from his own mailbox that was located in the little central park a few days ago just to receive letters from youngsters who don't want him to miss them on Dec. 25. He wants to take these letters back with him to the North Pole for study and to check up on the signers to see if they've been good little boys and girls all this year. If they have been, then he'll inscribe their names in his Big Book for Gifts.

Mayor William H. Tolson is ready to turn on the Christmas lights bordering the streets and on the large municipal tree in the triangular park where Santa will make his one and only stop in Torrance on this special pre-view trip.

### Certain to Get Great Welcome

City firemen have devoted many hours of their free periods to the decoration of the big tree in the center park. This is one of their annual gestures of good will to the residents of Torrance. The other one is the fire department's Christmas party for all youngsters which will be held in the Civic Auditorium on Dec. 21.

But tonight the symbol of childhood's greatest joy—Santa Claus, himself in person, is to be in Torrance just to let everyone know that he's on the job again and looking forward to his world tour on Christmas Eve.

It's a great privilege to entertain him and Torrance children of all ages are certain to accord him the biggest welcome ever given a distinguished visitor to this city.