ALL ADVERTISEMENTS Ordered for the newspaper are also published in the Tri-City Shopping News without extra charge.

Torrance Herald

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Consolidated Edition, Torrance Herald and Lomita News

TWO SECTIONS 16 PAGES THIS ISSUE

TWENTY-THIRD YEAR—No. 49. SECTION A TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1937 PER COPY 5c

YULE MAIL TIPS GIVEN BY CONNER

About this time of the year the postoffice department breaks out in a rash of circulars and instructions based on the theme of "Do Your Christmas Shopping and Mailing Early." Postmasters thruout the nation beseech their patrons to follow this double entreaty and thus add to Yuletide joys by allowing their gifts ample time to arrive before Christmas Day.

Postmasters Earl Conner and Birda Paddock of Torrance and Lomita are no exception. They too are urging respective patrons to follow the few simple rules which make for a better holiday spirit. Postmaster Conner announces that all windows in the postoffice will remain open until 6 p. m. Saturdays, Dec. 11 and 18, for the convenience of mailers. Any Christmas parcels received here too late for delivery Friday, Dec. 24, will be delivered on Christmas Day and there will be one delivery in the residential section of Torrance on Sunday, Dec. 19.

Wrapping Instructions

Both the Torrance and Lomita postmasters point out that "remembrances received in time for Christmas express additional thought on the part of the sender." Mail to foreign countries should be dispatched at once and mailings to the following points should be made not later than the dates given: Hawaii, Dec. 13; Atlantic coast and Canada, Dec. 16; Middlewest, Dec. 18; Pacific coast and Northwest, Dec. 20, and local and nearby towns, Dec. 21.

Stickers "Do Not Open Until Christmas" may be affixed to the back of gift parcels and greetings. To assure gift parcels reaching their destination in good condition they should be properly packed and wrapped, using good paper and strong cord. Parcels containing fragile articles or perishable matter should be endorsed "Fragile" or "Perishable."

The address should be plainly written or printed, including street address, name of city and state. Return should be in the upper left corner. Valuable parcels should be insured (the fee is small) and letters containing

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Calder Issues Double-Barreled Warning Plea

Police Chief G. M. Calder this week sounded a special note of caution for the holiday season. Both drivers and walkers can do a great deal to reduce grief and tragedy during this annual interval of relaxation, he suggests, if they give a thought to the other fellow when they drive along—or walk along—crowded streets.

In addressing this plea to pedestrians as well as to motorists, Chief Calder touches upon one of the major traffic hazards, the reckless walker, who by cutting across between intersections or otherwise trusting his life to the skill and alertness of drivers, sometimes is solely responsible for a tragedy.

Nothing can relieve drivers of their responsibility for controlling their cars at all times. But too often a heedless or utterly reckless pedestrian creates a situation which no driver can meet without disaster to himself, some other motorist or the pedestrian.

December Building Opens Strong; $1,050,332 to Date

Decision on Expo Site is Due Shortly

Imminence of a landslide at Elysian Park precludes any reasonable consideration of a site in that vicinity being chosen for the 1942 International Trade Exposition in Los Angeles city territory, it was learned here this week.

So far as local proponents of the Figueroa-Vermont-Normandie-Midway site can determine, their proposal is still among the leading contenders for selection. Others are Griffith Park and Chavez Ravine. Four of the five experts chosen to make recommendations to the Committee of 15, charged with the selection of the exposition acreage, have submitted their reports and the fifth is expected within a fortnight, Ralph B. Lloyd, chairman of the committee, said this week.

The Committee of 15 is expected to announce its findings before Christmas, according to news reports. This may not occur because the same source declared that Alondra Park was being considered as a site for the Trade Exposition. Alondra Park is not eligible for this project, local men interested in the expo selection say, because it is in county territory.

Because the exposition is to be promoted and maintained by the city of Los Angeles its boundaries must be within that city unless some arrangement has been made with the county which the Figueroa-Vermont-Normandie-Midway site association know nothing about as yet.

Child Victim of Crash Dies

Critically injured Oct. 31 when she was pinned underneath her father's car after a collision at Spencer and Earl streets near Torrance, Joyce, three-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Horace T. Brunwin, succumbed last Saturday at the Children's hospital in Los Angeles.

The Brunwins live at 20558 Valerie street here. Brunwin was involved in the collision with a car driven by Mrs. Bernice Davison of Redondo's Earl street. The little girl was treated at Torrance Memorial hospital following the accident and later removed to the Los Angeles institution.

Brunwin instituted suit for $42,000 damages against Mrs. Davison two weeks ago with his little daughter as joint plaintiff. A coroner's inquest was held at the Hall of Justice yesterday morning.

The coroner's jury held that the little girl's fatal injuries were caused by the negligence of Mrs. Davison and absolved the father of all blame. No charges have been filed against Mrs. Davison, it is understood, because the district attorney's office believes the crash evidence would not sustain an indictment.

Decision On Water For No. Torrance Is Due Tonight

At an adjourned meeting tonight at 7:45 o'clock, the city council is expected to make a final decision on whether or not a Torrance Municipal Water District No. 2 will be created and thus provide water facilities for residents in North Torrance along Arlington avenue between 166th and 182nd streets.

At the protest hearing on the proposed improvement, which will be paid for by a 10-year bond issue totalling $8,244, held on Nov. 30, the protests received represented only 42.9 percent of the total frontage covered by the proposed district. The council may either order the water system installed or decide, at its discretion, that it is ill-advised at the present time.

CONSTRUCTION RECORD TOPS PAST 9 YEARS

After an exceptionally dull November, building in Torrance started the final month of the year with a rush that added $7,965 worth of new construction permits for the first week of December. November's building here amounted to but $7,260 as compared to $35,309 during the same month in 1936.

The total building figure for the first 11 months of this year stands at $1,042,367. Last year the same period saw only $387,233 in new construction here, according to records kept by City Engineer Frank R. Leonard. The 1937 total will surpass all yearly construction records to 1927's mark of $2,119,923.

November's building included two residences, $3,300; six alteration and addition jobs, $2,125, and 10 non-residential jobs, $1,835. There have been 201 permits issued by Engineer Leonard during the past 11 months as compared to 186 in the same period, 1936.

Permits Since Dec. 1

New construction for which permits were taken out after Dec. 1 follows: Raymond J. Dourton, erecting a frame garage at 24424 Park street, Walteria, $65; John Greib, building addition to garage at 2421 236th street, $50; Ray and Dilley, erecting a moved-in oil derrick at 1939 235th street, $5,000.

Grace R. Cooper, a four-room frame house at 23801 Narbonne avenue, $1,000; Donald Findley, erecting a garage building 46 by 20 feet, at 2112 Cabrillo avenue, $400; R. D. Caley, locating two 1,000-gallon and one 550-gallon gasoline storage tanks at 1149 Torrance boulevard, $650. R. C. Whisenant of Long Beach is planning on erecting a Richfield Oil station at that location as soon as the necessary permits can be obtained.

Jack Ison is adding fire escapes to his building at 1639 Cabrillo avenue at a cost of $225, and K. Sayoro is building four one-room houses at 3460 Huntington street at a cost of $625.

NO SLUMP IN COUNTY BUILDING ACTIVITY

Building activity in the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles county have positively not slumped, it was revealed this week by the county building bureau.

To date, permits this year are nearly $4,000,000 ahead of the showing last year for the same period. New buildings this year show a valuation of $18,423,554 as compared with $14,689,616 for the first eleven months of last year.

New construction last month totaled $1,768,640 as compared to $1,536,346 the previous month and to $1,412,461 for November 1936.

Narbonne Road Improvement Plans Complete

Plans have been completed and bids will be called for soon for the improvement of Narbonne avenue and vicinity of Lomita, according to George Jones, county road commissioner.

The improvement is to extend between Redondo-Wilmington road to 262nd street, a distance of 1633 feet. Excavation, grading, laying of monolithic curb and gutter and a three-inch sidewalk is called for in the plans.

Visiting Alhambrans Praise Civic Center

City Manager Otto S. Roen of Alhambra accompanied his fellowtownsman H. E. Burkheimer here Tuesday evening when the newspaperman was principal speaker at the Constitution program in the Civic Auditorium. Roen and Burkheimer visited the civic center buildings and warmly complimented Torrance citizenry on their splendid public structures.

Joint Yule Program is December 20

The annual Christmas program sponsored and presented by Torrance high school students and the Torrance Ministerial Union is now in rehearsal, according to Mrs. Marjorie Eischen, music director, who is in charge of the Yuletide presentation.

The united Protestant churches of the city will again sponsor the observance as they did last year. The program will be given at 1:30 o'clock, Monday, Dec. 20, and repeated at 7:30 in the evening at the Civic Auditorium. The matinee is for school students and adults who cannot attend the evening presentation. There will be no admission charged.

The high school Madrigal Singers will be assisted by the Junior A Capella choir and the P. T. A. Choir. The stage pictures are being designed and executed by the art classes under Miss Ada Chase. Mrs. Eischen announces that the program will consist of Christmas music put together so that the words provide the story. After the evening program the audience and choirs will join in singing Christmas carols.

All Youngsters Bid to Firemen's Party Dec. 21

Every youngster living in Torrance is cordially invited to attend the Torrance Fire department's annual Christmas party which will be held Tuesday evening Dec. 21, in the Civic Auditorium starting at 7:30 o'clock. Following one of the most elaborate Yuletide entertainments to be given here this year, the boys and girls will receive a visit from Santa Claus and be given gifts of candy, nuts, apples and oranges from the firemen.

The program in the gaylydecorated Auditorium will feature the Junior a Capella choir from the high school, directed by Mrs. Marjorie Eischen; the Junior Musicians' Harmonica band, a group of Zabelle junior starlets and Virginia Crandell's talented students in special dance numbers and music by the Torrance Municipal band.

More Entrants in Yule Home Display Prize Contest Wanted

"Many more Torrance residents should indicate that they are going to spread Christmas cheer by installing some kind of illuminated Yuletide decorations in front of their homes," Mrs. Lon Ralston, chairman of the Woman's club prize outdoor Christmas decoration contest said today. "We have only received a few signed coupons which The Herald is publishing to help us make a list of homes in this event. Please fill out the coupons and mail or bring it to me at 1667 Gramercy, The Herald office, Chamber of Commerce or Mrs. Lillian Barrington at 2368 Torrance boulevard."

Mrs. Ralston announced the judges for the contest and the date when they will make the rounds of homes whose occupants have indicated by the coupon below that they intend to decorate in some fashion so it will be seen at night the exterior of their residences.

Cash awards of $10 and $5 are to be given. The judges will be:

W. E. Harris, florist and decorator associated with the firm of Armacost and Royston, Los Angeles wholesale florists; W. D. Richardson, noted landscape architect and designer of Westwood; Mrs. Wallace Post, Harriett Leech and Mrs. Ralston of this city.

They will judge the home decorations from a list to be compiled from the signed coupons on Thursday night, Dec. 23. Many splendid ideas on how to decorate inexpensively may be obtained from current issues of women's magazines and those devoted to homes and gardens. Plan yours now and bring the filled out coupon below to The Herald office, Chamber of Commerce, or Mrs. Ralston and Mrs. Barrington's homes at once to be sure your efforts will be recognized by the judges.

Torrance Out-Door Yule Display Contest

I plan to decorate my home exterior or grounds for Christmas and would like to have my home included in the Torrance Woman's club prize contest:

Name.....

Address.....

Ashton Authors "Yarn"

Despite the fact that his name appears in large type as the author of a sensational "true detective story" appearing in a current magazine now on the news-stand, Sergeant Ernest M. Ashton of the local police department, is ready to affirm with uplifted hand that the yarn is not his nor according to police records of the case.

Titled "$2,000 and Death" and sub-captioned: "The Poor, Still-Living Wreck of a Man Could Only Gasp a Portion of a Name to Sergeant Ashton of Torrance, California, Before—" the story purports to be told by the local officer to one Bob McLean.

"But McLean garbled the yarn until, if you changed just the name of the city and names of local police officers mentioned I could not have recognized it as a case we had on July 18, 1933," Ashton declares. Mentioned in the story are Police Chief G. M. Calder, Officers Percy Bennett and James Brodie and Walter Westenhagen.

Disclaims All Credit

The published account is written in the first person and concerns the brutal murder of John Whitehead, Redondo accountant, by Charles Tedesco, Redondo shoe-repairer, off Redondo-Wilmington road. Sample of the descriptive narrative:

"We've all heard the expression, 'A good spot for a mur-

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Yule Holidays Only 8 Days Off for Schools

Only eight more days of school and then Christmas vacation begins for all boys and girls in Torrance and vicinity!

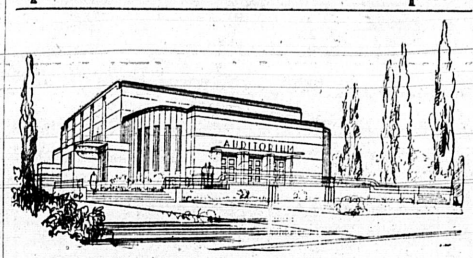
The Yule holidays begin with the close of school Tuesday, Dec. 21, and will last until Monday morning, Jan. 3, according to Principal Thomas Elson of the high school.

Teachers in particular will enjoy the vacation this year as there are to be no teacher institute sessions. These have been held during the evenings for the past several weeks in order to give instructors a good rest during the holidays.

The Yule vacation will be shortened this year because both Christmas and New Year's fall on Saturday. The fourth school month will end Jan. 7 and the first semester on Feb. 4. The second semester will start Feb. 7.

U. S. Red Threat Traced by Constitution Speaker

Splendid Addition to H. S. Campus



Revealing the modern structural beauty that has made the new buildings erected by the Los Angeles school system the envy of educators the nation over, the above architect's drawing of the new $100,700 Torrance high school auditorium is the first sketch to be published of the building that will be constructed shortly after Jan. 1. It will seat 1,009 and will face the patio of the main building, not Watson avenue, according to Principal Thomas Elson.

Stores to Stay Open Evenings

"It's Christmas Time in Torrance!" and under the strings of brightly hued colored lights lining the business district, nearly every store specializing in Yuletide gift merchandise will remain open tomorrow, Friday, night until 8:30 o'clock. Saturday night all stores, including grocery, vegetable and meat markets, will be open until 9 o'clock.

Starting next Monday night, Dec. 13, most of the shops here will be open every night until 8:30 o'clock and on Saturday, Dec. 18, they will continue to serve shoppers until 9 o'clock.

A survey made Tuesday by E. E. Murchison (Western Auto Supply store) and Harry Abramson (National Home Appliance company) for the Torrance Retail Merchants' association indicated that local businessmen and women will maintain this Christmas schedule almost 100 percent.

An increased demand for the Second Annual Christmas Treasure Hunt tickets at the 26 local stores which will award three valuable prizes each on Dec. 23 was noted this week as shoppers began observing the stores' gift displays. The big Hunt will start at noon Thursday, Dec. 23, and continue until 9 p. m.

Right Numbers Sent Residents

Notices have been sent by City Engineer Frank R. Leonard to nearly 200 residents living south of Sepulveda informing them of their correct house numbers and requested that the changes be made in their addresses within a 20-day period.

Nearly all of the houses in South Torrance have been incorrectly numbered since their erection, a condition which has resulted in considerable confusion. Engineer Leonard, with his assistant Leonard Young, carefully went over the tract maps of the section and listed the correct numbers on cards which were mailed to the residences, according to a request made by the city council several weeks ago.

Relief Need Told Students

Sectional assemblies were held at the high school Monday morning to acquaint students with the Torrance relief drive funds. Sam Levy, chairman of the campaign, addressed the students on the need for financial assistance in order that "Torrance may care for its own distressed families."

Principal Thomas Elson pointed out that local students are not asked to contribute to the Los Angeles Community Chest but that the instructors were. However, some teachers here also gave to the Torrance relief fund, he said.

SPEAKER

H. E. BURKHEIMER . . . raps ranting Reds

Reservoir Plan Told Lomitans

Nearly 150 Lomitans attended the Chamber of Commerce dinner session Monday night at the Presbyterian church hall and heard Supervisor Leland M. Ford promise immediate action to obtain a Lomita community park and applauded the statement by R. B. Deimer, Metropolitan Water District manager, that the proposed reservoir above the community in the Palos Verdes hills would be of value rather than a detriment to Lomita.

The water storage would decrease Lomita fire insurance rates should the county decide to join the M. W. D. at some future time, Deimer said. He explained the reservoir is necessary to properly serve San Pedro, Wilmington, Long Beach and Torrance. It would be constructed by excavating a symmetrical basin with walls at a three-in-one slope and coated with impervious materials topped by cement lining.

Plans call for an earth fill dam 70 feet high, 100 feet thick at the top and 700 feet thru at the base, the engineer said. The M. W. D. directors have not yet approved the reservoir project, however. Deimer reported that two sites are being considered for the basin, one at the head of Narbonne avenue canyon and the other south of Palos Verdes drive.

C. T. Rippy, Torrance representative on the M. W. D. board, assured the gathering that the water district will make all reasonable efforts to comply with property owners' wishes in locating the reservoir.

TWO NEW ARRIVALS

Two babies were born during the past week at Torrance Memorial hospital. Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Dickinson of Redondo claimed a son on Monday and Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Everly of Wilmington greeted a daughter last Saturday.

300 ATTEND PATRIOTIC PROGRAM

Facts about the insidious threat of Communism to American ideals formed the basis of an interesting address by H. E. Burkheimer, publisher of the Alhambra Post-Gazette, Tuesday night when associated civic and fraternal groups of Torrance, led by Willis M. Brooks, master of the Masonic lodge, observed the 150th anniversary of the signing of the U. S. Constitution by the first state, Delaware.

Declaring that the U. S. is facing an invasion of militant, ruthless mercenaries inspired by Red Russia, Burkheimer proved his point by reading many extracts from the Communists' own brand of literature. This material has been compiled, he said, and is being distributed by the Crime Prevention Committee of California in the hope of arousing true Americans to the peril which lies ahead.

With Brooks presiding, the Constitution program—first to be held here—was opened in the Civic Auditorium by community singing led by Robert Sykes and Bob Klink, high school students. The 300 present in the audience were not inspired to any great choral heights but at the close of the program when America was resung the response was better.

Plan Half-Fulfilled

Burkheimer, who became interested in the Communist menace several years ago when he attended a Red rally in Los Angeles and heard the Hammer and Cycle extolled and the American flag defamed, recalled the recent celebrations held in this country observing the 19th anniversary of the Russian revolution.

"In every large city gatherings were held in commemoration of this event so far from our borders," he said. "The Los Angeles meeting was held at the Plaza and there, a Negro woman Red made the statement that the next revolution anniversary 'will be held in the Hollywood Bowl in the Soviet States of America.'"

The speaker exhibited a blueprint which he said was a replica of the Communistic set-up in America—a plan which has been more than half fulfilled toward its avowed goal, that of swinging our glorious country under the domination of Russia."

"Nation of Softies"

Future "revolutionary leaders" are being trained in this country to lead the Communist party's advance. The groups directly or indirectly linking the left wing element to Russia are many and enter into almost every walk of life, from grade school pupils thru labor and fraternal groups, Burkheimer asserted.

"I have one indictment to

(Continued on Page 8-A)

Sunday Sitting Statistics Said Super-Super

A 13-hour sit-down championship is what Postmaster Earl Conner claimed last Sunday night as he retired for the night and reviewed his sitting day.

And here are his sits-statistics: From 8:45 a. m. to 12 o'clock noon, he hunched over a breakfast table with some Harbor District veterans at San Pedro; from noon to 1 p. m., he was at the wheel of his car driving from the port city to Torrance (where he picked up Mrs. Conner) to Los Angeles.

From 1 p. m., to 5 p. m., he sat-in at the Kiwanis leadership training conference at the Hayward hotel; the hour following was spent at a dining table and from 6 to 9:30 Mr. and Mrs. Conner enjoyed a theatre entertainment. The last part of his 13-hour "sit-down" was spent by the tired posmaster driving home.