

Toledo Stresses Neatness  
TOLEDO, O. (U.P.)—Civic groups here have united in an effort to accomplish the beautification of highways leading into the city.

Crime Rises in Utah  
SALT LAKE CITY, Utah (U.P.)—The average prison population of Utah state prison for 1938 was 302, compared with 286 in 1937.

## School Districts Hit by Tax Refunding Decision

Just how much each school district would be taxed to reimburse claimants for refunds on the county's 1934-35 tax levies, providing the validity of the refunding suits are upheld by the Supreme Court is being computed this week by statisticians in the office of County Auditor J. L. Lowery. Decision of the state supreme court is expected about April 1.

While these figures were being prepared, taxpayers learned that the Los Angeles county superior court had held that claimants were entitled to refunds on their 1935-36 tax bills. Superior Judge Joseph W. Vickers, before the case has been on trial for several weeks, decided that most of the refunds will be against school districts.

The exact amounts were being set down this week in findings of fact being prepared by the attorneys according to the judge's instructions. Judge Vickers' decision will not be taken as final, however, as the county will appeal to the state supreme court, and possibly to the United States supreme court, attorneys said today.

Now pending before the Legislature are two bills, that would have the effect of validating the levies from 1933-34 on, and prevent any taxpayers—big or little, and with or without counsel—from obtaining refunds.

Barritt Robs Boy, 6

SAN JOSE (U.P.)—This city believes it has a record for the youngest hold-up victim in 6-year-old Clarence Dorsheimer who was held in St. James park by a bandit who took a \$1 bill he had in his pocket.

## State Secretaries Elect Gilmeister Vice-President

Another title was added to his long list of quasi-official offices by Chamber Secretary L. J. Gilmeister last Friday when he was elected second vice-president of the California Association of Commercial Secretaries at the organization's annual convention in Berkeley. Following the three-day session, the Secretaries were guests at the San Francisco exposition on the opening day.

Gilmeister returned with glowing reports of the magnitude of displays to be seen at Treasure Island. Although he spent more than six hours walking about the fair site he declares "I didn't see half of the things of interest."

Lloyd Meyers of Glendale was chosen president of the secretaries' association and Fred Cairns of San Rafael was made first vice-president. Gilmeister served as associate editor of the group's bulletin during the past year and was co-chairman with C. P. Tanner of San Francisco of the convention's attendance committee.

## Hauge Scorns High-Priced Official Car

Stating that he thought it was an affront to taxpayers for members of the board of supervisors to drive highly expensive makes of automobiles, Supervisor Oscar Hauge of the Fourth district has obtained permission to trade in the Cadillac car purchased by former Supervisor Leland M. Ford, on the purchase of a lighter car.

Supervisor John Anson Ford supported Hauge in his request for a lighter sedan. Hauge said he preferred to have a Buick, such as other members of the board are furnished. The expensive car that was purchased at Ford's request, the day he was re-elected to office was driven 75,000 miles during the two years it was in service, the county mechanical engineer reported.

## Rojo Estate to Be Divided by Widow, 3 Sons

The estate of the late William H. Rojo, Sr., Torrance laundry operator, is to be divided between his widow and three sons, under provisions of the will filed for probate in Los Angeles county superior court.

Principal items in the estate are a yacht valued at \$50,000, improved real estate, cash, personal property and stocks, according to the petition of the widow, Mrs. Florence Adelaide Rojo, asking that the will be admitted to probate.

The Los Angeles home of the family at 242 West 48th street is bequeathed the widow, and the remainder of the estate is to be divided among the widow and three surviving sons, William Rojo, Jr., resides in Torrance.

## Babbitts Purchase Home On Cedar

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas T. Babbitt have purchased the home at 1416 Cedar avenue and are now settled there with their three sons, Jimmie, Donnie and Charlie. The Babbitts lived in Torrance for nearly six years prior to moving to 214th street several months ago. Their many friends here are glad to welcome them back to Torrance. Babbitt has been adjutant of the local American Legion post for many years.

## STATE PICNICS

IOWA... Hawkeyes living in Southern California are urged to attend the picnic reunion Saturday, Feb. 25, at Lincoln Park, Los Angeles. A program will be staged following the basket luncheon hour.

INDIANA... All Hoosier and Indiana tourists are invited to attend the semi-annual picnic and reunion scheduled for Sunday, Feb. 26, at Sycamore Grove Park, Los Angeles. The program will start at 2 o'clock.

Australian Bread Dearer  
SYDNEY (U.P.)—Australian bread has risen in price by 2 cents a two-pound loaf—a 20 percent increase—as the result of legislation imposing a tax of \$28.75 a ton on flour.



SCOOPER... Edward W. Harden, former war correspondent and now an executive of the Radio Corp. of America, as he sailed from San Francisco on a world tour to include a visit to Manila, where he scooped the world news victory in the war with Spain.

## Townsend Club Activities

By Mrs. Beth Paige

Last Thursday evening despite the windy weather we had a surprising number of members present. But many are ill and the Club's sympathies are extended to them, including Mrs. Bixby, Mrs. Hunn, Mrs. Pruitt and Mrs. Hubmans.

Gardena's chairman of music, Mrs. Sellers came in the interests of the Washington's Birthday program at Graham. However, no plans were presented by our chairman for the local club to attend in a body. A short rehearsal was held by those who are to take part. Mr. and Mrs. Sellers sang several duets and he entertained with a story or two. Mr. Colburn gave us latest reports from the Ways and Means committee in Washington. The party for the combined February and March birthday anniversaries will be held the latter part of March, the date to be announced later.

The nearest star except the sun is 300,000 times as far from the earth as the sun is.

## City Sixth in County for Wealth

Torrance stands sixth in the list of the 44 incorporated cities of Los Angeles county for its per capita wealth.

This information was revealed this week in a bulletin from the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, which listed Torrance's per capita wealth—based on all forms of wealth: operative, non-operative and solvent credits—as \$7,800.

The per capita figures, fixed in the official U. S. census totals of 1930, for the county cities follows:

Vernon	\$108,860
San Mateo	12,183
Jewelry Hills	11,024
El Segundo	9,487
Manhattan Beach	9,084
Avalon	7,990
Long Beach	6,797
South Pasadena	5,902
Pasadena	4,916
West Covina	4,418
South Gate	4,128
Aradale	4,102
Santa Monica	3,868
Los Angeles	3,796
Burbank	3,460
Claremont	3,289
Long Beach	3,191
South Pasadena	2,876
Hermosa Beach	2,840
Glendale	2,674
Sierra Madre	2,568
Alhambra	2,421
Signal Hill	2,381
Redondo Beach	2,351
Monrovia	2,337
San Gabriel	2,180
Huntington Park	2,125
Covina	2,117
Whittier	2,061
Inglewood	2,050
Lynwood	2,009
Compton	1,936
Pomona	1,930
Glendora	1,836
South Gate	1,748
Gardena	1,743
Monterey Park	1,740
El Monte	1,725
La Verne	1,607
San Fernando	1,592
Azusa	1,326
Bell	1,300
Maywood	1,243
Hawthorne	1,232

Fraternity Row Restricted  
SALT LAKE CITY, Utah (U.P.)—Despite convincing arguments by attractive coeds, the Salt Lake City commission has decided to restrict fraternity and sorority houses at the University of Utah to within 600 feet of the campus.

## Building Costs for Homes Rise

SAN FRANCISCO (U.P.)—The cost of building a modest home is advancing at the rate of about \$10 a month, according to an analysis just made of reports from 18 leading cities of the country.

A home, the analysis showed, that cost \$4,000 to build in 1937, cost \$4,013 to build in January, 1938; \$4,116 if built in September, 1938; and \$4,151 in January of this year, according to the price levels then prevailing.

But with this increase in the cost of home building, the report revealed that the builder is getting more for his money than ever before, due to a combination of improved methods, higher standards, new inventions and lower financing costs.

Despite this increase in the cost, January activity indicated a residential building volume of well over \$1,000,000,000 for 1939, according to the report. At the same time residential foreclosures ran approximately 25 percent less in 1938 than in 1937.

## Elementary Students Buy Talkie Outfit

Second local school to obtain sound motion picture projection equipment within a week (the Fern Avenue school was the first), Torrance Elementary pupils will enjoy their first all-talkie program next Monday. The new apparatus, costing \$325, is due to be delivered at the Martine avenue school tomorrow.

Student body funds, accumulated over a period of several years, are being used to pay for the talkie and amplification machines, according to Principal Merle Holbach. Sound films will be obtained from commercial film libraries and the visual education section of the Los Angeles city school system.

## Coast Guard Tests To Be Held Soon

Competitive examinations for appointment of cadets to attend the U. S. Coast Guard Academy at New London, Conn., will be given shortly and those interested should contact The Commandant, U. S. Coast Guard, Washington, D. C. at once.

Young men between 17 and 22 years of age are eligible to take the examination. The four years' course of instruction is basically scientific in character. Pay of a cadet while undergoing instruction is \$780 per year plus an allowance for subsistence. After graduation a cadet is eligible for a commission in the Coast Guard as Ensign.

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5.50-16, 14.15	6.25-16, 18.75	5.50-16, 12.75
5.50-17, 14.45	6.50-16, 19.35	5.50-17, 13.20
6.00-16, 15.95	7.00-15, 21.35	6.00-16, 14.35
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6.00-17, 16.50	7.00-16, 21.95	6.00-17, 14.85

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