SHOP TALK

by RAY BROOKS

THOMPSON TURNOVER

Enterprising Ed Thompson, Chevrolet dealer, got out a hammer & saw early this week, pounded, nailed, sawed until he put up a swank set of offices in his front sales room. One office will be used for the bookkeeper, who, by the by, is new to Torrance. He is good looking, quiet speaking Boyd Wilson, former Keeper of the Books for the Los Angeles concern of Brokaw-Bauer. He replaces Howard Tucker who took a job with a Long Beach auto dealer.

Getting back to the remodeling . . . . Ed will have a private office, and his present quarters will be used as a sales room. On the other side of the room Ed is enlarging the parts dept., with modern new display counters for parts and accessories.

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LINCOLN LORE

Reading the life of Abe Lincoln the other eve, was amused at a story "Honest Abe" told on himself while campaigning against the Injuns in the Black Hawk war around 1830. Chosen as captain of an Illinois volunteer company, Lincoln, who knew absolutely nothing of military terms or tactics, was leading his company across a field, all marching abreast. Approaching a fence with a gate in the middle, Abraham racked his brains for the soldier's terms for getting his group "endwise" thru the gate. Stumped, Lincoln finally called, "Company dismissed for two minutes, when it will fall-in again on the other side of the fence!"

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SIDEWALK SANDWICHES

With the only business of its kind in the entire metropolitan area of Torrance, Bill Whitney, old time local baker, plans to make a few extra dollars selling hot dogs, candy, cigarettes, etc. direct from his remodeled front window down on Sartori. Bill got a glass cutter, whacked the big plate glass window in twain, installed a neat little counter flush up to the sidewalk. In addition Bill prides himself on having the only downtown free water fountain, with ice cold agua pura available to all.

Looks like you have a nice set-up there, Bill. Good luck to you.

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BAD ON SWINDLE SHEET

An automobile leasing service for railroad passengers operating in nearly 400 cities of 10,000 population or over is to be established January 1, 1940, by a Lincoln, Neb., Ford Dealer and his associates. Eight major railroad lines, mostly in the middle-west, have signed up to use the service, seeing in it an opportunity to recapture a slice of the traffic they have lost in recent years to the highways, the article points out. The Union Pacific is the only far-western road on the list.

Ed M. O'Shea, 42, who has been Ford dealer at Lincoln for 16 years, is the originator of the idea. He estimates that 10,000 to 20,000 low-priced automobiles will be required to get the car-leasing system in operation.

Under the plan, designed primarily for salesmen and other commercial travelers, a person making a trip from Los Angeles to some other city where he could use an automobile to best advantage in making short trips to nearby towns, could arrange for the auto before he starts and just as easily as he would make a Pullman reservation.

The daily rate is to be eight cents a mile with a minimum of 75 miles, or $6, in 12 hours. The weekly basis gives an eight-cent a mile rate with a minimum of 350 miles, or $28. The hourly rate also will be eight cents a mile with a minimum of 10 miles.

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HERE & THERE

"Chili John" Rogers, keeper of Ye Olde Famous Chili Shoppe, has cut his bay window down to watch crystal size since he has been toting those monster 20 oz. beer scuttles around . . . . but his helper, rootin' tootin' "Chili Bill' appears to be getting more mammoth every day. Bill probably works on the principle of one scuttle for the customer and one for himself . . . . Clothier Ed Schwartz has retired to Anaheim Landing near Long Beach, for a week for some plain & fancy fishin' and relaxin' . . . . New owner Joe Della, of the Ritz Cafe snagged a nice piece of business the other p. m. when over a hundred guests bought chicken dinners in celebration of Joe Passerino's birthday . . . .

FLYING TEACHER . . . Barbara Kibbee, one of the few women in the country licensed to teach flying, has recently been awarded an Instructor's Rating by Civil Aeronautics Authority inspectors at San Diego.

Refinery Planned for Lomita Area

Fletcher Oil and Refining company of Los Angeles announced this week it would start construction within a few days on a refinery in the Lomita-northwest Wilmington area. The plant will facilitate the refining of oil from the Lomita area that in many instances has to be shipped elsewhere for treatment.

Location is described as the northwest corner of South Main street and Lomita boulevard.

Other oil news of the week: D and B Oil has location for D and B No. 6 staked near 253rd and Dodge streets in the southwest portion of the Torrance extension area south of Lomita boulevard and General Petroleum has staked location for Peggi No. 13 due east of No. 12, northeast of Lomita boulevard and Vermont avenue.

Near 237th and Walnut streets, D. W. Elliott has completed Kettler No. 8 for 200 barrels of 28.0 gravity. F. S. D. Oil is reported bailing water in a production test at Fox No. 1, southeast of Narbonne avenue and 242nd street. East of the intersecting points of 238th and Walnut streets, C. H. Lebow has a location selected for Kettler No. A-3.

Eight Eggs Stolen; Fine $100

LONDON (U.P.) — Reminders of severity of English 18th and 19th century justice were produced when a 70-year-old egg dealer, William Bush, was found guilty of stealing eggs worth 19 cents from other egg sellers. He was fined $100 with $15 costs.

Mexican Bandit Slugs Clerk, Robs Store of $140

"This is a stick-up!" muttered a pock-marked Mexican to Virgil Rogers, clerk at Roberts' Liquor store, 1281 Sartori avenue, at 8:15 last Friday morning as Rogers was making change for the Mexican's dollar bill tendered in payment for some whiskey. Before the bandit left the premises, he had stuffed about $140 in a paper sack and struck Rogers in the face.

Keeping his left hand in his pocket, the Mexican forced Rogers to scoop out all cash in the register, put it in the sack and open the floor safe. He took all money in an upper tier but when he ordered the clerk to open the lower compartment, Rogers said he did not have the keys.

"How much money you got?" the bandit demanded and when Rogers showed him $2, told the clerk to "keep it." Then the Mexican struck his victim on the face and ordered him to "get down on the floor and stay there until I'm gone." Rogers furnished Police Chief John Stroh and Officer George Dalton with an excellent description of his assailant. He said he did not see a gun at any time but believed the Mexican had one in his left coat pocket.

Reporters Club Hears Two Talks

A regular meeting of the Reporters club, a democratic organization, was held Tuesday evening at 1006 Sartori avenue. Mrs. Florence Griffith, vice-president of the Democratic State Central Committee, gave an interesting talk on the historical aspects of Washington, D. C. This talk was invested with remarks on many public officials with whom the speaker recently talked in Washington.

Ed Means spoke on the monetary policy of the government, delineating the objectives of the "Commodity Dollar."

The club accepted an invitation to hold its next meeting with the San Pedro Reporters club, organized by Mrs. Waldo.

Women Handle Walteria Mail

Upon the shoulders of two women rest the prime obligation of the U. S. Postal Service —"the mail must go thru"—so far as Walteria is concerned.

The new assistant to Mrs. Loy Knight, postmaster at Walteria, is Anne Wood, who now carries the messenger route between Redondo Beach, Palos Verdes and Walteria for the two deliveries of local mail.

She holds a sub-contract on the run from her brother, Thomas Hoover, and makes deliveries in Walteria twice daily, at 8:20 a. m., and 2:30 p. m. Outgoing mails close at 9:20 a. m., and 4:20 p. m.

Mrs. Knight said this week that she soon will have her husband as an assistant in the Walteria office. Don Knight is retiring from the U. S. Navy.

Hospital Patient List Announced

Among the new patients entering Torrance Memorial hospital during the past week were: Benson Byers, Hermosa Beach, last Thursday for treatment of an infected jaw. He returned home Tuesday. Mrs. Pearl Bunge, 1006 Sartori, was received for an appendectomy.

Robert Barrett, Redondo Beach, Monday for medical care; Mrs. Louise Dobbs, 2040 Lomita boulevard, Lomita, Monday for surgery; Mrs. Dorothy Hutchinson, Wilmington, Tuesday for surgery; Mrs. Ruth Henderson, Los Angeles, Monday for medical care; and Mrs. Dora Phillips, Redondo Beach, Friday for medical attention.

Francis Scrivens, Redondo Beach, Tuesday for observation; Mrs. Clarissa Severtson, 2017 233rd street, Friday for surgery; William Stratton, Jr., Hermosa Beach, Sunday for an appendecomy, and Mrs. Elizabeth Taylor, Gardena, Tuesday for medical attention.

Flax Rivals Dakota Wheat

FARGO, N. D. (U.P.)—Wheat, North Dakota's principal crop, may take a back seat this year. Flax is coming to the front as a leading crop.

Six Babies Born at Hospital Here

Six babies, evenly divided as to sexes, were born at Torrance Memorial hospital during the past week.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Della Rosa of Gardena last Wednesday. Della Rosa is employed at the Columbia Steel plant.

A daughter arrived to Mr. and Mrs. Neils Llewelyn of Redondo Beach, Monday.

A son was presented to Mr. and Mrs. Shiji Nakazawa of 24234 Ward street, Walteria, Monday.

A daughter was welcomed by Mr. and Mrs. George R. Spomer of Redondo Beach, Tuesday.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. V. H. Anderson of Hermosa Beach, yesterday morning, and

A daughter arrived to Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Hines of Redondo Beach, yesterday afternoon.

County Library Hit By Closing of WPA Project

The county's public library service is suffering a distinct hardship as the result of closing down of the library WPA project by the federal government, Librarian Helen E. Vogleson reported this week to the board of supervisors. The Torrance library is served by the county organization.

Miss Vogleson said 16 workers had been employed on the project in tracing overdue books, handling reference requests, stocking library shelves and in other useful work.

Loss of the project is particularly important, Miss Vogleson said, in view of the fact that the number of registered book borrowers from the county library increased by 11,000 during the past year. The total number of regular borrowers now is 150,000.