

Here's Your Gift Number-Save It!

2238

22 valuable prizes are awaiting ADULT claimants at local stores tomorrow (Friday) night! Bring this front page with you when you come to downtown Torrance to welcome Santa Claus at 7:30 p. m. Check all participating store windows. If above number corresponds with number in window, step in and be handed your gift.

For list of participating stores and other details see big double-page ad inside.

Walterians Planning Big Christmas Party

Plans were started late last week by the Walteria Civic Association for the best Christmas party ever held in that community. The fete will be staged Friday evening, Dec. 22, according to James Loughridge, president of the organization.

Arrangements for the party were considered Monday night by a committee at the recreation hall with John Minor in charge. Anyone who wishes to help with the program is cordially invited to get in touch with him or Loughridge.

Duke Riley, Torrance recreation director, met with the group and announced some changes in the Walteria program. Mrs. E. Townsend has been replaced by Mrs. Anna Wilson as recreation worker. The recreation hall is now open until 7 o'clock evenings so children will have some place to play. Riley asked if the community would be interested in organizing a harmonica band and a Boy Scout troop.

Walteria boys who would like to become Scouts should see Mrs. Lyla Hansen. After the meeting coffee and cake were served. A card party is held at the Walteria recreation hall every Monday evening and all are welcome to attend without charge.

Breaks Probation Terms, Fined \$10

Altho his wife withdrew her complaint that he beat her up last Friday afternoon, H. Hastings, 34, of 621 Amapola avenue, was found guilty by City Judge Robert Lessing of violation of probation and was fined \$10 which he paid.

Hastings was arrested on his wife's complaint and when he was booked at the police station it was discovered that he had been granted probation Sept. 12, 1938, after he was charged with intoxication and disturbance of the peace. At that time he was given a suspended fine of \$25 on condition he was not re-arrested for two years.

Extension of Crenshaw to Be Discussed

Creation of a new state highway connecting Torrance with Ventura boulevard and there joining the coast highway will be the subject of a mass meeting to be held at McDonnell's Restaurant, 6066 Wilshire boulevard, Fairfax next Sunday, Dec. 3, at 10 a. m.

The meeting, to which city officials, civic leaders and the public are invited, is being held under the auspices of the Wilshire-Fairfax Improvement League. Lieutenant Governor Ellis Patterson, Supervisors John Anson Ford and Oscar Hauge are scheduled to speak.

Plans call for widening, straightening, and improving Crenshaw boulevard to Inglewood, Fairfax boulevard to Hollywood, and thence thru Laurel Canyon to the state highway at Ventura boulevard. No assessments will be involved, according to those advocating the improvement, as the new artery would be designated as a state highway and be improved out of the gas tax fund. Carl Oppenheimer, representing Senator Sheridan Downey who is reported to be interested in the project, was in Torrance yesterday urging attendance of local citizens at the Sunday meeting.

Almost all metals are found imbedded in rock.

Officer Evans Thrown for Loss in Spelling Bee

Just ask Officer Bill Evans how to spell "jardiniere."

He knows how it goes—now. But he didn't last Sunday afternoon when, with the whole Pacific Coast listening in, he misspelled it and thus was eliminated in a spelling bee program broadcast from Los Angeles.

Evans lost out on the third round. But managed to get in a few good words about Torrance and its police department when he was introduced on the program.

Local Realtors Join So. Bay Association

Members of the South Bay Real Estate association at a dinner-meeting at La Verda Inn in Palos Verdes Monday night, installed new officers and welcomed the Torrance-Lomita Realty Board as a member-unit. There were 55 present to make the gathering the largest in the history of the association. The next meeting will be held in Torrance on Jan. 29, 1940.

New officers were inducted by Clarence Urban of Los Angeles, state real estate commissioner, who also gave an instructive talk on the history of the real estate business and its scope in California. The 1940 leaders of the association are: Walter Vaughn Scott, Redondo Beach, chairman, succeeding R. A. Thompson, Hermosa Beach; L. A. Jackson, Manhattan Beach, vice-chairman; and Miss Edith S. Smith, Lomita, secretary.

Commissioner Urban pointed out that California was the first state to adopt control of the real estate business and 32 other states have followed with laws based on California statutes. There are 32,000 real estate agents in this state, 15,000 of them in Los Angeles county. B. C. Buxton of Torrance was asked to present the "baby members" of the South Bay association and he introduced members of the Torrance-Lomita board who were present. Phillip Norton, Jr., of Palos Verdes was chairman of the evening, introducing Urban and Logan Cotton of Redondo Beach.

Cotton, recently appointed by the Los Angeles board of supervisors as a member of a committee to study tax redemption problems, explained how this group plans to have some 95,000 pieces of delinquent property redeemed and brought back into private ownership.

Rotarians to Hear Talk on Alaska

A travelogue, based on his recent trip to the farthest north of the U. S. — Alaska — will be given by Dr. R. L. Morrison of Long Beach tonight at the Torrance Rotary club dinner-meeting. Charles Jones is in charge of the program. The Rotarians will hold a dinner-dance Dec. 7 at the Palos Verdes Country club.

FINAL ZONING HEARING SET FOR DEC. 11

The second of a series of three public hearings on the proposed city-wide zoning ordinance was held at the city council chamber Monday night by the Planning commission with only a few residents attending.

The third and last hearing before the proposed ordinance, which the Planners assert will control and regulate all types of building in the city according to a definite plan, is scheduled for Monday night, Dec. 11, at 8 o'clock. After that session, the Planners will make final adjustments to their work of the past several months and then present it to the council for adoption.

"It is most important that all residents who favor zoning as well as those who may oppose certain parts of our proposed ordinance be present Dec. 11 to offer their testimony for the record," Councilman Tom McGuire, who is chairman of the commission, said yesterday. "We'd like to hear from those who are supporting our plan for the city as well as those who are against parts of it."

Monday night's hearing developed only a few minor objections to the zoning proposal and these will be thoroughly studied before they are acted upon, City Engineer Leonard Young reported.

Auditor Praises City Accountants

"We have received the audit made of the city books by Allen R. Smart and Company which has reported that the municipal finances are well handled and there are no serious flaws in our set-up," Councilman Tom McGuire announced at the municipal board session Tuesday night.

"I am told by Mr. Egbert H. Davis of the firm's Los Angeles office, who made the audit, that Torrance finances are as well handled as any he has ever investigated." Copies of the auditor's final report have been given each member of the council, but McGuire said it would "take four or five days" to digest it. The complete report is also available to the public at the city clerk's office.

Davis has recommended a few minor changes in the city's bookkeeping and expects to meet with members of the council in the near future to go over these improvements. The audit was ordered about Oct. 15.

INJURED IN CRASH

A mother and daughter, Mrs. Edith Bucher and Jean Bucher, 15, of 1917 Arlington avenue, were injured in an automobile collision at Arlington and Craven avenue last Friday. They were treated at Torrance Memorial hospital.

Fire Truck Survives Third Debate; Probe by Feds is Denied

For the third consecutive council meeting, that much-debated Mack fire truck again was the subject of prolonged talk Tuesday night at the regular municipal board meeting but it still remains in possession of the city and will probably stay here until its bright red paint is dulled by time.

Even the statement, pronounced in a dramatic manner by E. M. Prewett that "this fire truck deal is now under investigation by the United States District Attorney and postal authorities and the council, if it persists in buying the truck, will be charged with accessory to the act of using the mails to defraud taxpayers," failed to impress the council.

"That's news to us," Mayor William H. Tolson said, "but I guess we can let our city attorney handle it."

Feds Not Interested

Inquiry at the office of the United States District Attorney's office in the Federal building, Los Angeles, Wednesday morning resulted in the statement that no investigation, such as Prewett announced, was in progress by Federal agents and furthermore that no complaint or charge had been filed with either the Complaint department or with Ben Harrison, the U. S. District Attorney.

"I don't see now the U. S. District Attorney's office can be interested in the matter inasmuch as no Federal funds are involved," declared Harrison's personal secretary. "We have nothing here to indicate that we've been asked to look into your fire truck deal."

Because the county constitution prohibits spending any money for "a purely local matter," the board of supervisors denied the city's request for the services of the county safety engineer and county master mechanic to appraise the fire truck. Such expert opinion was desired by Councilman George V. Powell and critics of the fire truck's purchase had approved the move.

Isen Discards "Politics" Ex-Navy man Prewett had thrice demanded that "some member of this council make a motion to abrogate the contract to buy that fire truck" and had drawn no response when he announced the Federal investigation which appears to be news to at least the U. S. District Attorney. Attorney Albert Isen who, with Prewett, has been leading the citizen-critics in the verbal blasts against the Mack pumper, first said that the fire truck had been "sufficiently covered" for him and he deemed it unnecessary for him to enter into the discussion again.

Isen switched his line of questions to salaries paid Police Chief John Stroh and Captain G. M. Calder but it wasn't long before he was back on the fire truck firing line. He was repeating demands to turn the

(Continued on Page 2-A)

Stroh Remains Police Chief As McMaster Upped

In seven motions John Stroh's resignation as director of public safety was accepted, the department of public safety was abolished, John E. McMaster was made fire chief, Stroh's salary was set at \$230 a month and he emerged as this city's police chief with a civil service rating of captain at Tuesday night's city council meeting.

It really only took four motions by councilmen to make those changes but two were nullified by a third when Councilmen John V. Murray and George V. Powell questioned the abolishment of the public safety department and the council had to start all over again to effect the changes.

Stroh remains as police chief at a \$10 reduction in monthly salary from that ordered paid him July 1 because he was appointed to that position last January. His pay when the department of public safety was created to manage both police and fire departments was \$225.

Mayor William H. Tolson said the public safety department was only "coined" to combine administration of the police and fire units without a head when former Fire Chief A. B. Stevenson was discharged and former Police Chief G. M. Calder was demoted to captain.

Dedicate New Pulpit Sunday

A new pulpit, designed and made by the donor, C. R. Smead of Hermosa Beach, will be dedicated at the First Christian church next Sunday morning. Rev. Frank T. Porter announced today. The beautiful piece of furniture, built of Philippine mahogany, is the gift of Mr. and Mrs. Smead.

REDWOOD MEMORIAL

The state of California has received a contribution of \$20,000 from U. S. Senator Jesse H. McClell of Rhode Island and his wife for purchase of a memorial tract of redwoods in this state.

The average price of an automobile today is one-third that of 33 years ago.

Local Man Gets Dismissal of 2 Serious Charges

Jailed by San Pedro officers Monday night, Robert L. Paul, 26-year-old local steelworker who gave his address as 4518 West 168th street, faced two felony and two misdemeanor charges when he entered Judge Ida May Adams' court Wednesday with his attorney, John P. Shidler of this city.

He was accused of attempt to commit robbery, attempt to commit grand theft of an Army officer's car, drunkenness and disturbing the peace. Paul pleaded guilty to the minor charges and after hearing testimony, his attorney moved for a dismissal of the robbery and theft counts. Altho this was opposed by a deputy district attorney prosecuting Paul, Judge Adams granted Shidler's motion and fined the defendant \$50 for being drunk and disturbing the peace.

Originally booked on a drunk charge and released on \$20 bail, Paul came to court Monday to answer the complaint and was arrested and booked on suspicion of auto theft and disturbing the peace. Paul was initially arrested by San Pedro officers who answered a call to the home of Col. N. V. Raycroft in that city. The officers were told, they said, that Colonel and Mrs. Wunderlich had driven to the Raycroft home and Col. Wunderlich had gone inside.

Mrs. Wunderlich, the officers were told, was waiting in the car when a stranger rushed up, pushed her aside and tried to start the car. Mrs. Wunderlich pluckily sounded the car's horn, grabbed the ignition keys and called for help. The two Army officers subdued Paul.

Gets Prison Term for Attempting to Kill Wife

Benjamin Franklin Hunt, 34, was sentenced to serve one to 10 years in Folsom prison Tuesday for shooting his 20-year-old bride of four months in the eye and partially blinding her. The shooting occurred on Torrance beach last May.

"He gave me only \$1.57 since we were married," the wife, Katherine Hunt, told Superior Judge A. A. Scott. "She wouldn't become a mother — that's why we quarreled," Hunt told probation officers. He had filed application for parole. Mrs. Hunt, who was estranged from her husband at the time of the shooting said he shot at her three times when she refused a reconciliation.

She lost the sight of her right eye from one of the shots and for three months was near death.

BUMPER BEET CROP Favorable weather conditions resulted in an all-time record harvest of sugar beets in California.

Parade Into City at 7:30 to Greet Kids and Reveal Gift Chest Plan

Making an extra-special flight direct from his North Pole workshop to Torrance, Santa Claus in person will positively arrive here tomorrow (Friday) night at 7:30 o'clock to usher in this city's holiday season!

Here's his latest radio-gram received by The Herald just before press-time today:

NORTH POLE, CHRISTMAS-LAND
NOV. 30, 1939

THE HERALD TORRANCE, CALIF.
PLANE TAKES OFF IMMEDIATELY AFTER I SEND THIS. HAVE THAT FIRE TRUCK READY FOR ME TO RIDE INTO YOUR CITY FRIDAY NIGHT. HAVE I GOT ANY LETTERS THERE? WILL COLLECT THEM AND TELL THE FOLKS ABOUT MY BIG GIFT CHEST. I WANT TO SEE EVERYBODY.

SANTA CLAUS

Everything is ready for his reception here. The fire truck has been specially oiled and greased to give Santa the "ride of his life" and there are hundreds of balloons being inflated for presentation to youngsters when the truck brings the old fellow to the triangular park in front of the Torrance theatre on Sartori avenue.

Be There Friday Night!

The Torrance Municipal band will escort Santa into the city. The uniformed musicians will meet him at Torrance boulevard and Sartori avenue and parade him down Sartori to the park. There the white-whiskered old gent will collect his mail from his own special mail box and distribute balloons to youngsters. Santa will reveal how his huge Gift Chest is being filled by local merchants with valuable gifts that will be distributed here shortly before Christmas. He will tell those at Sartori and Marcelina how they can win its contents.

So plan an early dinner tomorrow night and bring the youngsters to see Santa Claus — right here in Torrance!

Despondency Leads Resident to Take Life

Depressed over the loss of his wife, who died a year ago last month, and known to have been drinking heavily, E. E. Mock, 67, of 1007 Cota avenue took his own life by gas asphyxiation Monday afternoon.

He was found slumped over dead in his car, whose engine was still pumping the lethal fumes into the interior through a suction hose from a vacuum sweeper connected to the exhaust and inserted in the right front window. The car was parked on Denker avenue north of Carson.

W. C. Haydon of 1914 Martina avenue found the body and notified local police who, in turn, called San Pedro officers to the investigation because the suicide occurred in Los Angeles city territory. The body was removed to Stone and Myers' mortuary.

Mr. Mock who was employed as a pumper by the Getty Oil Company of Long Beach, had threatened to take his life numerous times, according to friends. He grieved almost continually following the death of his wife and attempted to find solace in liquor. He lived with the M. McAnally family on Cota avenue.

Mr. Mock, who was a native of Danville, Ky., was survived by a sister, Mary Lynn Smith, of that city; a cousin, Harry Moore of Hollywood and a nephew, Louis Emmett of South Gate. The funeral service, conducted this morning at Stone and Myers chapel, was in charge of the Long Beach Eagles lodge. Private interment service was held at Calvary cemetery.

Three Building Permits Issued

Three building permits were issued this week from the city engineer's office. Mrs. Bertha Pursell of 809 Arlington is building a three-room frame stucco house with garage attached at 745 Border for \$2,250; Mac Smith is adding a washroom and re-roofing her home at 1423 Post for \$100, and the LeBoeuf-McNee Oil company is installing two 2,500-barrel corrugated iron oil tanks on the Kettler Ranch at 23740 Walnut street for \$100.

TO SEE ROADS With the aim of speeding construction on their west coast link of the International Pacific Highway, a group of Mexican Federal highway engineers and officials will come to Southern California in January to inspect low-cost, oil surface roads in this region.

Six Events On Aud Calendar

Schedule of Civic Auditorium events for the remainder of the year, as obtained from the calendar kept at the city clerk's office, will be as follows:

Saturday night — private wedding party dance for Ernest-Vilalpando.

Sunday, Dec. 3 — Christian Science lecture at 2 p.m., open to public.

Dec. 14 — Southern California Edison employees' dance; 3,500 expected to attend.

Dec. 16 — Los Aztecas orchestra dance; Antonio V. Alvarez in charge; benefit to raise funds to assist needy Mexican families in this area at Christmas time.

Dec. 21 — Fire department's annual Christmas party for children.

AGED MAN INJURED

Both legs badly fractured as result of being struck by an auto in Redondo Beach, Charles Roe, 70, of that city was received for emergency treatment at Torrance Memorial hospital last Saturday night. Later he was removed to the General hospital.

Want Ad Rhymes CONTEST STARTS!

\$125

In Cash and Merchandise In Prizes...

See Front Page Story for Details!

Write a Want-Ad Rhyme - Win Weekly Prizes!

Herald Contest is Open To All; Easy Rules Given

The Torrance Herald invites every man, woman and child over 15 years of age in Torrance, Keystone, Moneta, East Torrance (Shoestring strip) and immediate surrounding area served by these two papers to participate in its joint Want Ad Rhymes Contest. There will be weekly and final cash and merchandise or service awards totaling more than \$125 offered the best rhymes writers over a period of 13 weeks.

Each week there will be a First Prize of \$1 in cash — starting Dec. 9 — awarded jointly by The Torrance Herald and Lomita News to the person writing the best four-line rhyme on any classified ad on the classified pages of either paper. Two theatre tickets to the Torrance Theatre will be given to the second, third, fourth and fifth prize winners each week of the contest. Almost every advertiser has agreed to offer a separate award to each of the prize winners writing on their ads.

Cash in on Fun! Watch for the front page news story to run every week during the contest. It will report names of the winning poets, reprint their rhymes and a brief of the ads about which they were written.

Final prizes will be awarded seven people chosen from the daily prize winners. First prize, \$10; second, 6; third, fourth and fifth \$2.50 each; sixth, \$1.50; and seventh, \$1. Other awards in merchandise and services from the merchants and business advertisers will be announced later.

Everyone including yourself — has felt he or she could write a rhyme. It's more fun than filling in cross-word puzzles. The dollar you win can be given to charity if you don't want to put it in baby's bank. Come on! Start writing a rhyme right now. Perhaps you really have poetic ability. You've got your chance to prove it to yourself without

cost or obligation.

Sample Rhyme Given

Here is an example of classified ad rhyming which may start your muse working: "This '37 Chevrolet will safely run Because it's sold by Ed Thompson; He, its worth, fully guarantees, Beauty it has, and plenty of speed."

This poem illustrates how simple the writing of one can be. Note that it included the name of the advertiser and what he offered. Preference will be given poems so written.

RHYMES RULES

Read these few simple rules: 1. Write a four-line rhyme based on some classified advertisement which appears on the regular classified pages of The Herald and News. Your verse must concern some particular ad — not classified ads in general. (Be sure to see rule No. 5.)

2. Write on but one side of the paper, and be sure to paste a clipped copy of the advertisement about which you write on the same side of the sheet — preferably above the rhyme.

3. Print your name and address in full and mail your verses to the "Classified Ad Rhymes Contest Editor," Herald-News Office, Torrance, Calif.

4. You may write more than one rhyme at a time (as many as there are ads if you wish) but each one must be on a separate sheet of paper and on a different ad each time. You may write each week on the same ad, if you desire. All simple rules to be guided by aren't they? Please be careful and observe them thoroughly in order that an otherwise worthy poem is not discarded. If you don't win the first time, you may the next. Read each week's criticisms for guidance. Now let's get started. Turn to the next to the last page in this paper and select any or all of the classified ads for your study. Get everyone in the family to help you. Or, as many of you in each family who feel they can write are welcome to enter the contest. Only Herald-News employees and relatives are barred from competition. The sooner you get started, the sooner your rhyme will get in for the first jury to select a winner. Let's go!