

# TORRANCE HERALD

TWENTY-FIFTH YEAR

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1939

SECTION B

## Bert Holmes Facing Two Check Forgery Counts Here Friday

### ONE-TIME CANDIDATE FOR CITY CLERK JAILED MONDAY

Charged with two felony counts of forgery, Bert J. Holmes, 39, one-time candidate for city clerk (1938), was arrested and jailed here Monday morning. He was arraigned Tuesday and held in default of \$2,500 bail pending a preliminary hearing which is scheduled for tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock.

The first forgery accusation was based on a complaint of the Bank of America's local manager, Dean L. Sears. Holmes is charged with forging the signature of Mrs. Gladys Downing late last month to a \$100 check paid out of Torrance Building Company funds. The second count, involving alleged forgery of Mrs. Downing's signature, is based on a \$50 check cashed and dated Dec. 2.

Another charge may be preferred against Holmes, who formerly headed a collection service bearing his name, as a result of statements by Ed Schwartz, local clothing store owner, that Holmes cashed a \$50 check with him on the morning of Dec. 2 that was later found to bear Mrs. Downing's forged signature. Later that day, Schwartz cashed another \$50 check for Holmes and this was found to be improperly made out—it did not have Mrs. Downing's signature as is required on all checks issued by the building company.

The four-faced Holmes, who paid a fine of \$50 late in October for driving while intoxicated, has made no statement nor has he indicated he will call any witnesses in his defense. Two other local business men, Grant Barkdull and Joe Klink, have conferred with him in jail several times regarding checks for \$25 each which they cashed for the defendant shortly before he was arrested and which were refused by local banks.

Thus the total amount of money involved in the case is believed to be \$300.

When he was booked, the defendant gave his occupation as that of a laborer. The day before he was picked up by local police, D. K. Hammond, brother of Mrs. Torrance Welch who employed him about the Welch home at 1604 Juniper avenue, notified police that Holmes was no longer in Mrs. Welch's employ. Hammond informed authorities that Holmes was given notice to this effect and was asked to turn in any keys he may have to the property "or anything else and that he is not allowed on the premises or in any cars."

The sheriff's office reported to Judge Lessing Tuesday that there is a record in Los Angeles of a Bert Holmes being charged with grand theft in 1924 and the description tallies with the local resident.

When he campaigned here in the spring of 1938 for city clerk, Holmes was then head of his collection service. At that time he lived at the Welch residence.

Pigeon season closes Dec. 15.

### Wooldridge

Herald Circulation Mgr. Writes

The things people don't buy for themselves are the things they appreciate most on Christmas.

### FAMILIES WITH LOW INCOMES

Can Now Build a Home Easier Than Buying a Car!

New regulations under Title I, FHA makes it easier than ever before for a man with little or no cash to build a home of his own. His equity in the entire property, including house and lot need be only 5%.

Come in today! Let us explain more fully this extraordinary plan. No obligation, of course.

**TORRANCE LUMBER CO.**  
1752 BORDER  
Phone 61

### Gardena Chamber Joins Trainmen in Opposing P. E.

The Gardena Valley Chamber of Commerce has joined forces with the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen in an effort to thwart plans of the Pacific Electric and the State Railroad Commission to discontinue P. E. passenger service to Gardena and Torrance. The chamber's decision followed a conference of Secretary Pat MacDonnell with officials of the railroad brotherhood. A protest has been sent to the state commission.

The railway trainmen in their resolution pointed out that discontinuance of service and subsequent removal of tracks would bring only temporary financial

relief to the Pacific Electric and would partially destroy the basis of a modern, high speed transportation system designed to fit the future needs of Southern California.

#### Still Plan Bus Line

The Gardena chamber, however, is proceeding with plans for the establishment of a bus line in the event rail transportation is discontinued and the organization is working with Councilman Earl Jacobs, who has been officially designated by the Gardena council to work out plans for bus service. Important developments are expected in the near future in connection with the proposed bus line.

Jacobs and the Gardena Chamber of Commerce directors have little faith that efforts to halt the abandonment of rail service will be effective. Secretary MacDonnell pointed out that the discontinuance of passenger

### Woodmen Meet Here Dec. 12

The Modern Woodmen of America will meet next Tuesday night, Dec. 12, at 8 o'clock at the Moose hall, 1925 Carson street, according to C. A. Benzel, camp secretary. The Boosters Association of the Bay district will stage initiation rites for a number of candidates. All members are requested to attend and visiting neighbors are invited to this meeting.

Alaska contains a number of known oil fields, under government control.

Service was recommended by railroad commission engineers following a survey and inasmuch as the Pacific Electric has readily acquiesced there is little chance that the protests will be effective.

### Citizens' Group Will Assist Census Takers

Preliminary plans through which Torrance and its territory can be assured a full and complete report of its population, farm and business resources in the 1940 Decennial Census were announced today by Secretary L. J. Gilmeister of the Chamber of Commerce.

Gilmeister said he is getting in response to a letter from Secretary of Commerce Harry L. Hopkins urging that civic leaders of Torrance organize to make the various censuses to be taken in 1940 the most complete and accurate picture of the community's human and economic resources ever compiled.

"Only by the active interest of

every American community in seeing that its resources are fully and correctly reported," Secretary Hopkins said "can we get the full and complete factual picture of the nation as a whole which is so vital to both private and public enterprise."

Gilmeister said he will select a general citizens' committee embracing all of the principal civic interests in the community—commercial, educational, labor, religious, publicity and that this committee will appoint subcommittees to stress specific census activities.

This is the first time for many years that all of the censuses—business, manufactures, population, agriculture, housing, mines and quarries, drainage and irrigation—will be taken in a single year. They will not all be taken at the same time. The censuses of business, manufacturing and mines and quarries will start early in January, some three

### Lodge Host to Members at Dinner

The A. O. U. W. lodge No. 32 of this city was host to its members, including some of the older affiliates of the Junior lodge at a check dinner served at Danich's Cafe last night. There were 45 present for the festivities. Ray Begue presided as master workman and Wallace Gilbert, district manager, complimented the lodge on its progress during the year.

months ahead of the counts of population, agriculture and housing, which begin April 1, according to law.

#### POPULAR PIANO

ORCHESTRAL ARRANGING in a Swing Style  
Torrance Conservatory of Music  
2087 Torrance Blvd.

### SEEMS LIKE YESTERDAY

By C. KESSLER



For Christmas Give Her An

## EASY Spiralator! Spindrier!



Cut washing time in half! 4 new EASYS with the famous big capacity Spiralator washing action—plus the Spindrier water remover that saves more time because you "dry while you wash"—actually whirling water from one load of clothes in the Spindrier, while the next load's washed by the Spiralator.

**National Home Appliance Co.**  
HARRY M. ABRAMSON  
1312 Sartori Ave.  
"FRIENDLY CREDIT"  
Phone 78

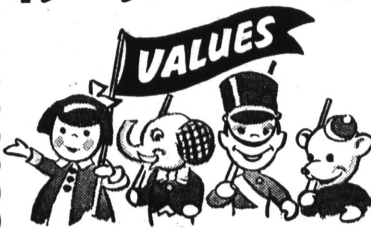
YIPEEE  
Christmas Has Come To The UNITED!



### BIG CHRISTMAS SALE OF DOLLS

We wish we could show you a picture of this sensational selection... Teddy Bears, Cuddle Dolls, Monkeys, Elephants, Dogs, Cats, Pandas and Rabbits! And what values! We can prove these same dolls are being sold in Los Angeles from 40% to 65% more! Over a hundred different styles and sizes! Made by famous GRUND! We insist you see them before you buy!

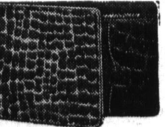
49¢ 98¢ \$1.98 \$2.98



to your many friends at Christmas deserves the finest... yet inexpensive... Christmas Cards. Our selection is the largest in town! Hundreds to choose from. And you should mail them early!



THE UNITED IS HEAD-QUARTERS FOR ALL GIFT WRAPPINGS SEALS, RIBBON, CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATIONS, CHRISTMAS LIGHTS AND THE MANY OTHER LITTLE NECESSITIES YOU'LL NEED DURING THE HOLIDAYS! CUT RATE PRICES ON ALL!



**Men's Wallets**  
Give him a Wallet from the United! All of our large, new stock is GENUINE LEATHER, zipper or plain, all packed in fancy gift box 69¢ up

We Cheerfully Gift Wrap All Xmas Items Bought Here Without Charge!

**UNITED CUT RATE DRUG**  
El Prado & Sartori • Torrance

## We've Rounded up a Right Smart Passel of Gifts for Everybody

Yes, sir! Torrance's newest and finest cut rate drug store is all dressed up for Christmas with the most beautiful and distinctive selection of Christmas gifts this town has ever seen! Gifts for Dad, gifts for Mother, gifts for the kids... in fact you'll find an amazing collection of gifts for everyone. Prices, of course, are at low Los Angeles levels; service is the best... and satisfaction guaranteed! Shop at the United for Christmas!

### COSMETIC GIFTS For All The Lovely Ladies!

Just in from the makers! Beautifully boxed cosmetic and toilet sets, perfumes, colognes, soaps and a hundred other lavish gifts to thrill "Her." PINAUD's new FLIRT and BITTER-SWEET FANCY COLOGNES... Smartly wrapped for Christmas giving 97¢. EVENING IN PARIS sets in a dozen new and different styles and sizes. All are boxed 97¢ to \$8.75 for gift giving.



Lentherie Tweed Cologne \$1  
Vardley's Toilet Sets \$1.50 to \$3.50

### RIGHT FOR CHRISTMAS! SALE of CANDY

Imagine it! A full 25¢ pound box of delicious CHOCOLATES with rich fruit and nut centers! A real buy! Save! Special now ONLY (Glb. Box \$1.95) 98¢. A Grand Assortment of Other Fresh Christmas Boxed Chocolates Just In!



### Toiletries & Shaving Needs

COLGATE, PALMOLIVE and WILLIAMS SHAVE SETS 89¢  
BOYER'S TRAVEL KIT SET (in traveling case) \$1.50  
PINAUD'S LILAC VEGETAL SHAVE SETS \$1.25  
NASSOUR'S BLUE RIBBON SET (Shave bowl and shave lotion) Special 79¢  
McKESSON'S STREAMLINED SHAVE SETS 98¢

### For the SMOKER

MANY SWELL STYLES Only 29¢  
YELLOW BOWLS Standard \$1.00  
Stemblers, Chinresters and Carbutors \$1.25  
FRANK MEDICOS \$1  
KAYWOODIES \$3.50  
25 DIFFERENT BRANDS OF POUND TOBACCO, ALL AT LOWEST CUT RATE PRICES!

### Pipes

**CARD TABLE COVERS**  
Billiard Cloth, Suede finish, 2 colors, cellophane wrapped for Christmas ONLY 39¢