

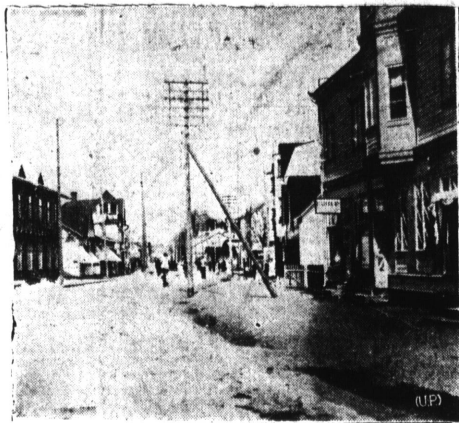
# TORRANCE HERALD

25th Year — No. 50.

SECTION A

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TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1939



**SOVIETS' NEW FINN 'CAPITAL'** . . . Here is the main street of Terijoki, Finland, where Russia set up its revolutionary "People's Democratic Republic of Finland," with Otto Kuusinen, exiled Finnish Communist, as its head.

## Palos Verdes Becomes 45th City in County

By just nine votes, Palos Verdes became the 45th city of the sixth class in Los Angeles county as result of a special election held there last Saturday. A total of 213 votes were cast for incorporation as a municipality while 204 opposed the move. Leaders of both factions in a strenuous campaign put on for and against incorporation said that the count will be accepted and no recount will be considered.

Five councilmen, a city clerk and a city treasurer were elected on the same ballot. Incorporation of Palos Verdes means that the new city will operate under provisions of California statutes governing cities of the sixth class. A mayor may be chosen by the new council by means of a majority vote or a board chairman named, with the councilman receiving the highest number of votes ordinarily given preference.

New councilmen and the votes polled by each were: H. F. Roessler, 218; Dr. Dennis Smith, 212; Dr. Ulric B. Bray, 206; Hammond Sailer, 195; and Paul A. Reeder, 168. Other candidates on the ballot were Mortimer M. Moore, who received 133 votes, and Victor H. Norman, 148.

Unopposed for the position of city clerk was S. F. Borgstrom, who received a complimentary vote of 207. Also without opposition for the post of city treasurer was R. W. Mooney, who was elected with 210 votes.

The area to be incorporated by the new city includes the Malaga Cove and Laguna Bay sections, embracing 3200 acres of hill land, most of which is designated as homesites. Assessed valuation of the area, under county management, is in excess of \$2,000,000. Approximately 800 acres of the area is classified as public park land, formerly under county control. Library, country club and highways were controlled by the Palos Verdes property owners under the form of government rejected by the election.

The election was authorized by the Board of County Supervisors when petitions bearing a sufficient number of names of voters were presented recently. The campaign for incorporation marked the second attempt within two years to have this exclusive residential district classified as a city under California law.

**NEW CITY WILL CONTROL POLICY**  
Incorporation of the Palos Verdes area will place the control of the district under a city council and remove any matters of policy entirely from the hands of the Palos Verdes Estates, Inc., it was explained yesterday by proponents of the incorporation plan.

The Estates had formed the Palos Verdes Homes Association through which it exercised a certain amount of control over the property in the community, according to proponents of the incorporation plan.

Unemployment insurance distributed in the Torrance area amounted to \$14,791.75 he stated. There were 1,345 individual checks issued in this area during October.

Payments to claimants in October, 1938, in the Torrance area amounted to \$15,398.39, in 1,474 checks. The decrease for this area compared to the State increase, Bird states, has been due to the increase in employment opportunities and the return of workers to a steady payroll.

## Old Album Awaits Owner at Our Office

Should auld acquaintance be forgot and never brought to mind? Not if The Herald can help it! Hence, this reminder that a handsome old family album, once a deep red broadcated velvet (now just velvet) but still brimming with memories and family sentiment, to say nothing of the dozens of brown Daguerreotypes of grandma with her bustles, grandpa with his whiskers, and even little Junior when he was still wearing dresses, is waiting at The Herald office for its owner. Brought in Monday afternoon by Carl L. Pagac of 921 Sartori, the book was probably lost from an automobile while traveling on the 900 block on Sartori avenue.

In addition to the pictures, the volume also contains newspaper clippings and obituary notices of George Ream who died at Lima, Ohio, March 20, 1911, a funeral notice of the death of Eli Ream who died Jan. 12, 1911, an announcement card of the opening, in Colegrave, California, of Kennedy's store May 18, 1907, and a lovely hand-painted Christmas greeting card and bookmark from a Mrs. Chauncey Smith.

It's been fun looking through the old book and recalling a few "remember when's" ourselves. But its true value lies only in the hands of the owner. So, may we suggest that you "come and get it!"

## First Want Ad Rhymes Winners:

### LOMITA POETS ONE UP ON TORRANCE RHYMSTERS

Promptly, at 12 midnight Wednesday the judge and two Lomita school teachers and two Torrance jurors, also school teachers, met in a round table session to decide who had won the first prizes in The Torrance Herald and The Lomita News Want Ad Rhymes Contest. The session lasted until 2 a.m., during which time 753 rhymes were studied and from which ten were drawn as the best rhymes of the week.

In order to choose five winners it was necessary to resort to eliminating those who had made errors in leaving their addresses off the sheets on which they submitted their rhymes; compare the rhymes for brevity and choose those with the greatest punch; give preference to those whose lines rhymed all the way thru—either the first and last two lines or the first and third and the second and fourth.

Still a decision could not be reached until we finally resorted to checking the spelling of simple words. This effort results and the five following winners can congratulate themselves on their splendid rhymes. Disappointed rhymsters will dwell to note comments at the end of this article just preceding the list of rules.

**First Prize Winner**  
Miss Carol Northern, 1929 25th street, Lomita, is the first prize winner. She should call at The Herald office, 1336 El Prado, for her prize of \$1. And if she calls at Ed Thompson's used car lot and ask for the manager, she will get a very substantial reduction on any car she may wish to purchase before the new year. The gift of the Thompsons, about which the winning rhyme was written follows:

**Ed Thompson Says: WE'VE MURDERED USED CAR P-R-I-C-E-S**

Then follows a list of cars showing the low prices to which they were cut. The winning rhyme is as follows: "Ed Thompson is 'The Man Who Treats You Right' and this I'll say — The gift you need for Christmas is his snap-py Chevrolet! He's offering a Sport Sedan (and it's a '37!') At such a price it seems to me that it's a gift from heaven!"

(Note: Miss Northern: You nearly lost out because your rhyme, although four lines, was overly long. Watch it next time. — Judge)

**Second Prize Winner**  
Miss Ada M. Ramsay, 2043 25th street, Lomita, won off Benny's shoe repairing ad from Benny's in Lomita next to the Lomita theatre. Please call at The Herald Office for two passes to the Torrance theatre, Miss Ramsay. The winning rhyme follows:

"If your feet are troubling you, Bring the boot, or bring the shoe Into Benny's Repairing Store (Continued on Page 5-A)

## Leads Give No Clue to Attacker

Thorough check-up on every lead, including two furnished by this newspaper, by police and sheriff's officers have failed to uncover the identity of the criminal attacker of a five-year-old Torrance girl in Walteria on the afternoon of Nov. 27. Nevertheless the investigation, according to Police Chief John Stroth of Torrance, is continuing with the same vigor that characterized the search immediately after the child's fearful experience became known.

"We regret that every lead offered us by residents in this area and your newspaper has been found worthless after checking and double-checking," Stroth said. "However, the co-operation offered is most welcome and we hope that anyone having information pertaining to the crime will contact us at once. It is only thru such leads, I believe, that we will be able to locate the man who drove a brown or tan sedan car and wore dark glasses when he lured the child into the hills near Walteria."

This newspaper suggested two leads in the case this week, one concerning a former W. P. A. worker in Lomita and the other having to do with a Los Angeles man who was jailed by deputy sheriffs for indecent exposure before children. Chief Stroth said that in the case of the ex-W. P. A. worker, he had been "shaken down" immediately after the attack on the little girl was reported. Investigation of the other case showed that the Los Angeles man was in jail at the time the Torrance child was ravished.

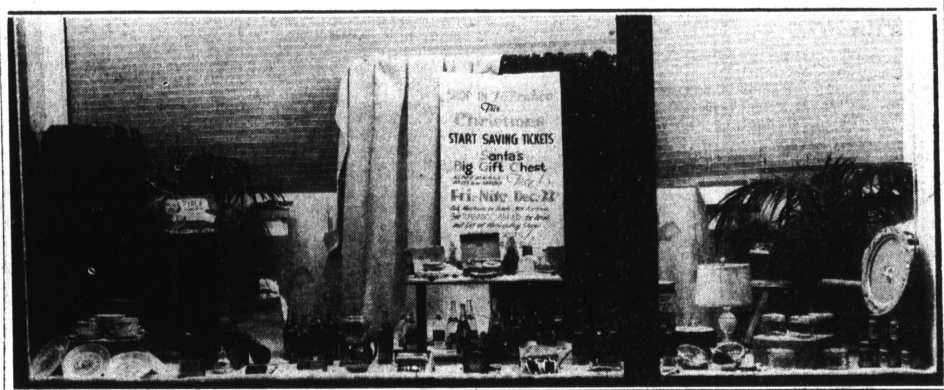
## Sprinkler Systems Being Installed

Having completed installation of a lawn sprinkler system at the city hall site, workmen under direction of Fred Blake, city gardener, are now putting in similar equipment at the public library. Next will come sprinklers for the lawn about the Civic Auditorium and Chamber of Commerce building.

## Rain Total Here 6.42 Inches

Sunday night's rainfall which amounted to .22 of an inch, according to measurements kept by city firemen, brought the season's total rainfall to 6.42 inches here. The total at this time last year was 5.10 inches. The first rain this year fell on Sept. 11.

## Window Shows Gifts to be Distributed from Huge Chest



**YOUR GIFT MAY BE HERE . . .** There's only eight more shopping days until Christmas—but there's only six (6) more days to accumulate tickets for the gifts displayed above in the store windows next to the Bank of America. These splendid presents, offered by 22 Torrance merchants, will be distributed from Santa's Gift Chest on the

night of Dec. 22. The complete list of gifts\* and names of the sponsoring merchants are published in a large advertisement in this edition. Ask every business firm listed in that ad for your Gift Chest tickets when you make your Christmas purchases . . . they'll be of value to you when Santa's Gift Chest is opened a week from Friday night, Dec. 22.

## SWIG IN COURT RESULTS IN ANGELENO'S REARREST

When Jim Carlin, 37-year-old Los Angeles laundry truck driver, first came into the contact with the law, as personified by a Torrance police officer, he found himself charged with driving while intoxicated.

His next acquaintance with local authority resulted in a re-arrest and three additional charges being placed against his name.

The first contact occurred on a local street, the second in the city courtroom and here's how:

Carlin, scheduled to appear for trial later this week, made an early appearance in court Tuesday morning. Just as City Judge Robert Lessing mounted to the bench, Carlin was observed to take a hefty swig from a bottle of whiskey.

"What's that you're drinking?" snapped the magistrate.

But Carlin's tongue was too thick to give an intelligible reply and investigation showed him to be very much under the influence of other swigs.

Judge Lessing promptly charged him with (1) contempt of court; (2) being intoxicated, and (3) drinking in a public place, to wit and of all places, a city courtroom. Carlin was lodged in jail to sober up and present a better appearance in court.

A straight six months' county jail sentence was handed the sobered defendant by City Judge Robert Lessing yesterday on the driving-while-intoxicated count. Suspended sentences of 30 days in jail for being drunk and 10 days for contempt of court. As for imbibing in a public place, Lessing said that offense was included in the drunk suspension.

## More Than 4,000 Edison Workers Dance Tonight

The largest gathering ever to attend a dance in the Civic Auditorium is expected to pour in here tonight when employees of the Southern California Edison Company from all parts of the Southland converge for their annual Christmas party. More than 4,000 workers, their escorts and families are expected.

To accommodate this huge gathering, the Auditorium facilities have been enlarged by the erection of an awning around the building to provide an outdoor sitting room. The Chamber of Commerce building will house the cloakroom and more than 3,000 coat hangers have been loaned by the Torrance Laundry and Dry Cleaning Company to equip this department. The service room leading off the Auditorium to the kitchen has been transformed into a refreshment center where punch, more than 300 gallons of it, will be served.

The Auditorium itself presents a gala setting for the festivities with its new Yuletide decorations, special lighting and stage setting. On the stage will be a large fireplace on one side, the orchestra in the center and a massive throne for Santa Claus on the other.

Dancing will be the principal festivity of the evening with Peter Lubisch's orchestra providing the music. But there will be a program of high-class entertainment, including the appearance of the St. Brendan's Boys' Choir.

Official hosts will be Harry J. Bauer, president of the company; W. C. Mullendore, executive vice-president, and F. B. Lewis, vice-president and general manager.

## Store Burglary Foiled by Bars

An attempt was made Tuesday night to break into the Western Auto Supply store on Sartori avenue. The burglars smashed a glass window in the rear but the iron bars stopped any entrance. Police were instructed by Chief John Stroth to be on the alert to prevent any store robberies, especially at this time of the year when the shops contain large stocks for Christmas gifts.

## Extra Service at Postoffice Now

Beginning this Saturday, all windows at the postoffice will be open until 6 p. m., Dec. 16 and on Saturday, Dec. 23, for the convenience of those sending and receiving Christmas packages and mail. An extra window is now in service for general delivery, C. O. D. and called for packages.

## Power Drill Stolen From Local Plant

Marauders pried off a hasp from the front door to the Torrance Aluminum Products Company plant here Sunday night and stole an electric drill valued at \$8. Police were informed. Nothing else was taken although a bar of aluminum was lying on the floor near by.

## L. A. TRAFFIC SNARL SETS NEW RECORD

By CLIFF JOHNSON  
Herald L. A. Correspondent

Unprecedented traffic congestion and a general increase in prices by parking lot operators throughout the Los Angeles downtown district added to the worries of the metropolitan Christmas shoppers today.

The congestion, brought about by added street cars, plus several hundred more taxis than were in operation a year ago, and more trucks and automobiles than have been used in the city's history, gave Mr. and Mrs. Citizen about the worst headache they have ever experienced.

Alley congestion had become so great at the end of the past week that many trucks were being forced to use side entrances on well-traveled streets. Most of the parking lots are operated by two systems, and the increase in prices drives some motorists back into heavy traffic to seek other places with the result that the congestion is increased and prolonged.

While traffic policemen were trying to be lenient with motorists, it is known that thousands of tickets have been given out, particularly to "over parkers" because they were unable to get back to their cars within the limit of time, or unable to get vehicles off the street by 4:30, when virtually all streets are cleared for the daily peak traffic flow of downtown office workers to their homes.

## Mayor Designates "Finland Day"

Next Sunday, Dec. 17, will be Finland Day in this and hundreds of other cities and all citizens are urged to appeal for divine protection for the war-torn Finland. Mayor William H. Tolson today signed a proclamation to this effect at the request of the Finnish Relief Fund, Inc., of New York City, which is headed by Herbert Hoover.

The mayor's proclamation states that "American citizens bitterly feel the invasion of a sister republic that has patterned itself after our own and deeply do we of America respect the rich character, high moral ethics of the Finnish people and their devotion to freedom and liberty."

"Now Finland is engaged in a war against its will bravely fighting against almost insurmountable odds to preserve the philosophy of her republic, as well as to protect the actual borders of one of the world's outstanding small democracies," the mayor's statement continues.

"I further ask," Tolson's proclamation states after designating Sunday as Finland Day, "that the citizens of this community on this day and in the days following give according to their ability to bring relief to Finland by contributing to the Finnish Relief Fund."

**YULE HOLIDAYS BEGIN**  
A 17-day vacation for all students here will begin tomorrow (Friday) afternoon. Classes will not be resumed until Tuesday morning, Jan. 2.

**STORES OPEN NIGHTS**  
Nearly all local stores are open evenings from now until Saturday night, Dec. 23, for the convenience of Christmas shoppers.

## Council All Business; No Truck Debate

Surprised at the silence which greeted his inquiry: "Are there any oral communications?" Mayor William H. Tolson Tuesday night repeated the query that for the past three city council sessions signaled prolonged discussion of the recently purchased fire truck. But altho Attorney Albert Isen and B. M. Prewett, arch-critics of the apparatus, were present, neither responded with further debate on the subject.

Before this unexpected silence, the council transacted a number of minor business matters, the outstanding being the employment of J. H. Plotzke of Los Angeles as right-of-way man, recommended by the State Highway department. County Road department and the city engineer of Monterey, to secure deeds for the proposed widening of Hawthorne avenue from Torrance boulevard to 160th street. Plotzke was retained for \$500 per month. It was estimated that the job will take three months to complete, his salary being paid out of the city's allotment of state gasoline tax funds.

**To Consider Lot Sale**  
Ending a move that began nearly a year ago, Councilman George Powell introduced an ordinance that will place those portions of Elena avenue end Redondo-Wilmington road in the county highway system. The ordinance was adopted for its first reading. The county, it is understood, will improve the streets, located in the Hollywood Riviera district, with installation of curbs, gutters and oiled macadam paving at its own expense.

Council members are to hold an informal meeting in the next few days to make a decision regarding the sale of two lots on Madrid owned by the city to the Torrance Foursquare Gospel church for a new church location. Mrs. M. E. Nicholls, associate pastor, informed the board that the church would be glad to allow Girl Scouts to use the building now on the lots and used by the girls as a clubhouse until other quarters could be found for them. She said the church has been waiting several months for an answer from the city regarding the sale of the lots and was anxious to start building.

**Swingsters Need Air**  
A request by a local representative of an outside furniture store for permission to hire Boy Scouts to distribute advertising handbills was shelved. The agent here, according to City Clerk A. H. Bartlett, has a city license to connect heating and ventilating equipment but this does not permit him to distribute handbills. Councilman Powell said he "didn't like the attitude of commercializing on the Boy Scouts' and action was taken.

Correction of the ventilating system at the Civic Auditorium will be necessary, Judge Robert Lessing of the Coordinating Council, in order to effect more control over the Friday night student dances. He wrote the council that the Coordinators had decided not to issue any pass-out checks during the dances in order to eliminate "many of the plots hatched during intermissions which are the cause of most of the disturbances." But Lessing pointed out that the air in the building becomes foul after several hours of strenuous swinging

(Continued on Page 2-A)

## Furniture Removal Sale Now On!

See how much you can save on new and used furniture purchases for Christmas. The advertiser won't be undersold and he'll get it for you if it exists anywhere in So. Calif. See his ad under class 53c.

—Furniture 53c

## NEW AND USED Furniture Specials ETC.

Read and Use Herald-News Want Ads for Profit