

## PLAZA THEATRE

HAWTHORNE, CALIF.  
Telephone 299  
"The Friendly Family Theatre"  
Hearing Aids Available

Thursday, Friday, Saturday  
Matinee

B. H. Hope, Paulette Goddard in  
"The Cat and the Canary"

ALSO  
B. H. Hope, Paulette Goddard in  
"Mickey the Kid"

James Stewart, Jean Arthur  
in Frank Capra's  
"Mr. Smith Goes to Washington"

ALSO  
Bill (Hopalong Cassidy) Boyd  
in  
"Law of the Pampas"

SUN. NITE  
NEW YEAR'S EVE  
OWL SHOW

Come Early - Come Late  
See a Complete Show  
Regular Admission  
Regular Show

Wednesday  
\$ Play Jack Pot Keeno \$  
"ELIZABETH AND ESSEX"

"THE RETURN OF DR. X"

Doors open at 6 p.m.  
Come Early

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## Council Gets Christmas Gift

City councilmen received a Christmas gift at their meeting Tuesday night. After resting on the city clerk's table throughout the brief business session, it was handed to Mayor William H. Tolson by Clerk A. H. Bartlett with the statement that "Santa Claus had left this with me for you fellows."

The graily-decorated package was handled gingerly by the mayor and passed on to Councilman James Hitchcock who carefully stripped off the cellophane, ribbons and stickers. When it was finally denuded of Christmas wrappings, the gift stood revealed.

It was a toy fire truck and it bore this card: "Reconditioned 1897 model Max fire truck—CHEAP. See our agent Prewett." On the fire was written: "Made in 1897." Councilmen, the three reporters present and four men in the audience, including B. M. Prewett, who has taken an active part in criticizing the Moek pump truck purchased by the city last September (see photo on picture page), got a big laugh out of the council's Yuletide gift.

Prewett said he received a similar gift only his was labeled "Mack 1940" by the unknown giver.

### HITS GUY WIRE

While driving on Sepulveda, Minouri Dote of Redondo skidded and collided with a power pole guy wire at Cedar Avenue early Saturday morning. His mother was slightly injured.

## Test Well May Open New Oil Field In City

(Continued from Page 1-A)  
cial producer, McDowell figures he was about 1,500 feet north of the oil structure. However, he contends that the information obtained from this well, plus other data secured from faults, cesspools and wells, all point to the fact that the "major Torrance oil field" lies in the area to be tested by the Dominguez Estates Fee No. 1.

The pioneer oil man, who has been in the business 30 years and has been gathering data locally for the past ten years, contends that there are four oil sands to be reached by the new test hole. These will be encountered at 3,500 feet, 4,300 to 4,500 feet, 5,700 feet, and 6,300 to 6,500 feet levels.

In the test made by McDowell in 1934 at 152nd and Crenshaw, he went down 7,200 feet. Good showings were also encountered by McDowell in 1930 when he drilled a well for the Ohio Oil Company north of 182nd street, near Crenshaw, or approximately 2,000 feet north of the McDowell Community well. The Ohio Oil well was bottomed at 7,418 feet.

To Prove His Belief  
While McDowell has no direct financial interest in the new Dominguez Estates test well, the decision of this large and wealthy land company to drill its 400-acre site in Torrance is said to be the result of a two and one-half year dogged fight by McDowell to prove his belief in the potentialities of this area.

Should his contentions materialize and another oil field be found in Torrance, it will be due largely to the long and untiring efforts of this pioneer oil operator.

Since the test well is being put down by a large land owner with ample cash resources, it will no doubt settle for once and for all the long standing argument about the potentialities of the land bordering Western avenue. If no oil be found, it will leave this valuable land open for other development, either residential or industrial, civic leaders point out.

### RECEIVE PAYMENTS

Two checks, totalling \$233.98, were received by the city council Tuesday night from the General Petroleum Corporation in payment of franchise earnings for the year ending Dec. 31.

## "U-Boat 29" Thrilling Drama of Espionage



VALERIE HOBSON  
... in grim wartime drama

The catastrophe now sweeping Europe is brought to vivid actuality on the screen of the Lomita theatre, where Columbia's "U-Boat 29" presents a stirring dramatic picture of a war-smitten England desperately battling enemy spies and submarines, starting tonight.

With Conrad Veidt, Valerie Hobson and Sebastian Shaw in the featured roles, and said to be based upon actual incidents in the last World War, "U-Boat 29" bears an amazing resemblance at times to recent events abroad. Particularly is this true in the case of the thrilling climax of the new film, in which a passenger vessel, laden with women and children, is tormented by an undersea craft.

For the most part, however, "U-Boat 29" confines itself to the bitter struggle between an enemy agent and the counter-espionage network. By thus confining the war to the efforts of individuals, director Michael Powell achieves an atmosphere so taut with life-and-death conflict that his cameras automatically embrace in scope the worldwide disaster and its significance.

## Babbitts Greet Fourth Son Last Thursday

A fourth son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas T. Babbitt of 1145 Cedar Avenue by Caesarian section last Thursday afternoon, Dec. 21, at a Los Angeles hospital. Mrs. Babbitt and the new arrival, who has been named Michael Edward, are making splendid progress. They will be brought home early next week.

The Babbitts have resided in Torrance almost all of the time since their marriage. She formerly taught home economics at Torrance Elementary school while Babbitt is a Los Angeles city school instructor. Their other sons are Jimmy, six; Donnie, nearly five, and Charlie, who will be four next April.

## Classified Highlights

Save 1/2 on your tire costs. See "Bill" whose ad is under class. 95c.

For the greatest furniture price savings in your life see El Prado's ad under class. 53c.

You can't beat poultry that "never touches the ground." See Trunnell's ad under class. 29.

Want to know sex of the coming baby? See class. 20.

For breakfast rides on horseback. See Gaven's ad under class. 44.

## Visitor Loses \$245 Here Last Friday Night

Christmas did not hold its customary joys for Joe Svitek, late of Pennsylvania.

He had the misfortune to lose a wallet containing \$245 last Friday night. Svitek, who is visiting Carl Pagac of 321 Sartori Avenue, discovered his loss about 9 o'clock and, thru the courtesy of The Herald, an announcement was made by Ray Brooks over the public address system during the Gift Chest drawing that night.

But the money has not been returned as yet. Svitek said he believes he lost it somewhere in the vicinity of Torrance boulevard near Madrid Avenue. He only had \$1.17 in his pockets left for his Christmas expenses.

## Seven Patients Enter Hospital

Seven patients were received at Torrance Memorial hospital during the past week. They were: Mrs. Josephine Arellano, Moneta, Saturday for surgery; Mrs. Vilate Erickson, 1117 1/2 Marcelina, Sunday for surgery; Mrs. Alice Ann Gilbert, Los Angeles, Christmas Day for medical treatment of injuries caused by an automobile collision.

George Green, Redondo Beach, last Thursday for surgery; Mrs. Anna Bell Hall, Palos Verdes Estates, Sunday for medical treatment; Mrs. Audrey Hermanson, San Pedro, Christmas Day for medical treatment of injuries suffered in an automobile collision, and Mrs. Rosalie Warren, 1229 1/2 Arlington Avenue, last Wednesday for surgery.

## Townsend Club Activities By BETH PAIGE

The Club's Christmas party was fairly well attended despite the fact that many are out of the city for the holidays; due to that latter fact it was impossible to have as full a musical program as we desired.

Mrs. Paige and Mrs. Rosalind Paige sang a duet, "O Holy Night," by Adam, which was warmly received; carols were sung by the entire club and, after the business session was closed, the doors into the larger hall were thrown open to reveal a tall stately Christmas tree ablaze with light and color. Gifts were distributed causing many a laugh. Serving of refreshments closed the session.

We are promised a surprise for tonight in entertainment. Come out and see for yourself. The birthday party is also on the program.



SEAMAN GETS ORDERS . . . Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. has to choose between the call of the sea and a call to help construct the first Atlantic steamship, in this scene from "Rulers of the Sea" which opens Sunday at the Grand theatre. Shown with him are Will Fosse and Margaret Lockwood, Doug's fiery Scotch sweetheart.



HE'S IN TROUBLE . . . A home-spun youth suddenly and bewilderingly appointed to the U. S. Senate, James Stewart immediately runs into trouble. Her name's Astrid Allwyn and she's Jean Arthur's romantic rival in "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington," opening Saturday at the Plaza theatre in Hawthorne.

## Toy Loan Appeals for Playthings Jan. 8 to 12

The Torrance Coordinating Council will cooperate with the County Toy Loan in the drive for used toys during the week of Jan. 8 to 12. Judge Robert Lessing, chairman of the Council, said this week.

## Judge to Address Episcopal Men's Club on Jan. 2

"The Method of Handling Criminals" will be discussed by Judge Roy V. Rhodes at the dinner-meeting of the Episcopal Men's club, Tuesday evening, Jan. 2, at the guild hall on Eureka Avenue, according to Judge Robert Lessing, who made the arrangements for the speaker.

Judge Rhodes, who presides over Department 50 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, is the son of a distinguished California jurist who was a member of the state Supreme Court for many years. He will be introduced by Police Chief John Stroh.

## 1940 Marks Start of Age Pensions

(Continued from Page 1)  
According to Moffitt, should not be confused with public assistance to the needy aged, needy blind or needy dependent children. The public assistance programs are conducted by the state and local county governments.

The payments starting with the New Year are paid to "insured" workers or their surviving family relatives an insured person being one who has worked at jobs covered by the law on which he and his employer contribute through tax payments to support the system. Booklets, describing old-age and survivors benefits may be obtained without charge by addressing the Social Security Board, 6308 Pacific Boulevard, Huntington Park.

## Rotarians to See Golf Movies

A series of sound motion pictures, produced under the direction of such golf experts as Bobby Jones and Jimmy Thompson, will be screened tonight at the Torrance Rotary club dinner-meeting by Al Gruber, golf professional at the Palos Verdes Country club. Dr. Clarence Ingold, chairman of the day, states that the movies should prove most interesting, not only to the habitual golf addict but to all who enjoy sports.

The Herald—3 months, 50 cents

## FOX CABRILLO

SAN PEDRO Phone 4949

ATTEND OUR TWO BIG MID-NIGHT SHOWS! RING OUT THE OLD YEAR SATURDAY! RING IN THE NEW SUNDAY!

NOW PLAYING!  
"ALLEGHENY UPRISING" with Claire Trevor-John Wayne George Sanders-Brian Donlevy  
PLUS Jean Hershold in  
"MEET DR. CHRISTIAN"

SUNDAYS  
"SWANEE RIVER" with Don Ameche-Andrea Leeds Al Jolson  
"CITY OF CHANCE"

## HERMOSA THEATRE

HERMOSA BEACH

Friday and Saturday  
"RETURN OF DOCTOR X" and "TOWER OF LONDON"

Starting Sunday  
GIANT NEW YEAR EVE SHOW  
Kay Kyser and His Band in  
"THAT'S RIGHT"  
"YOU'RE WRONG"  
ALSO Paul Muni in  
"WE ARE NOT ALONE"  
FUN & FAVORS FOR ALL!

## REDONDO

SMOKING LOGES & BALCONY

NOW PLAYING!  
GRETA GARBO in  
"NINOTCHKA"  
with Melvyn Douglas  
ALSO  
Virginia Weidler in  
"Bad Little Angel"

SPECIAL  
NEW YEAR'S EVE SHOW!

## GARDEN THEATRE

NOW SHOWING

"HOLLYWOOD CAVALCADE"

"JAMAICA INN"

KENO FRIDAY

STARTS SUN.

CONTINUOUS MONDAY

"ETERNALLY YOURS"

"RANGE WAR"

WEDNESDAY

GARDENA HANDICAP

TWO BIG HITS

## TORRANCE THEATRE

All Seats—15c

NOW SHOWING

Len Croyd in Jack Parker

"The Barrier"

ALSO

Jack Randall

"Across the Plains"

SAT. MATINEE

Games and Prizes

On the Stage

STARTS SUN.

Bruce Cabot - Tommy Ryan

"Mickey the Kid"

ALSO

Geo. O'Brien

"Thunder Mountain"

WEDNESDAY ONLY

TWO MEXICAN FEATURES

## GRAND THEATRE

TORRANCE

Open 6:00 p.m.

NOW SHOWING

JONES FAMILY in

"Too Busy to Work"

ALSO

CHARLIE CHAN in

"City of Darkness"

FRIDAY

Come Early

"Lucky 7-11"

\$\$\$\$\$

STARTS SUNDAY

CONTINUOUS JAN. 1st

"Rulers of the Sea"

with Douglas Fairbanks, Jr.

ALSO

"Our Neighbors the Carters"

Disney Cartoon & News

WEDNESDAY ONLY

TWO BIG FEATURES

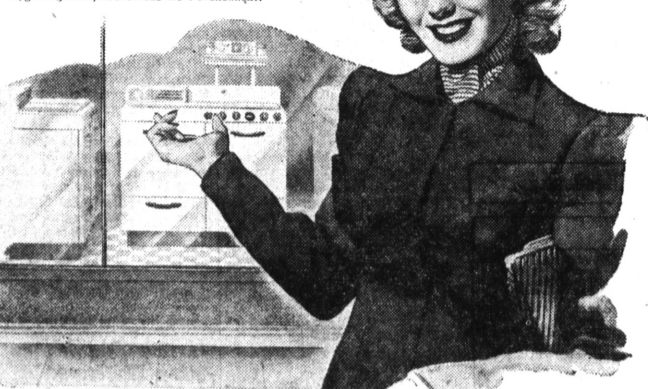
Beautyware

# I'm one of the 300

who bought a gas range today!

Every business day of the year, 300 Southern Californians buy gas ranges. Almost 100,000 in 12 months! That's more than one range sold every two minutes of an 8-hour day—in this territory alone! Conclusive proof, in actual figures, of the tremendous prestige of gas—the modern fuel!

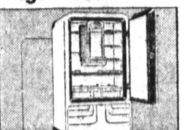
No other type of cooking heat can even approach this endorsement of gas. And the reason is, gas is faster, cleaner and more economical.



And here are more leaders for better living!



CONTROLLED WINTER COMFORT  
You can own a gas furnace that keeps temperatures right, all day—and turns itself off at night! What ever you need, there's a gas heating appliance to suit you—at low cost.



AND THE DISTINCTIVE REFRIGERATOR—Served, the gas refrigerator. Operates without the noise and wear of moving parts. Has low fuel cost, too, because a single, tiny gas flame does the work.



THE LEADER FOR FAST HOT WATER, TOO. Of all Southern California homes having hot water service, over 99% depend on gas water heaters! The most convenient type is the automatic gas water heater.

Your Servant  
**Natural Gas**  
CLEAN • QUICK • ECONOMICAL

Enjoy the advantages of modern gas equipment in your home. See a dealer or SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY

Welcome In The New Year At The  
TORRANCE ALUMNI'S  
NEW YEAR EVE

## DANCE

Hollywood Riviera