



MR. and MRS. FRANK W. WARREN
... Watch Night was their anniversary

One of the many rewards of being happily married for 60 years was the delightful community reception given Mr. and Mrs. Frank W. Warren on New Year's Eve at the Watch Night service held in the auditorium of the First Methodist church. Mr. and Mrs. Warren, who live at 1743 Andree avenue, were married Jan. 1, 1880 in Bay Settlement, Iowa. They came to Torrance nearly 40 years ago.

Looking especially radiant in her pretty brown silk semi-formal gown, and wearing the fragrant gardenia corsage presented her in honor of the occasion by women of the Methodist church of which she was the first Woman's Aid president, Mrs. Warren fairly beamed as she stood by her smiling husband and the pair was presented to the host of friends who came to congratulate them.

Mrs. John Young did the honors in presenting the couple. Assisting Mrs. Young with the reception that followed were Mrs. Guy Mowry and Mrs. Harry G. Banks. Service was from an attractively laid buffet table set entirely in white for the occasion. White wedding bells, mounds of assorted white blooms and burning tapers completed the motif. A playlet, depicting the twelve months of the new year especially in honor of the Warrens, concluded the festivities of the occasion.

—Want Ads 25c—
Conner to Name 'Fight Polio' Aides Here Next Week

As head of the local organization which has successfully promoted the annual "Fight-Infantile Paralysis" campaign each January for the past six years, Postmaster Earl Conner accepted an invitation from Joseph M. Schenck, California chairman, and attended a gala luncheon meeting at the Biltmore hotel in Los Angeles today.

This affair, which was nationally broadcast, served as the start of the yearly campaign which will be featured by the "March of Dimes" and benefit celebrations throughout the nation on President Roosevelt's 57th birthday, Jan. 30. Conner said that he plans to entertain local committee workers at a luncheon here in the near future when plans will be made for Torrance's part in the national campaign.

Under his direction, a large corps of "March of Dimes" button salesmen and women will canvass the entire city. Fifty percent of the proceeds will be left in the county where raised for the benefit of the chapter of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis embracing that county. The other 50 percent of the funds will be sent to the National Foundation for the prevention of infantile paralysis.

Rhoda Murphy of Lomita Wins First Prize in Rhymes Contest

After a three hour deadlock, the jury of five good men and women true, selected from Harbor City residents, finally made the following prize winning selections this week from the Classified Ad Rhymes contest entries:

First Prize Winner
The ad:
Pre-Inventory
Furniture Sale
Where it Pays
to Walk a Half Block
from Sartori and
Save on Every Purchase
etc.
El Prado Furniture Store,
C. Emmet, Owner
1220 El Prado, Tor. 1067
The Winning Rhyme:
"When you need a bed, a chair,
or a stool,
Don't spend your money like any
old fool,
But go to El Prado's Furniture
Store,
Where your money'll go farther
than ever before."
Miss Murphy, 1884 262nd
street, Lomita, will you kindly
call at the News-Herald office
in Torrance and receive your

first prize of \$1? Keep up the good work and let us hear from you more often. See Mr. Emmet for discount.

Second Prize Winner
Joe Van Kralingen, 2304 Gramerey avenue, Torrance, wins the second prize of two tickets to the Torrance theatre. Van Kralingen, will you kindly call at the office of The Torrance Herald at your earliest convenience? Further, you write splendidly and we would like to hear more from you, your friends, and family. See George H. Moore for discount on purchase.

The ad:
GUNS-Rent, sell, trade, swap.
We have all other hunting
equipment, game coats, etc.
GEO. H. MOORE HARDWARE,
1517 Cabrillo, Tor. 167-M
The Winning Rhyme:
"The place to go for sporting
needs,
Is George H. Moore's, who
sells, and rents, and
Guns he sells, and toys, and
swaps,
So go to Moore's today and
shop."
(Continued on Page 4-A)

Three Deaths and 58 Hurt in 1939 Auto Collisions

Traffic collisions accounted for three deaths within Torrance city limits during 1939, according to Police Chief John Stroth. This was only half of the number of traffic deaths recorded here during 1938.

The 58 collisions involving motor vehicles resulted in injuries to 58 persons during the past year. Local officers issued 410 traffic citations. In 1938 there were 46 persons injured in automotive mishaps.

Chief Stroth said that the police department arrested 399 persons on misdemeanor charges in 1938 and 47 more on felony accusations.

CRIME COST SAID \$120 PER CAPITA

"Every man, woman, and child in the United States has to pay \$120 a year toward the cost of crime," said Superior Court Judge Roy V. Rhodes in Torrance Tuesday evening. The occasion was the meeting of the Men's Club of the St. Andrews Episcopal church. Rev. Thomas R. Marshall opened the dinner meeting and Police Chief John Stroth introduced Judge Rhodes. Forty-two were present and President Wallace Post presided.

"Our Crime Problem and Its Solution" was Judge Rhodes' subject. "The mounting cost of crime, estimated by J. Edgar Hoover at 14 1/2 billion a year is equal to our entire tax burden. In California in particular an influx of feeble minded and unusual individuals from other states becomes daily more acute," said the jurist.

"It is absolutely essential that every good citizen work toward a scientific approach for our criminals. Criminals must be re-educated and adjusted to society before they are paroled." A program including investigation by experts before sentence and complete quarantine of the individual until he is cured of his anti-social tendencies was advocated by Judge Rhodes. Prison hospitals for the insane, educational farms, and complete supervision of all paroled were also endorsed.

—Want Ads 25c—
TO DISCUSS PROPAGANDA
Arthur Corey of the California Teachers Association will address members and guests of the Rotary club tonight on "Propaganda in the News."

TRIO HURT IN YEAR'S FIRST AUTO CRASH

A 17-year-old boy was seriously injured and two girls, 15 and 22, were badly cut and bruised in 1940's first automobile collision in this area. The mishap occurred at 9 o'clock New Year's morning near the intersection of Redondo Beach boulevard and Western avenue in Moneta.

Robert Ray, 17, 2044 237th street, is confined at Torrance Memorial hospital where he is reported making slow progress toward recovery. He suffered internal injuries and concussion.

Dorothy Kelly, 22, 3764 South Main street, suffered a long cut all the way around her forehead and Margaret Wilson, 15, 2129 237th street, escaped with cuts and bruises.

The trio were en route to Mt. Baldy. Young Ray was driving and he pulled over to one side of Western avenue, intending to stop in front of a restaurant but he crashed his sedan into a car parked at the curb. The impact telescoped the front of Ray's machine.

GARDENA OFFICER HURT IN SPILL

Even Motor Officer Elmo Pyle of Gardena does not know what happened at 8 o'clock New Year's Eve when he was thrown from his "iron pony" while riding along Western avenue and a few hours later recovered consciousness in Torrance Memorial hospital.

He suffered a bad cut on his forehead and was confined here for several days. Pyle believes someone threw something at him. He was found lying in the road by a passing motorist who rushed him to the hospital.

Postal Business Increases Here

Altho 1939 was not a banner year for the Torrance postoffice, it was considerably better than 1938 and topped all previous years except 1937 in gross revenue, according to a report compiled this week by Postmaster Earl Conner.

The postoffice gross last year was \$40,130.87 as compared with \$38,915.93 for 1938. The all-time record, set in 1937, was \$40,099.20. Postmaster Conner has not yet completed his report on the postal business during the December quarter but this should show an increase over the same period of 1938. Parcel post business during the recent holiday season was greater here than any time in the past, he said. The annual gross figures for the past 11 years follows:

1929	\$40,130.87
1930	35,915.93
1931	40,699.20
1932	36,065.95
1933	28,299.52
1934	25,613.94
1935	20,946.79
1936	20,301.91
1937	23,492.19
1938	29,243.59
1939	31,182.28

Local Resident Invents Unusual Fireplace Damper

A revolutionary type of fireplace damper, whose installation is a matter of minutes only, is the product of a local man's inventive mind. He is J. Ernest Graves, whose 20 years' experience in building fireplaces gave him valuable background for study of drafts and their control.

Graves' product is the only damper that can be installed in existing fireplaces without ripping them to pieces. A number of them have been placed in local homes and families have found the new dampers contribute materially toward throwing heat into rooms and reducing fuel consumption.

Jack Abramson was so impressed with the possibilities of Graves' invention that he sold his upholstery business to undertake the sale of the damper. His headquarters are located at 1318 Sartori avenue where full information about the fireplace accessory can be obtained and satisfactory terms arranged for deferred payments.

Torrance Office Serves District Motorists



GETS FIRST PLATES ... E. S. Teter, 15235 South Vermont, Gardena, is proudly displaying his 1940 license plates, first set to be issued from the office of the California Department of Motor Vehicles at 1311 Cabrillo avenue, Torrance. Waiting his turn in line is James Terry of 1669 253rd street, Harbor City, while Police Chief John Stroth stands watch at the right. Manager Leonard E. Tristram of Los Angeles is shown behind the cashier's window.

101 New Homes Built Here During Past Year

New construction in Torrance during 1939 amounted to \$591,553, according to final figures at the city engineer's office where building permits are issued. This was less than one-third of 1938's all-time record of \$2,119,923 but that was the year of the oil boom in South Torrance when 153 oil derricks were erected at a building permit value of \$5,000 each.

The past year saw the construction of 101 new homes here as compared with only 75 residences being built in the city during 1938. In addition to the home construction jobs in Torrance during 1939, there were 72 garages built, 35 oil derricks erected, 55 oil tanks installed, 31 industrial buildings added to the city's total, 39 alterations and repair jobs to local homes and 13 similar improvements to industrial or store buildings.

The December building permit total was \$14,560 as compared with \$68,155 for the same month of 1938.

The monthly totals in building permits follow:

January	\$115,960
February	198,630
March	90,690
April	31,735
May	262,275
June	49,555
July	38,135
August	58,625
September	14,260
October	29,995
November	23,850
December	14,560

Annual totals for the past 12 years in Torrance:

1928	\$591,553
1929	2,119,923
1930	1,066,057
1931	454,978
1932	291,592
1933	138,507
1934	627,511
1935	789,859
1936	182,400
1937	420,387
1938	606,428
1939	46,745

Firemen Respond to Two Year-End Calls

Local firemen extinguished a burning automobile truck at Pennsylvania and Sepulveda avenues last Saturday morning for their final effort of 1939 to curtail damage by flames. The truck was owned by A. L. Scott of South Gate and became ignited when some gasoline was spilled on its hot exhaust pipe.

Last Thursday night the bubble tower at the Cascade Refinery plant (formerly the Torrance Refinery) blazed anew from leaks. This tower has burned several times and is now being replaced by a new one.

Rainfall Near 1939 Mark Here

With continued showers predicted for the remainder of the week, the rainfall for the past 24 hours (to 8 a. m.) amounted to 1.6 of an inch which advanced the season's total to 6.825, according to city firemen watching the rain gauge atop the fire department garage. Last year at this time Torrance had received 6.97 inches.

Residents Favor Public Ownership After P. E. Quits

Faced with suspension of rail passenger service over Pacific Electric lines between Torrance and Los Angeles after Jan. 14, residents of Torrance and East Torrance—at least those who expressed their opinions—were almost unanimous in favor of substituting some sort of bus service, according to a compilation completed this week of a survey made by canvassers of the Western Directory Company.

In answer to the question: "When the Pacific Electric Railway quits carrying passengers, do you think we need a bus service to Los Angeles?" 1412 Torrance family heads and 259 East Torrance family heads answered "Yes."

Only 26 family heads in Torrance and none in East Torrance said "No." An additional 997 interviewed in Torrance and 140 in East Torrance declined to answer, or expressed themselves as "uninterested."

Estimate Potential Traffic
On the question of whether a bus system should be run by the municipality or by private interests, the survey showed: In Torrance, 289 in favor of city ownership, 127 for private ownership and 16 who said they preferred the Pacific Electric. In East Torrance, 206 favored city ownership and two favored private ownership.

Canvassers reported that many were reluctant to commit themselves on the question of city or private ownership of a bus system, there being 2,052 in Torrance and 187 in East Torrance who declined to answer this question.

In an attempt to estimate the potential traffic to be expected over a bus line between Torrance and Los Angeles, canvassers asked: "How often would your family use the bus line?" A compilation of these answers indicate an average of approximately 100 round-trip passengers a day. However, only 23 said they would use the bus daily, but hundreds of others said they would patronize the bus line at less frequent intervals.

Officials Meet Friday
A meeting of the transportation committee of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, jointly with a committee from the city council and others, has been called for tomorrow (Friday) afternoon to study the bus survey and make such recommendations as seem advisable to establish adequate bus service to Los Angeles.

DIEHL DIES LAST NIGHT



AMBROSE N. DIEHL
... heart ailment proves fatal

Following an illness of six months, Ambrose Nevil Diehl, 63, former president of the Columbia Steel Company, succumbed to a heart ailment at his temporary La Jolla home last night. Mr. Diehl resigned from the Columbia Steel presidency early last September, closing an active career of 40 years' service to the steel industry. He continued to hold a directorship in the U. S. Steel Corporation.

At his bedside when he died was his wife, Mrs. Frances White Diehl. His home for the past seven years was in San Francisco. He had made a number of trips to Torrance to inspect the local plant and was highly regarded by all who knew him.

The funeral will be Monday at Homewood Memorial Chapel in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Diehl is leaving tomorrow afternoon on the Super-Chief, accompanying the body east.

Beginning in 1899 Mr. Diehl (Continued on Page 6-A)

Minor Quake Again Jolts Southland

Old 1939 left this world badly shaken up in more ways than one. The last quiver was felt here at 11:19 Saturday morning when an earthquake of the jolting variety shook the Southland. Dec. 27 rattled windows.

Population Count by Canvassers is Under 9,000 Here

There are 8,658 men, women and children residing within the city of Torrance, according to a compilation of data just completed by canvassers of the Western Directory Company, which is shortly to issue a new city directory and street guide.

The above count includes Hollywood, Beverly, North Torrance (McDonald Tract), Waverly, and all of the other territory included in the nearly 19 square miles that lie within the corporate limits of Torrance.

While the population figure is somewhat of a disappointment to civic boosters who had predicted from 10,000 to 11,000, it is a considerable gain over the Federal census figure of 1930, which gave 7,273.

Population of East Torrance, as compiled from the same source, is 1,402. Included in this count is all the territory adjoining the City of Torrance between Western and Vermont avenues, all of which forms an integral part of the trading area of this city. The Los Angeles City Shoshing Strip as well as the adjoining unincorporated county territory between Normandie and Vermont avenues were covered by the directory company canvassers.

—Want Ads 25c—
CHICKEN AND DUMPLING DINNER 35c

—and, no foolin! Daily meals that are good, solid, tasty food, home cooked — also, only 35c. Better investigate and, remember, you do not eat the scenery, only the food. See class.

Where to Eat —28

NIE'S CAFE — Home Cooked Foods and Pies. Special chicken and dumpling dinner every Wednesday, 35c. Regular daily meals, 35c. Short orders, breakfast served from 7 a. m. to 10:30 a. m. Open 7 a. m. to 8 p. m. — A hearty meal at a reasonable price.

Read, Use Herald-News Want Ads for Profit!