Anonymous Poet Advises Prospective Police Rookies

Having made himself known to The Herald, "Anon"—author of the following poetic comment on the local event—herewith has the satisfaction of seeing his effort in print. "Anon" still prefers to shroud his identity—perhaps fearing reprisals from his firemen-friends. Here is his

ODE TO PROSPECTIVE ROOKIES

Exams are soon to be given
For police and firemen, et cet
For captain, sergeants and flat-feet
And many who take them, you bet
Will learn too late of their error,
In making their choice where to get.
For the life of Riley, my tyros,
Is the life of the firemen's crew.
They yearn for any excitement,
And pray, just for something to do.

At night, they are snug in their blankets
While the rain patters down on the roof
But outside in the storm, the poor copper
Stands, chilled from head to his hoof.
He thinks of the hand that fate dealt him,
Or the error he made. That was when,
He signed his first application
With a fearless stroke of his pen.

His mind goes back through the ages,
Or at least to him so it seems;
When the urge to be a policeman
Was the height of his rosy young dreams.
But now, with his years of experience
And the glamour gone from the task,,
Just to trade with a dumb lucky fireman
Is the only one thing he would ask.
If given the choice of his wishes,
By the powers that are, or to be,
And to warn all those who might follow,
Not to make the same boner that he
Made, when he chose to be a policeman,
Instead of making the Torrance F. D.

So many things he might tell you
And reasons, no end, he could give
Why the life of a fortunate fireman
Is the life that he'd like to live.
He thinks of their hours of leisure
Free from danger, damp and from cold,
While his mind slips into the future

Pondering his own lot, when he's old,
When the spring has fled from his sinew
And arthritis creeps into his bones
And would trade all his hope of heaven
And anything else that he owns,
For a chance to be just a fireman
And be free from the gripes and the groans.

So if you have made your decision,
Stand by the result of the test
Give all that you have to the effort,
Content, that you've done your best.
You've decided that you'll be a 'copper'
And stand the storms with the men
Or you'll join up with the boys, in the firehouse
And they'll go back to their checkers again.

Kiwanians Welcome Division Leader

Members of the Torrance Kiwanis club gave Lt.-Gov. Charles Griffith of Beverly Hills a royal welcome Monday evening when the leader of Kiwanis Division 1 made a regular call on the local club. Principal speaker at the meeting was Dr. Perry Perkins of St. Johns, New Brunswick, world traveler and expert on Egyptology, who lectured on the Pyramids.

Next Monday evening local Kiwanians will see movies showing the work of the Coast Guard. The club is also planning to attend the first division meeting of the year at Beverly Hills Feb. 19.

Huge Sewer Line Extension Project Asked of WPA

Extension of the Torrance trunk of the county sanitation district system at an estimated cost of $41,800 and construction of a lateral system and house connections at an estimated cost of $135,200 is part of the Sanitation Districts' construction program during 1940, it was learned today.

The two projects are among nine submitted to the WPA for allocations of labor and materials. Extension of the Torrance trunk involves laying 1,800 feet of 8-inch vitrified clay pipe, 2,847 feet of 10-inch pipe, and appurtenant installations and construction work. The lateral system involves laying 20,500 feet of 8-inch pipe, 11,200 feet of house connections and repaving work. Increase in population of the Torrance district is said to require the work.

Kite Fliers Warned of Power Danger

A youngster using a string wound with a thin strand of metal, similar to string used to tie up gift packages, narrowly escaped serious injury in North Torrance Monday while flying a kite. The kite came into contact with a power pole, causing a short circuit but the child was unhurt, according to Officer Harry Slover.

He urges parents to warn their children about flying kites near power lines or using any kind of wire or metal-covered string to guide their fliers.

In the world of football, we find that the Harvards are using a right guard named Endicott Peabody, probably as a decoy.—Detroit News.

An all-around dress that will keep a young housewife looking trim and fashionable at the same time is this two-piece rayon with a washable shirt and flared skirt. January Good Housekeeping tells us that it comes in green, copen or red stripe with solid skirt.

Local C.I.O. Head Going to Bay Dist.

Carl Steele, president of the local S.W.O.C. lodge No. 1414, will attend the state C.I.O. board meeting in San Francisco Saturday. On Sunday he will go to Pittsburg to participate in a mass meeting that will be addressed by Lt.-Gov. Ellis Patterson and Harry Bridges. Steele was elected trustee of the C.I.O. Labor Council in Los Angeles last week.

OVERCOAT STOLEN

Vernon Coil reported the theft of his overcoat from his car while it was parked for 15 minutes in front of 2107½ Arlington avenue last Thursday night. Value of the garment was set at $20, according to police.

Ball Tourney Group to Plan Promotion

A meeting of the Torrance 1940 California State Semi-Pro Baseball Tournament committee will be held tomorrow afternoon at the Torrance Chamber of Commerce to initiate a program of publicity and promotion for the state-wide event to be held at the city park, July 6 to 28.

Dale Riley, state commissioner, has some ideas to present to the group, which consists of R. R. Smith, Dean L. Sears, Alden W. Smith, John V. Murray, A. H. Bartlett, Robert McCallum and Micheal Straszer.

The Herald—3 months, 50 cents

MAIL CARRIER GIVEN MEDAL FOR DRIVING

Two years of driving without an accident are worth a medal to any motorist . . . but few receive such awards.

However, Uncle Sam—in the person of Postmaster General James A. Farley—actually makes such a presentation and the first local winner is Clyde E. McNew, substitute carrier, who pilots the Torrance postoffice's delivery truck.

Postmaster Earl Conner pinned the medal with a two-year bar hanging from it on McNew's jacket last Friday afternoon.

Uses Small Truck

"Don't let this award go to your head, Mac," Conner cautioned the grinning recipient, "and don't go around banging off a few choice fenders just because you're wearing this gold badge."

McNew, who lives with his wife and three youngsters at 1634 Madrid avenue, has been employed at the postoffice since June, 1936. He delivers parcel post and mail on the mounted route using a small truck.

Postmaster Conner certified Careful Driver McNew after he had piloted the machine for 1,565 hours in 1937 and more than 2,000 more hours in 1938 without even scratching the paint of his truck or any other vehicle.

Income Tax Aid at C. of C. Here

Advice and information to local residents about filing returns under the California State Income Tax Act will be given by a representative of the Franchise Tax Commissioner at the Chamber of Commerce today and Friday.

Ride a Taxi for only 25c within reasonable limits. See the ad under classification 24A.

Crenshaw Project Topic for Meeting In L. A. Sunday

An important meeting for groups interested in the extension and improvement of Crenshaw boulevard from Hollywood to Torrance will be held by the Northwest Highways association Sunday morning, Feb. 18, at Scully's, 4801 South Crenshaw boulevard.

At that time Ray George of Beverly Hills and Carl Oppenheimer of the Fairfax Improvement League, will report on their conference with the State Highway Commission in Sacramento early this week. The principal speakers Sunday morning will be Amerigo Bozzani, member of the State Highway Commission; Oscar L. Willett of Palos Verdes, E. E. East, chief engineer for the Automobile Club; Mr. Luther of the State Chamber of Commerce, J. Ray Files, attorney for Warner Brothers, and Fred Niblo, M.G.M. director.

Several local residents interested in the proposed extension of Crenshaw boulevard, its widening, and improvement, are expected to attend.

Are You Properly Registered to Vote?

Electors in 34 cities of the sixth class in Los Angeles county, including Torrance will have until Feb. 29 in which to register for their elections scheduled for April 9, according to announcement of William Kerr, Registrar of Voters. Voters will have until March 28 in which to register for the presidential primaries May 7.

Burglar Locks Up Dog

SAN DIEGO (U.P.)—The personification of precaution was the burglar who ransacked the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. F. McCurdy. He locked the watch dog inside the back porch before going about his work. The dog's name was Tiger.

Week's Building Totals $6,500

New construction, totalling $6,500, was started here during the past week, according to records at the city engineer's office where building permits are issued. Those receiving permits were:

Miss Hermine Oetken for converting a garage at 1001 Sartori into a sleeping room $100; M. McAnally, 1007 Cota avenue, for a five-room frame stucco residence and double garage at 1738 Watson street, $3,300; Gerald L. Alter, four-room garage apartment at 2022 Cabrillo, $3,000, and James E. Barringer, moving a house to a new location on a lot at 23510 Pennsylvania avenue, $100.

The Herald—3 months, 50 cents

Episcopal Men Hear Plea for U. S. Unity By Dr. A. Correy

A plea for American unity was voiced by Dr. Arthur Correy, director of public relations for California Teachers Association, who addressed 40 members of the Episcopal Men's club at their dinner meeting in the Episcopal guild hall Tuesday evening.

In his address the speaker stated "this nation has over half of the world's wealth, one fifth of the world's population, the intelligence and ability to solve our problems. If with these advantages we cannot work together to accomplish our aims we deserve failure." Liberty, said Dr. Correy, is not license but freedom under law.

J. Wallace Post, president of the Episcopal Men's Club introduced the speaker.