

Moose Party to Be Given Time On Radio Hour

Torrance Moose Lodge's Christmas party, to be held on Sunday, Dec. 24, will be given additional publicity over the radio on Thursday night from 10 to 11 o'clock.

The Moose officials staging the affair will be guests of the Peace Officers Civil Service association, of which Chief of Police John Stroh is president, on the association's regular broadcast over station KGER, Long Beach.

GAIL K. COX . . . a private 1/c, has arrived at a base in England, according to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Cox of Sierra Place.



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TORRANCE 78

Full Christmas Week Program Is Being Provided Army Hospital Boys

By PFC. DAVE DORTORT

Old St. Nicholas is making his headquarters at Torrance's Military hospital during his fourth wartime Christmas, and the disabled army boys in the hospital wholeheartedly endorse the idea. Beginning a full two weeks before the gala day itself, the program of festivities has continued without let-up, and net effect will be to produce a Christmas holiday season that will live in the memories of the boys for years to come.

The opening event on Wednesday, Dec. 13, featured Renee de Marco, famous dancer, and a large cast that included Vivienne; Chilly Wills, film comedian just back from an overseas tour; the Four Escorts; Nilo Menendez, pianist-composer; Rose Triola, accordionist, and Charlotte Rogers, who sponsored the entire proceedings, which included a welcome distribution of gifts for the boys.

On Monday evening, Marie Wilson of "Blackouts" fame, was present to highlight an open house ceremony staged by the Wilshire chapter of B'nai B'rith. There were many other entertainers present, and a gift for every serviceman in the audience crowned the evening's activities. Miss Wilson, dressed in a special Christmas tree gown designed by Betty Colburn, toured the wards, cheering those boys who were unable to leave their beds.

On Wednesday, Dec. 20, the Elks Show was presented at the hospital. This is the show that this organization presents once annually at a military hospital, with Corona and Long Beach Naval being honored these last two years. This year, the honor went to Torrance.

Tonight, Dec. 21, the three-act comedy stage hit "Personal Appearance," starring Louise Albritton and Lillian Fontaine, will be presented in the hospital's recreation hall for the pleasure of the patients. This is the full two hour show that Broadway audiences laughed at for months and the boys expect to have a grand time watching and listening to it.

Saturday night, a group of carolers from a Los Angeles singing society will come out to sing Christmas carols, and everything is due to be climaxed



TO ANNAPOLIS. . . Monte Bob Moore, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Moore of 1908 Martin ave., has been selected from a large class aboard the U.S.S. Essex for admission to the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis.

with a huge variety show the night of Dec. 27.

On Christmas Eve, a mammoth party will be held in the Red Cross hall, with Katherine Grayson and the Nash Carolers leading the boys in group and community singing, and the following morning, under a huge Christmas tree, the long-awaited packages will be distributed to all those patients who are able to walk. In addition to the packaged gifts, there will be a large quantity of books, fruit, nuts, candy and cookies, all of which has been contributed to the boys by a considerable number of Torrance and neighboring civic organizations and ladies groups.

For those patients unable to leave their beds, other gifts will have been brought to their wards for them to open and keep. Each ward has its own Christmas tree, and an inter-ward contest is now being held between all the hospital's wards to decide which has done the best job of decorating its interior in the Christmas spirit. Prizes will be awarded the three nicest wards.

The enlisted men of the hospital are having a special Christmas dinner on Monday and later that evening they will have a party in their newly furnished club. A cordial invitation is extended to all of Torrance's younger female set to attend, and the address is the southeast corner of Carson and Normandie. You are all welcome, girls, and it should be a grand party.

And as is fitting at this time of year, there will be special church services all through Holy Week, and everything is being done by Chaplain Arthur J. DeNello, to insure that all patients make their fullest devotions at this time. In all this work, in this effort to make the boys feel that they're not so far away from home and their loved ones, the hospital's chaplain, the American Red Cross chapter, and the Special Services Office have all worked together, unstintingly, and in complete harmony. Their one aim was to make this holiday season as pleasant an occasion as possible, and the final record will show that they have grandly succeeded in this noble task.

Servicemen's stationery? Call Torrance 444 or 443.

L. A. Rules No March of Dimes For Schools

No dimes will be gathered in Los Angeles city schools for the national "March of Dimes" campaign early in 1945, the Board of Education decided yesterday. Of course, this includes Torrance.

It voted unanimously to adhere to a recent decision to permit collections for only two fund campaigns of national scope—the American Red Cross and the Treasury Department's War Bond drives.

Board members made no comment, but later indicated that the decision was based on last year's controversy in which the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, sponsor of the "March of Dimes" campaign, and the Harlan Shoemaker Foundation for Paralytics contested disposition of money collected in the schools.

Army and State Guard Officers Enjoy Dinner

Members of the staff of Maj. Gen. Courtland Parker, commander of the Southern California sector, Western Defense Command, were guests of officers of the Ninth Tactical Command and the Second Battalion, 39th Regiment, California State Guard, at a dinner Thursday night in Pacific Coast Club.

Hosts were Col. John C. French, commander, and Lt. Col. T. A. Gregory, executive officer, of the Ninth Tactical Command, and Maj. A. Milton Fish, commander of the Second Battalion, 39th Regiment, presided as master of ceremonies.

The meeting was arranged to allow all officers of the State Guard in this area to become better acquainted with General Parker and his staff.

Attending from General Parker's staff were Lt. Col. F. L. Coombs, Maj. C. I. Lutz, Maj. J. E. Jardine, Jr., Maj. M. G. Norum, Maj. R. F. Toomey, Maj. N. M. Mitchell and First Lt. R. K. Carlon. First Lt. Robert Ward, chief instructor of the United States Army of State Guard troops, also was a guest, as was Maj. Roland W. Vandeventer, representing the adjutant general's office and also attached to the command of Colonel French.

Other staff and line officers of the Second Battalion also attended. From Torrance and Lomita, they included Capt. R. L. Lewellen, commanding officer of Co. H, Second Lts. Charles Ray and Thomas Ramskill, of Co. H, and Second Lt. Frank S. Selever, Second Battalion signal and public relations officer.

Locomotive Of Lomita Man Strikes Sailor

Knocked down and run over by a Harbor Belt Line locomotive early Tuesday morning, Douglas R. Bensenhaven, young navy sailor, lost both legs and his right arm, traffic officers reported.

The mishap occurred on the railway's right-of-way slightly more than 100 feet north of Sixth st., near the ferry landing, police said.

The sailor apparently was crossing the rail tracks when he was hit by an engine operated by Charles E. Lawrence, 41, of 1693 W. 268th st., Lomita.

He was rushed to the naval hospital in Long Beach where doctors said that he was in a critical condition. Lack of witnesses hindered the investigation of the accident by traffic investigators.



HOME AGAIN . . . W. H. "Bud" Howe, A.M. 2/c, son of Mrs. Irene Howe of Lomita and member of the Torrance Herald staff, arrived home Tuesday, his first visit since his ship, the ill-fated U.S.S. Gambier Bay, baby flat-top, went down in the second battle of the Philippines. Howe is home for 30 days from Treasure Island and will report back there for reassignment.

Coast Insulating Will Expand Its Factory Here

Coast Insulating Co., will add 5300 square feet of floor space to its building at 401 Arlington ave., according to building permits issued here.

The new structure, to be 53 by 100 feet in size, will cost \$10,000, according to the permit.

Angelina Tedesco will build a \$400 garage at 24453 Hawthorne blvd.; Luella Curler a \$180 porch enclosure at 2011 Gramercy ave.; and J. B. Ferguson will install a \$110 neon electric sign at 1637 Cabrillo ave.



Church's Yule Program Slated

There will be special Christmas services at the Community Presbyterian church, 2154 W. 245th st., next Sunday.

At the morning worship the pastor will speak on, "The Christmas Star," from the text: "Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him?" Matthew 2:2. The choir will sing, "The Shepherd's Song," Dickinson, and organ selections will include, "Fantasy on Two Well Known Christmas Carols," West, and "A Christmas Cradle Song," Poister.

There will be a Vesper service at 4:30 when the Sunday school will present the pageant, "The Tired Traveler and the Little Light." The familiar nativity scenes of the crowded inn, the shepherds in the field, the manger cradle, the angel choir, the visit of the magi, and the adoration of the children will be depicted by costumed children and young people. It will be a service of reverence and beauty. A Christmas treat for the children will be given at the close of the pageant.

Special Christmas worship services will be given in the different departments of the Sunday school at 9:45.

Last Day Today For A-13 Gas Stamps Use

Today is the last day to use "A-13" gasoline coupons. On Friday six "A-14" coupons in each basic "A" book will become valid. Each of the new A-14 coupons will be good for four gallons of gasoline. They will remain valid through March 21, 1945.

CHRISTMAS



--to All Our Friends

In 1944, as in years now gone, we want to pause in our celebration of holiday happiness to think back over the centuries that have passed since that first Christmas Eve and voice a fervent prayer that men may some day find real understanding of the need for Peace on Earth.

To this we add our wish that each of you may be given Joy and Yuletide Gladness.

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Christmas

comes closer in wartime. The brightly shining tree, the cold outdoors and the cozy warmth within, the kitchen fragrance of good food, the fond thoughts of those far away . . . all these take on a new, more precious, clearer significance. For they symbolize not only Christmas Day, but the freedom, the homes, the way of life for which this nation is fighting and working.

May your Christmas Day be a pleasant one . . . and may the New Year bring Victory and Peace.

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