

'Victory Over Fire' Urged by Chief As Fire Prevention Week Nears

Fire Chief J. E. McMaster in a plea to all citizens, said today, "V-E and V-J Day have become a realization. The war on foreign fronts is over. How about a V-F Day at home? Victory over fire."

National records, just released by the National Fire Protective Association, reveal that in the past year, ten thousand lives have been lost as a result of fire. The largest percentage of these persons died in and around their own homes when their clothing became ignited from burning rubbish, bonfires, open fireplaces and burning matches or cigarettes. Many died as a result of smoking in bed. The careless use of flammable liquids such as cleaning clothes in gasoline took large tolls as usual. Hundreds died when they became entrapped by fires in their homes.

The total number of fires in the United States reached 668,000, with an estimated loss of \$403,000,000. The leading cause of these fires was careless smoking and matches which started 107,500 of them at a loss of \$25,000,000.

In Torrance, 218 fires occurred in the last twelve months. The bulk of these were caused by illegal burning, careless smoking, defective electrical wiring and appliances and children playing with matches.

Fire Prevention Week, October 7-13, is set aside each year for the purpose of driving home to everyone the hazards that breed them. The week commemorates the great Chicago conflagration in 1871, when the legendary cow of Mrs. O'Leary

kicked over the lantern that started the fire, and 14,730 buildings were destroyed at a loss of \$168,000,000.

The chief continued saying, "Better than eighty-five percent of all fires in Torrance occurred in and around private dwellings. Most of them were preventable. They were caused by carelessness and thoughtlessness. Victory over fire can only become a realization when we have the complete cooperation of every man, woman and child. Be alert for common fire hazards in your home."

State Chamber Okays Naval, Army Academies

Establishment of military and naval academies on the Pacific Coast, if military studies show additional academies are needed, bore the endorsement today of directors of the California State Chamber of Commerce.

Torrance Chamber of Commerce, through Harry B. Lewis, when he was executive secretary, filed a long brief extolling the advantages of Torrance for the Naval academy, and suggesting the use of a Clifton Rivera site for the purpose.

Rep. Cecil King highly praised the brief in a letter to the chamber, and presented it to the Naval and Congressional committee investigating the matter in Washington.



ARMY SWING... Cpl. Johnny Pearce, Lomita, starts his third chorus on the fine swing tune, "Rosetta" in an Army swing band. Before entering the Army, Cpl. Pearce was featured horn man in the bands of Gus Amheim and Paul Pendarvis. He is currently playing with a G.I. Jump Combo at one of the AAF Rest Centers in Santo Spirito, Italy. Photo was taken at the Special Services Theater in Bari, Italy, where leading members of the local bands got together, and put on a "Swing Concert" for the local hipsters, "A La Carnegie Hall."

FROM PACIFIC DUTY... Harry Kanaster, merchant marine, returned Sunday, following eight months Pacific duty to join his wife, Ruth, and their son, Lance, at 1634 Beech ave. The Kanasters are now vacationing at Green Valley Lake.

Dust From Navy Base Here Is Hit

Complaints of residents of the area east of the big new U. S. Navy Material Redistribution Center regarding the dust from the unpaved acreage have resulted in an investigation which has revealed that the Navy department has no plans to pave the area south of Lincoln st.

The home owners and tenants in the district along Arlington ave. and eastward have "suffered it out" in a patriotic manner in the hope that the dust would end with paving of the big area.

However, the Navy plans call for paving only 50 or so acres of the 91 in the big tract. Some of the balance is covered with buildings and warehouses, but it is estimated approximately 40 acres will remain unpaved and subject to the will of the prevailing winds which carry the dust into the homes east of the tracks.

Lt. Dobson's Plane Crash Death Revealed

Second Lieutenant Robert R. Dobson, 23, Army Air Forces, lost his life Thursday, Aug. 9, in an airplane crash over Greenland. This news was conveyed in a message from the War Department to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Dobson of 2107 Gramercy ave., who have received the Purple Heart, posthumously, awarded. Lieut. Dobson's wife is living in Salina, Kansas.

Lieut. Dobson's status in the service was unique in that he was one of only about 100 air pilots in the United States designated as both Army and a Naval aviator, and thus privileged to wear the gold Navy wings and the silver Army wings. This distinction was granted him after his graduation from the Naval Air Station at Pensacola, Florida.

Born in Minneapolis, Kansas, he was educated in Kansas schools. Coming to California in 1941, he was employed at San Diego in the Bank of America.

Following his graduation from Army Flying School, he entered Pensacola Naval Air Station and served as an Air Force bomber pilot. For six months he was a flying instructor at Columbus, Miss. He was then selected for Navy rescue work at sea, taking special training at Pensacola, where he won his wings on the PB flying boats. He became flight leader at Biloxi, Miss., and a few weeks ago was sent to Greenland and Iceland with the First Arctic Search Squad where he piloted a rescue plane.

His sister, Mrs. Louis K. Abland, (Donys Dobson) whose husband is a chief machinist's mate, USN, lives at 2029 Gramercy ave.

T-5 Muensterman In States After Overseas Duty

T/5 Arthur A. Muensterman, of Lomita, has reported to the Army Ground and Service Forces Redistribution Station in Santa Barbara for two weeks of rest and relaxation at this Southern California city's famed resort hotels now under Army management. The veteran recently returned from 15 months' overseas duty in New Guinea.

The Ninth Service Command station, one of six established across the nation, offers a comprehensive program of recreation, athletics, and entertainment to returning guests.



FORMER LOMITAN, BRITISH BRIDE... Mr. and Mrs. Paul H. Beaver of Alhambra and formerly of Lomita were completely surprised by the arrival of their son, Pfc. Paul H. Beaver, Jr., AAF home from Europe for a 30-day furlough, after two years in the Ninth troop carrier command airborne communications section.

He is the holder of five bronze stars and a meritorious citation. While in England Pfc. Beaver was married on June 30, to Joan Elizabeth Collier, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Collier, Slough, Buckshire, England, who in due time will join her husband in this country, who is now stationed near Fresno. They are shown above.

Pfc. Beaver lived here for many years, attending Orange Street school before he and his parents moved to Alhambra, where he graduated from high school. He is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Hickman, 1406 Lomita blvd., Harbor City and Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Splittstoesser, 1829 W. 247th st., Lomita.

Overseas Gift Suggestions Are Revealed

Suggestions for articles to be included in Christmas packages being gathered in the annual gift drive now under way, were made this week by the Red Cross camp and hospital service, which is serving as the "clearing-house" for all gifts donated by cooperating organizations.

Among the articles suggested to be included in packages to be directed to servicemen were: Plastic cigarette cases, small paper books, harmonicas, small wire puzzles, individual games, leather wallets, address books, cigarettes, tobacco pouches, playing cards, snapshot cases, plastic wrist watch straps, plastic pencils, stationery (including postal cards), air mail stamps, chewing gum, money belts, flat writing folios, pocket combs, fountain pens, folders for pictures, unbreakable mirrors, razor blades, pipes and shower shoes.

Among the articles not recommended were: shaving cream, soap, wash cloths, powder (because it spills), rubber-lined articles, and food, except gum, salted peanuts and candy which has been vacuum packed.

Pvt. A. G. Konrad Awarded Purple Heart on Luzon

Private First Class Albert G. Konrad, infantryman with the 43rd (Winged Victory) Division, has been awarded the Purple Heart Medal for wounds received at Ipo Dam on May 25th, while in combat against the Japanese on Luzon Island in the Philippines. His wife Traince lives on Route 1, Lomita.

Private Konrad has returned to duty with this veteran Pacific division which has fought through four major campaigns during 35 months in the Pacific theater.

Discovery of Penicillin Is Discussed

Penicillin was discovered in early research quite by accident, K. Florey, D. S. D., who was associated with the early bacteriological work in sulphonamides and penicillin, told members of Torrance Lions club at the meeting Tuesday noon in Civic Auditorium.

Introduced by Frank Bland, local druggist, Dr. Dorais said that the general public must remember that the research work that is obscure is the first step in the chain of development leading to the preventive and curative medicine of today. He remarked that the bacteriologist whose accident led to discovery of penicillin had dropped some germs in the soil. Studying the effect of the soil on the germs and finding the germs killed they extended this research to the point where the new medicine was developed.

He said that there were limitations to all new medicines, but all serve their purpose well until something better is found. He paid high tribute to the druggists and the public health departments, declaring that the public health officials never are thought of until something happens, and then are condemned because it happened. "People do not recognize the fine work of preventing sickness and disease that they are carrying on in public health work," he said. Dr. Dorais is with Wyeth, Inc., in Philadelphia.

Other guests Tuesday included Dr. H. C. Smiley, health officer in Torrance, Mrs. G. T. Pearce, supervising nurse, of Torrance Health Center, L. Varum, public health nurse, Geo. L. Johnson, district campaign manager for the War Chest and others.

Harold Dinnis To Be Released On Point System

Harold Dinnis, chief signalman, USNR, 2159 W. Pacific Highway, Lomita, just returned to Treasure Island, Calif., from the Pacific battle front, is on the point system. He is on the point system for a discharge under the Navy's point system.

He arrived in the States for leave and reassignment but the point system was announced before he was given new orders.

EXPECTS LEAVE... Richard E. Honrath, seaman 1st class, stationed at Great Lakes Naval Training School, in a telephone message to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Honrath of 1561 Post avenue, advised them of his planned arrival here on October 18 for a nine-day leave. This leave will mark the completion of his boot camp training. He will then return for radio and radar instruction and upon graduation will have a rating of Petty Officer 2/c.

Medical Association to Embark on State-Wide Voluntary Health Plan

The California Medical Association, after pioneering the voluntary health insurance field for nearly six years with California Physicians Service, today announced plans to launch a State-wide newspaper advertising and sales promotion campaign early next year to expand C.P.S. and other voluntary health insurance systems until coverage is available to people in every walk of life who want to provide for their medical and hospital care on a budget basis.

Released simultaneously at the State office of the Medical Association in San Francisco and at a Los Angeles meeting of the Assembly Interim Committee on Health Care, the announcement quoted Dr. E. Vincent Askey, Speaker of the House of Delegates of C.M.A., as declaring:

"We believe that within a period of a very few years the great majority of the people of our State, as a result of this program, will have their health needs cared for on a prepayment basis."

Still just as vigorously opposed to compulsory health insurance, or any other form of government-controlled socialized medicine, the Medical Association made public a statement of principles on health insurance which declared: "The function of State governments should be to encourage voluntary health insurance programs but not to regulate the patient and the medical profession, or operate compulsory health insurance plans established by political means."

Other basic points in the C. M. A. "statement of principles," submitted to the Assembly Committee by Stanley Cochran, executive secretary of the Los Angeles County Medical Association, included:

"1.—Any sound health insurance program should fulfill each of the following points: It is of primary importance that the people should be enabled to provide for the costs of illness on a regular-budget basis during periods of good health and stable earning power, so that they may have medical-economic security. It is vital, however, that the distribution of costs should be undertaken in a manner which will still guarantee the finest possible medical care and which will prevent any deterioration in the quality of medical service."

"2.—To serve the ultimate public interest any health insurance plan must: (a) be voluntary and not compulsory in nature; (b) retain individual initiative in medical practice, so that the incentive for further advance in scientific medicine may continue; (c) fully protect the freedom of choice, both of the patient in choosing a physician, and of the physician in choosing his community, type of practice and professional procedures; (d) offer medical care in cooperation with allied services against serious illness or injury; (e) offer participation at a cost within the means of all employed persons and income-receiving families; (f) provide a fair reward to those rendering the service which will give continued stimulus to scientific medical development and sound medical practice."

Where the supply of returning veterans and the supply of persons involved in reductions in force in the federal service are not sufficient to fill vacancies, the commission's regional directors have been authorized to lift the ban on receipt of applications. In certain occupational areas such action will be taken very promptly after the commission's field officials have had the opportunity of appraising the situation which confronts them as a result of the cessation of hostilities.

Also, the federal government is determined not to put itself in a position where it is discharging persons in one part of the federal service and, at the same time, hiring persons from the outside to fill similar positions in another part of the federal service."

OBITUARY

WADE SMITH

Wade Smith, 51, who for many years was employed by the Salm Manufacturing Company and resided on Abalone avenue in Torrance, died at Selo, Oregon, on Friday, Sept. 6, following an extended illness. He is well known in Torrance and is survived by his widow, Irene; two sons, Thomas, U. S. Army, stationed in the Philippines; two daughters, Fern and Roberta Benjamin; and two half brothers, Paul and Cecil, all of Torrance. Attending the funeral, which was held Mon., Sept. 10, were: Paul and Cecil Smith, Mrs. Benny Smith, Mrs. Paul Smith, and Mrs. Roberta Benjamin, all of whom drove to Oregon from Torrance. Tom Smith also was given leave from the Navy to attend his father's last rites.

St. Andrew's Church Protestant Episcopal

The Rev. Paul Moore Wheeler, Rector

Announces: THE FALL QUARTER OF ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH SCHOOL

REGISTRATION: Sunday, Sept. 19, at 9:30 A.M. All departments — Nursery through Senior High.

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Millions of Our Boys Will Still Be Overseas at Christmas...



MAIL OVERSEAS GIFTS NOW!

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