



**GOING UP . . .** Thirty-feet in 73 days is the record of growth of this ready-to-bloom Century plant being viewed with amazement by Mr. and Mrs. Creed Jenkins of 917 Acacia avenue. —Herald Photo by Bob Wilton.

## Century Plant Shooting Skyward About Ready to Show Rare Bloom

As though in celebration of her son's recent marriage Mrs. C. W. Jenkins' fabled century plant is ready to blossom into its once-in-a-hundred year bloom.

The rapid growth of the plant has been creating a mild sensation in the neighborhood of Mrs. Jenkins' home at 917 Acacia avenue. The plant has grown at the rate of six to eight inches a day since March 25 when the panicle first appeared above the cluster of fibrous leaves.

The main stalk of the plant is now over 30 feet high.

Mr. and Mrs. Creed Jenkins, son and newly-acquired daughter-in-law of Mrs. Jenkins, believe the plant is ready to bloom in salute to their recent wedding which took place last Sunday in San Jose.

Mrs. Jenkins' son, a student at U.S.C., says:

"This is quite an occasion. You know it isn't every day that one of these things blossom—or that a man gets married, especially this man."

## H. B. Lewis Dies Here at 52 After Lengthy Illness

Masonic services for Harry Burton Lewis, 52, former executive secretary of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, were conducted Monday afternoon at Stone & Myers Funeral Chapel.

The former Chamber of Commerce official and leader in Boy Scout and youth work throughout the Harbor area died last Friday in County Harbor General Hospital following a long illness.

Unanimously elected vice-chairman of the Harbor District Executive Scout Committee in August of 1944, Lewis was credited with much of the success of the First Annual Torrance Invitational Boy Scout Circus and Jamboree, held here. The event drew more than 1000 Scouts.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Irene Lewis, his son Harry B. Jr., and daughter, Patricia Lewis, all of Torrance and his father, Alfred Lewis, Australia. Also surviving are his sister, Mrs. Dorothy Blevins, and a niece, Ruth Jane Duffy, both of San Francisco.

## Washington Urged to Halt Shutdown of Goodyear Plant

Telegrams, letters, and telephone calls to Washington were being fired from several local fronts this week in a move to block the closing of the Goodyear Synthetic Rubber plant on Normandie avenue.

The plant, owned by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, would be closed in favor of conducting the same operation in Houston, Texas, it was learned.

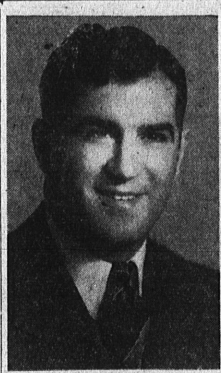
If the local plant were closed approximately 225 persons would face being dismissed. The plant has a yearly payroll of approximately \$650,000.

One of the organizations leading the "call to arms" against Washington authorities is the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local No. 235 to which many of the employees of the rubber plant belong.

The Torrance Chamber of Commerce has written all of the California Senators and Representatives urging the legislators to take action to halt the closing of the near-by plant.

Reason for closing the plant, it was learned, was due to the high cost of raw materials—principally butadiene. Standard Oil Company's refinery in El Segundo supplies Goodyear with butadiene, it is claimed.

Though 95 per cent of the synthetic rubber manufactured by Goodyear is used here on the west coast a reliable news source stated that the saving in the cost of raw materials, by manufacturing the rubber in Texas, would still be greater than would the freight bill to haul the rubber to the west coast.



**ELECTED . . .** Dr. Don C. Moshos was elected president of the Torrance Lions Club Thursday.

## Dr. Don Moshos Elected Head of Lions Club

Don C. Moshos, M.D., was elected president of Torrance Lions Club for the year starting July 1, 1949, at the meeting held yesterday in the Torrance Woman's Clubhouse. Dr. Moshos was first vice-president, and succeeds W. B. Hickey, banker, to the presidency.

Albert F. R. Ewald, banker, was elected first vice-president, and Paul Diamond, owner of The Gay Shop, second vice-president.

Re-elected secretary was Fred R. Boren and treasurer, Burt C. Locke Jr.

Tail Twister is Roy Peterson, of Valet Cleaners, and Lion Tamer, Herb Cohn, of Torrance Men's Shop.

John R. Ott, of Thatcher & Ott,

(Continued from Page 1)

## Two-Year-Old Hurts Arm in Auto Accident

Two-year-old Vernon J. Muehler, Jr., 25003 Pennsylvania avenue, suffered minor injuries about 6:30 p.m. Saturday when the car in which he was riding was involved in an accident with another driven by Richard Stuhle, 17, San Pedro, at the intersection of 250th street and Pennsylvania avenue, deputies reported.

The youngster, a passenger, in a car driven by his father, cut his right forearm in the smashup, officers said.



**WELCOME SIGNS!** . . . Out-of-towners as well as many newcomers are likely to appreciate the new street signs to be installed at 50 downtown intersections within a few weeks. Betty Townsend and Sally Hollomon are holding one of the sample signs.—Herald Photo by Bob Wilton.

## 'Of All People' Safety Exponent Says After Crash

Paul Loranger . . . swore on a stack of Bibles this high" last Saturday that he has spearheaded his last automobile safety campaign!

The owner of Paul's Chevrolet and local leader of the current nation-wide "Check Your Car, Check Accidents" campaign, was injured in an auto crash Saturday afternoon.

Loranger received cuts on the face and legs when his car collided with one being driven by Betty Ingraham, 30, 1021 Cravens avenue at 1 p.m. Saturday afternoon at Torrance boulevard and Madrid avenue, according to Sergeant G. S. Evans and Patrolman Don Nash, Torrance Police officers.

Also receiving minor injuries in crash was H. A. Boswell, of the Cravens avenue address. Loranger gave his address as 1448 Post avenue.

## Finding Streets Much Easier Now

Post avenue, as well as several other downtown streets will be well posted by the end of the month.

George Stevens, the city manager, said this week that the city had purchased 100 new black and white porcelain street signs for installation at 50 downtown intersections.

The signs, bearing the street name and block number, will be installed on lamp standards—two to a standard at the more important intersections in the main business section of town.

The city manager indicated that street signs for less busy intersections in residential areas was on the agenda for future action but added that it would be sometime before the expense of putting the signs in these areas would be justified.

The new signs cost eight dollars per intersection plus installation costs, he said.

## APARTMENTS TO RISE

Granting of a permit for \$25,000 for an apartment house at 316 Paseo De La Playa, was made to John Scanlan, owner, by Building Inspector John Patrick early this week.

## FROLIC GROUP MEETS

Prospective committee chairman for the 1949 Factory Frolic will meet at 9:30 a.m. Monday at the Chamber of Commerce to map plans for this year's event, announced Dean Sears chairman of the ways and means committee.

The event will be held Sept. 14-18.

## Keno-Skill Quiz Game Operators Seek License

Permission is being sought this week by a Long Beach attorney to operate a game, "Keno-Skill Quiz," within the downtown area, it was learned yesterday.

The game, a combination of bingo and a radio quiz contest would be sponsored by the V. F. W., according to Jess Dean, commander of the local post.

Attorney C. Hanson Samuelson, representing the American Amusement Company, said the game was entirely legal. He stated that various legal authorities including several top state men had said the game was legal as long as the game was "run on the up and up."

The American Amusement Company is operating similar games in Northern California, according to Al Culbard, who said he was the owner of the company.

The game, explained Lawyer Samuelson, is not a gamble. He explained that there were three sets of questions.

One question, a running contest much similar to the "Talking Man" contest of radio fame; a set of general quiz questions which may be answered by anyone in the audience; and a set of queries intended for the "players."

Anyone who knew the answer could win a prize—such as a new suit. A person who had purchased a card, similar to those used in playing bingo and who filled a row of numbers across the card before anyone else would be given the opportunity of answering the question first, he explained.

Samuelson said that monetary prizes ranging from five to 25 dollars would be offered also.

It was rumored that the amusement company if successful in their attempts to be issued a permit would seek a lease on a store building in the central downtown area.

Profits from the games, derived from the sale of cards, at 10 cents or three for a quarter, would be used by VFW to pay off the new meeting hall on Washington avenue.

As yet however, no permit has been sought from Dale Riley, registrar of business licenses. Riley stated he would refer the matter to the city council when and if a business license is requested.

## Six Playgrounds Open Monday for Summer Months

Playgrounds—six of them, will open Monday morning with full-time supervisors on hand at each playground, it was announced this week by Rex Welsh, director of the summer program.

Following a meeting of the Recreation Commission Monday night the final and approved list of playground directors was announced.

Hired for the three month program were:

Lester Clements, Perry School teacher; D. Boone Kirks, principal of Waleria School; Cliff Graybehl, high school coach; Elmer Moon, city sports director; Lloyd Jones, Dorothea Balloch, and William Lewis, all teachers at Fern Avenue School; Don Robinson, Marlo Rose, and Jeanette Probert, all university students; Doris Avis and Betty Schaefer, both physical education instructors at Torrance High School; and Myrna Lou Fossum, recent graduate of Whittier College.

Jay Stroth son of police chief John Stroth and a physical education student will stand-by for "fill-in" duty as will Jean Lancaster, a teacher at Jefferson High School.

George Whiting, president of the student body of Torrance High School, will act as secretary to the director.

Opening under the joint sponsorship of the city and the Torrance Unified School District, the following six locations will open from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. beginning Monday:

Waleria Park, Torrance City Park, Torrance Elementary School, Fern Avenue School, Per-

(Continued on Page 3)

## Largest Class In THS History To Graduate

Torrance High School's 33rd Annual Commencement, honoring the class of June 1949, the largest in the history of the school, will be held in the school auditorium tonight at 8 p.m., according to John Steinbaugh, principal.

The program includes a student symposium lead by Lorna Isen, salutatorian, and Don Zurschmitt, valedictorian. The other student speakers include George Whiting, Barbara Specht, Onal Harris and Beverly Luster. The students will speak on the subject "A Date With the World."

Dick Turner, class president, will present the class gift to the school.

Music for the occasion will be provided by the school orchestra with Abe Milstein, director of music for the Torrance Unified School District, conducting.

Max Robinson, senior student will direct the singing of the class song and the Alma Mater. Invocation and Benediction will be given by Rev. Paul C. Wenske, pastor of the First Lutheran Church.

Principal Steinbaugh will present the class of 144 graduates to Superintendent of Schools Dr. J. Henrich Hull.

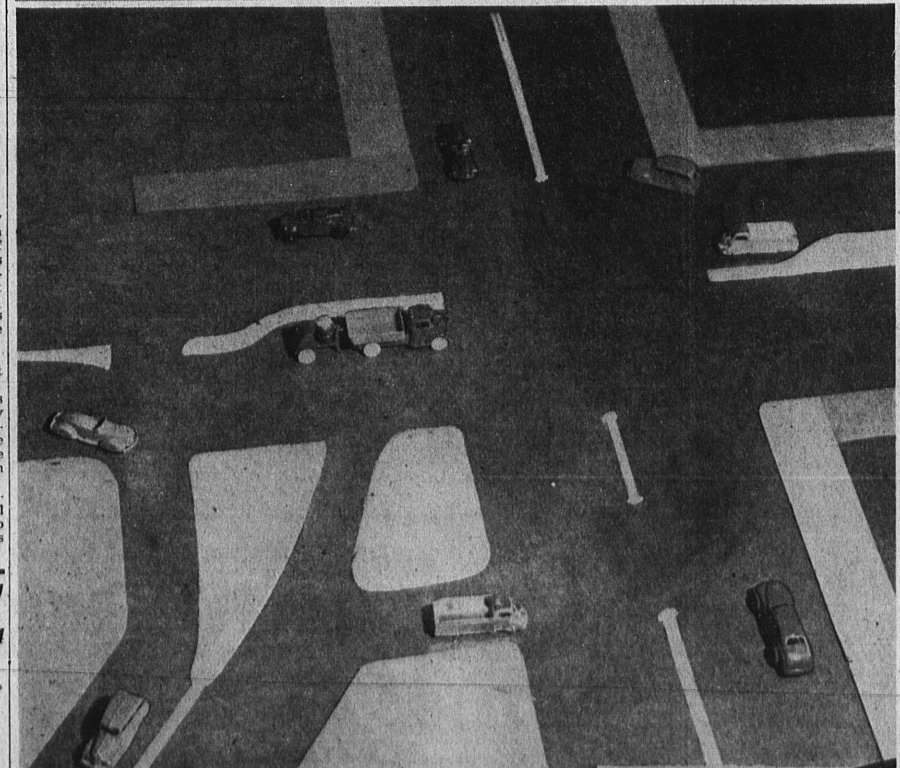
Dr. Howard A. Wood, president of the Board of Education will present the diplomas.

Awarding of other honors will include the presentation to Barbara Specht of three awards—the gold seal of an honor graduate, the D.A.R.—Citizenship Award, and the Danforth Award for Christian Leadership.

Other students to receive special awards include:

Lorna Isen, Beverly Luster, Pauline Ban, and Don Zurschmitt, gold seal awards as honor graduates; Don Zurschmitt,

(Continued from Page 1)



**MODEL CORNER . . .** This model prepared by the Torrance Herald from a plan submitted by the Auto Club of Southern California shows how traffic at five-points intersection (Cabrillo avenue, Cravens avenue and Carson street) will be routed to allow all lanes to cross one another at right angles and thereby eliminate the existing infamous "gunzel trap." City street crews are scheduled to begin work on the intersection this week. —Photo-gram by Torrance Herald.

## ON THE INSIDE

You're missing a chance—a chance to save a life—if you don't take advantage of the opportunity offered in a story titled "In High Gear." See page ten.

Not only does life on land and sea have its "ups and downs," but so also it goes UNDER the sea. See story titled "Dish Sea Diver Has Ups and Downs" on page five.

Churches . . . . . 18  
Classified . . . . . 21-23  
Comics . . . . . 20  
Crossword . . . . . 20  
Hospital Cases . . . . . 6  
Scouting Around . . . . . 17  
Seaside Ranchos . . . . . 17  
Sports . . . . . 4  
Storkstories . . . . . 6  
Woman's Activities . . . . . 13-24