

CHARGE CHILDREN BEING CHEATED

Legislator Blasts Topheavy Payroll

The number of persons employed by the recreation dept. of this city came in for sharp criticism at a special meeting of the city council last Friday night.

City Manager George Stevens informed the council, after being asked by Councilman Victor E. Benstead, that there are seven full-time and seven part-time employees on the payroll of the recreation dept. at this time.

Benstead, pointing out that there is virtually no program for Torrance youngsters during the winter months, stated that he felt two persons could very easily run the department at this time of the year.

He charged that the children are being short-changed, while the adult program gets all the attention of the recreation experts. Another councilman pointed out that nearly 70 per cent of the recreation department's annual budget is used to pay salaries. How, it was asked, can a good recreation program be established for the children, when most of the money allocated was used to pay wages?

At another recent meeting of the council, former recreation commission member, Tom Babbitt, charged that the recreation dept. does not represent the interests of the people as a whole and does not appear as an integral and important part of city government.

He recommended tighter control of the recreation dept. by the city council.

In action Friday, the council, after considerable debate, appropriated \$1,000 for Christmas parties to be staged at four Torrance parks.

Awards Party at Adult Recreation Center Tuesday

A combined social and awards party will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 8, beginning at 6:30 p. m. at the Adult Recreation Center on Cravens Ave.

Awards for top honors in horse-shoe shuffle board competitions will be made. H. L. Baldwin will be given top prize in horse-shoes. Ernest Krig is runner-up. Harry Larman took top place honors for shuffle board singles, and Clara Witmer and John Raynor will receive an award for winning in the shuffle board doubles contest.

Refreshments will be served. Indoor games including cards, checkers, and chess will follow.

Howard Percy Elected Head of Realty Board

Howard Percy was this week named 1953 president of the Torrance-Lomita Realty Board. He succeeds C. J. "Paddy" Ryan.

Elected to serve with Percy were



Edith Smith, vice president, and Perry Connett, who was re-elected secretary-treasurer. Mrs. Smith succeeds Gerald Altier.

A new slate of directors was named at last Friday's meeting of the realty group. Named to serve: H. V. Peterson, W. E. Bowen, Harry Bowker, and Jack Pettit. Installation of officers is slated for sometime next month. W. E. Bowen is in charge of arrangements for the ceremonies. He will be assisted by Ryan.

10,000 Attend El Camino Homecoming

Nearly 10,000 alumni and students celebrated El Camino Junior College's Homecoming Day at the school's stadium, between halves of a football game with East Los Angeles Junior College on Saturday.

The celebration included a float parade keyed to the theme, "Children's Stories." Sally Harday, 18, the college's "Cinderella Queen" and her princesses, Lois Weber and Elaine Tillman, both 19, led the procession.

Grand float prize was won by the Phi Sigma Upsilon entry, "Ferdinand the Bull."

Work Begun On \$1,000,000 Carson Plant

Work got under way last week on the first unit of a \$1,000,000 aluminum smelting plant for the Apex Smelting Co. at 2211 E. Carson St., in the Carson district.

The plant, which will convert scrap aluminum into ingots for commercial use, is scheduled to be completed by next Jan. 30.

It will be of structural steel, 180 by 300 feet, with corrugated aluminum siding and roofing. Ten feet of space will be provided between the floors and walls to facilitate ventilation through roof openings. A 40 by 80-foot office will feature concrete tilt-up slab construction.

The plant will have a six-truck dock area and railroad dock space capable of holding six more. Complete laboratory facilities will be installed. Designer and builder is the H. E. Ferguson Co.

Midnight Chase Ends in Crash; Two Arrested

A smash-up and arrest of two youths ended an 80-mile-an-hour chase that started here and ended in Redondo Beach shortly after midnight on Thanksgiving. One of the arrested youths, driver of the auto, escaped while being treated at Harbor General Hospital for injuries received in the accident.

Torrance police officers Dave Cook and Bill Mitchell reported that a 17-year-old Hawthorne youth, Donald Lee Simons, who was cited for speeding and evading arresting officers, quietly slipped out of the hospital receiving ward while police were completing investigation of the crash scene.

Arrested by Redondo Beach police on suspicion of robbery charge was Ernest H. Scott, 18, of Lawndale, who police said has a record of robbery charges. Scott escaped injury in the crash.

The Torrance officers first spotted Simons' auto traveling at a high rate of speed near 182nd St. and Prairie Ave., and chased the car for over a mile to 182nd and Inglewood Ave. before they caught up with the fugitives after the car careened off the road and into a telephone pole guy wire.

Where there is no vision, the people perish; but he that keepeth the law, happy is he —Proverbs

Caution Urged

Christmas Fire Hazard Great Chief Benner Says

The Christmas season is rapidly approaching, and with it will come the usual fire hazards. In order that Torrance residents may enjoy a safe and happy holiday, Fire Chief J. J. Benner urges all citizens to be aware of the fire problem and to follow these suggestions.

There will be a heavy invoice of merchandise in all of our stores and markets. This heavy stock of merchandise will likewise bring about large quantities of highly combustible packing materials and cartons which will present a greater than normal hazard in our mercantile districts. The chief recommends that these highly combustible packing materials be disposed of as soon as possible. Do not allow them to accumulate in large quantities.

There will probably be a tendency to install a considerable amount of decorative materials, particularly in places of public assembly, and these concerns should use only non-flammable or fire-retardant decorations, including Christmas trees.

As the Christmas holiday season approaches, we are again confronted with the hazard of flammable Christmas trees, decorations and combustible packing materials in the home.

Fresh Tree
In selecting your Christmas tree, make sure that it has not been allowed to dry. Green trees do not burn rapidly but when the

needles become dry they burn intensely. Keep the tree fresh by making a new cut across the base and submerging it in a can of fresh water. Select a location away from any heating device and where it will not block an exitway. Anchor the tree so that it will not be easily knocked over, and by all means, remove the tree before the needles get dry.

Tree Lighting
Electrical plugs, sockets, and the wiring of all Christmas tree lights should be carefully checked to insure that there are no cracks or loose connections in the fittings and that there are no breaks or frayed spots in the wire insulation. In purchasing new wiring, insist upon Underwriters' Laboratories approved material.

Observance of these simple rules will do much to make your holiday season an enjoyable one, Chief Benner concluded.

Vision is the art of seeing things invisible. —Swift

Gift Drawing to Celebrate Universal's Re-opening

A deluxe Magic Chef kitchen range tops the list of 21 prizes that will be given away in a drawing that will climax Universal's remodeling and expansion celebration. The drawing is slated for Friday, Dec. 19, at 8 p. m. at the store.

Second and third prizes are a Youngstown dish washer and a Sealy Posture-pedic mattress. There are 18 other awards.

Torrance City Clerk Albert H. Bartlett will be master of ceremonies at the drawing. A number of other civic notables will also be in attendance.

Bartlett, known to many as "Bart," has been a Torrance resident for nearly forty years. He was elected city clerk in 1922, and has served continuously since that time.

John Gerster, manager of Universal, has invited all Torrance residents to enter the drawing. There is no obligation, he said,

and entry is made by simply picking up a ticket at the store, filling it out, and dropping the stub in a large barrel at the store. Universal Furniture is located at 1317 Sartori ave.

TEAC Meet Set

Report on the P-TA-sponsored dental clinic and progress report on the school's building program will be made at next Monday's meeting of TEAC.

Meeting will be held at 12 noon in the YWCA clubhouse, 2320 Carson St. Dr. Howard A. Wood will serve as moderator.

No Down Payment at Lawson's

BUY NOW FOR CHRISTMAS - PAY NEXT YEAR - NO CARRYING CHARGE - No Extras

\$2.50 Weekly
\$125.00 Heart Lock 10-diamond duet in 14K gold. Rings may be worn together or separately.

DIAMOND COMBINATION
Beautifully matched in 14-K white or yellow gold. Solitaire styling. Both for **\$100**
\$2.00 WEEKLY

DIAMOND BRIDAL SET
Exquisite design. Flery 10 diamonds in 14-K white or yellow gold. Both for **\$175**
\$3.50 WEEKLY

\$5.00 Weekly
\$250.00 Heart Lock 11-diamond bridal combination in exquisitely designed 14K gold mounts. BOTH

Diamond Onyx Ring
With your initial. **19.95**
50c Weekly

2-DIAMOND MOUNTING
Modernize your old Diamond Ring in 14K white or yellow gold mounting. **24.95**
\$1.00 Weekly

1/4 Carat 5-Diamonds
5 Flery Diamonds enhance this 14-K Gold Wedding Ring. **\$69.50**
1.50 Weekly

Hamilton Diamond Watch
Exquisitely styled with 1 1/2 flery diamonds, 17 jewels, 14K gold. **\$195**
\$4.00 Weekly

Man's Diamond
69.50
\$1.25 Weekly

ELGIN
From **33.75**
\$1.00 Weekly

LADIES' BULOVA
New! Bulova Bracelet watch in natural gold color. **49.50**
\$1.00 Weekly

Ladies' Birthstone Rings
Birthstone rings with your birthstone. Both for Her or Him. Real value. **14.95**
Easy Terms - 50c Weekly

DIAMOND EARRINGS
Beautiful earrings, 14K gold. Pierced or non-pierced. **59.00**
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GRUEN
From **29.75**
\$1.00 Weekly

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From **29.75**
\$1.00 Weekly

WIDE WEDDING RING
Ladies' or man's 14K white or yellow gold wedding ring, orange blossom design. **24.95**
\$1.00 Weekly

PARKER PENS & PENCILS
Gifts for Her or Him. Large selection in all makes from **\$8.75**
Sets from 50c Weekly

FOLDEX "20" CAMERA
Complete with films, bulbs, flash unit batteries, case, instruction book. **29.95**
\$1.00 Weekly

LONGINES
From **71.50**
\$1.50 Weekly

Hamilton
From **49.50**
\$1.00 Weekly

49-PC. WM. ROGERS
Beautiful design. Service for 8. **29.75**
\$1.00 Weekly

DRESSER SETS
The ideal gift for "Her". Various colors to choose from. **\$9.95**
All Next Year to Pay

TOASTMASTER
Automatic "pop-up" toaster. Perfect toast every time. **\$23**
\$1.00 Weekly

17 Jewels
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50c Weekly

Lay-Away Now for Christmas — No Deposit Required — All Next Year to Pay — No Money Down — No Carrying Charges — No Extras

OPEN EVERY NIGHT TILL XMAS FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

SCHICK ELECTRIC SHAVERS
24.50
\$1.00 Weekly Complete with case

Lawson's JEWELLERS
1317 EL PRADO
Phone Torrance 3181 TORRANCE

New! Deluxe REMINGTON ELECTRIC SHAVERS
29.50
\$1.00 Weekly



CHRISTMAS IS HERE—Festive scrolls, shiny stars, and gay colored lights mark the downtown streets as Christmas approaches. The garlands were this week hung over Sartori and El Prado aves. by the Jones Decorating Co. Nearly \$2,000 was spent by the Retail Merchants Division of the Chamber of Commerce to make this Torrance's most festive Christmas season.

SPECIAL! YOUR CHOICE

POP UP TOASTER NOW FOR **\$9.95** REG. 14.95

ELECTRIC IRON NOW FOR **\$13.95** REG. 13.95

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