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HALF PINT AND KING SIZE: Santas were out in full force at the Christmas party given last week by the Torrance Junior Women's Club. The several hundred children who were guests at the party were delighted by the program, the gifts and the refreshments. At the left, one and a half year old Craig Carlson, with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Don C. Carlson of 2425 Faircross st., sits on his father's lap and intently watches the holiday entertainment, which included a marionette show. At right, Torrance's Santa is seen in a more conventional posi-



tion with two children sitting on his lap waiting eagerly as he reaches into his sack for their presents. The party was arranged by a committee consisting of Mrs. John A. Hall, Mrs. James Shellabarger, Mrs. John K. Mallery, Mrs. Elgin Logsdon, Mrs. Frank Neff, Mrs. Thomas Halasey, Mrs. Philip Hoffman, Mrs. George Stevens and Mrs. Don Carlson. The children brought gifts to be distributed to Navajo Indian children.—Press Photos by Phil Columbus



CASIMIR CHRISTMAS PLAY: The Casimir Elementary School Drama Clubs and chorus presented an adaptation of the Christmas story, "Why the Chimes Rang," for the PTA last week. The groups worked together under the direction of Mrs. Sue Rozum and Vernon

Clary, teachers at the schools. The school chorus, directed by Dan Kelly and accompanied by Mrs. Thelma Wright, provided musical effects. Pictured above in a scene from the play are Toni Sheets, Karen Avery, and Harvey Smith.



HELPING HANDS: To raise money for Torrance's float entry in the Tournament of Roses parade, members of the Southwest Civic Association washed cars last week at the Mobil Station at Hawthorne Blvd. and Del Amo Ave.

Hard at work were, from left to right: Mrs. Jack Erving, Mrs. Phil D'Addario, Mrs. John Jurco, Mrs. Leo Fischer, Mrs. Louis Bisou, Mrs. Warren Pancake; and Mrs. Robert Mason.

Torrance Float Designer Called Mrs. Rose Parade

As Mrs. Isabella Coleman of white-haired grandmother lays claim to very little fame. But as Mrs. Rose Parade, this amazing woman is known to millions who love flowers, love parades, and therefore love the Tournament of Roses. For Mrs. Coleman as Mrs. Rose Parade, world-famed designer and builder of Rose Parade floats, has won a major prize every year since 1910 and has won more sweepstakes and grand prizes than any other designer. She is now designing the float that will represent Torrance in the Rose Bowl Parade, January 1.

It all started when Mrs. Coleman worked on a Tournament of Roses float at the old Pasadena High School under the direction of Principal LeRoy Ely in 1904. She became so proficient at the job that she was soon designing her own floats. In 1910 she won second prize with her first float, a flower-bedecked "one horse shay". Her first sweepstakes prize came in 1915 which founded her reputation. Her 1915 float was the City of Los Angeles entry. When she arrived the man in charge of the float was dismayed. "There must be some mis-

take," he said. "We wanted a man—and you're just a girl." "The Tournament sent me," Mrs. Coleman replied. "I can build your float and decorate it, too." She did and, at 22, Mrs. Coleman was on her way to becoming Mrs. Rose Parade. **THREE GENERATIONS** There are now three generations of float builders in the family. Mrs. Coleman's two sons, one a doctor, and the other a dentist, also design and build floats. And they have now been joined by Mrs. Coleman's 12-year-old granddaughter, termed "a very good worker" by Mrs. Rose Parade.

Mrs. Coleman has won the Grand Prize for two years straight with the Occidental Life Insurance Company's float. This year she is again designing and building Occidental Life's float to try for an unprecedented third consecutive Grand Prize. The Grand Prize is awarded to the Parade's most beautiful commercially sponsored entry. Mrs. Rose Parade begins building her floats by drawing a chalk line on the cement floor of a huge Pasadena quonset hut that houses the floats. From then on, welders shape the birds, flowers, crowns and what have you—following a blueprint, a detailed drawing and Mrs. Coleman's instructions. Her floats are distinguished by their delicate flowing lines and feathery effects. Her favorite "float flowers" are roses and orchids.

Bill Piercy Re-elected Union Head

Bill Piercy Jr., 1731 Fern Ave., was re-elected president of the Marine Clerks Association, Local 63, without opposition in the annual December election last week.

It was the first time in the history of the 600 member harbor union that a president had been unopposed for re-election two years running. Piercy is also a member of his union's International Executive Board. All officers elected will be installed at the Wilmington V.F.W. hall next Thursday evening in ceremonies slated to get under way at 7:30 p.m. The other elected officials were from Long Beach, Wilmington and San Pedro.

Piercy, who has resided in Torrance since 1947, was the only officer to run without opposition. At the present time he is president of the Harbor Area Democratic Club and a member of the Wilmington Masonic lodge.

When the Rose Parade is over Mrs. Coleman takes a long vacation, after which she starts thinking about next year's Rose Parade. In June it starts all over again—and Mrs. Coleman is on her way to nailing down more prizes.

Name U.S. Steel Executive to Lead Engineering Group

W. H. Cates, Contracting Manager—Hydraulic Sales, Consolidated Western Steel Corporation, was installed last week as the new president of the American Society of Civil Engineers for the Los Angeles Section. Cates, whose term of office is for one year, has been very active in the American Society of Civil Engineers since 1925, as well as a number of other professional organizations. These are the American Water Works Association, National Association of Corrosion Engineers, and the Society of American Military Engineers.

THEY MADE IT!

Torrance Youth Band Leaves For Chicago

Four months of fund collecting and uncertainty ended for 72 members of the Torrance Area Youth Band Sunday night when they boarded United Airline planes taking them to Chicago and the Midwest Band Clinic. The elated band, accompanied by five chaperones, mothers of some of the band members, clambered a board the planes after working almost to the last minute to raise the necessary funds for the trip.

Fast Police Work Nabs Two Bandits

Two men who held up the El Rancho liquor store at 3217 Pacific Coast hwy., Saturday morning were apprehended ten minutes later by Torrance police. The men, William H. Seager, 34, of Los Angeles, and Samuel Stubbs, 36, of Redondo Beach, were nabbed by Torrance Police officers Vincent Davey and James Doyle after a brief chase along Crenshaw Blvd. Davey and Doyle took out after the pair when they failed to make a stop at Sepulveda and Crenshaw Blvd., as they sped away from the liquor store. Once they stopped the men at Crenshaw and Jefferson, Doyle and Davey searched the getaway car, found a pistol in the glove compartment and arrested the pair. After they were brought to the Torrance jail in the police patrol car, Davey searched the back of the patrol car and found \$390 stuffed down under the back seat. The \$393 had been stolen from

Howard Foot, manager of the El Rancho Liquor store. Foot identified the pair at the police station and told police that Seager and Stubbs had forced him to reopen the store just as he was closing up at 2 p.m. At the point of a gun, Foot was ordered into the back room and told to "hand over the loot." Foot handed over a box containing the night's receipts. Foot called police as soon as the two men jumped into their car parked near the store. Doyle and Davey, alerted by the police radio, cruised down Crenshaw toward the scene of the robbery. When they saw the speeding car go through the stop sign, they took after them. At the police station, Seager and Stubbs were identified as the two men who had been caught in a washroom in Scotty's Department store at Crenshaw and 174 st. on December 4. The two men were both out on bond for their appearance in court Monday morning.

Hahn Proposes Overhaul of County Road Department

A full scale management and efficiency study of the County Road Department by an outstanding, outside independent management firm was urged today by County Supervisor Kenneth Hahn as a means of speeding up road construction projects, reducing overhead and administrative costs and increasing overall efficiency. A motion by Supervisor Hahn instructing the chief administrative officer to recommend one of the nationally known management consultant firms to conduct the study and to prepare an estimate of the cost was approved by the Board of Supervisors, 3 to 1. Voting in favor of the motion were Supervisors Hahn, Warren M. Dorn and John Anson Ford. Only Supervisor Burton W. Chace voted against the proposed study. "I am convinced that it is time for a complete overhaul of the County Road Department

so that the taxpayers will be assured of the maximum return for their money," Supervisor Hahn declared. He continued that he was becoming more and more concerned with the costly delays in getting projects out to contract and the lack of coordinated and effective planning within the County Road Department. "I think that the whole operation of the County Road Department needs to be reviewed and re-evaluated and we need to have more information about how the Road Department uses approximately \$40,000,000 a year in gas tax funds and other revenue, and why large sums of this money are carried over every year," Hahn stated. The recommendation for the hiring of the outside firm to conduct the study will be submitted to the Board in four weeks, according to Supervisor Hahn's motion.

Town Topics

EIGHT-YEAR OLD Gary went to the Christmas party for blind children Saturday, thanks to readers of the Press. The boy, son of a Torrance resident, had no way of getting to the Foundation for the Junior Blind party because his father was working that day. Six Torrance residents called the Press office to volunteer to take Gary. They made Gary's day brighter, and they cheered the hearts of everyone at the Press.

ONE OF THE VOLUNTEERS was a merchant mariner who had just returned to his family after a long sea voyage. He was scheduled to go back to sea in a few days but was willing to give up several hours with his family to take Gary to the party. Such selfishness makes one believe that there's still hope for the future of this world, no matter what the headlines about missiles and Sputniks say.

TORRANCE POSTMAS- Clara Conner doesn't know what to make of the lack of business at the Post Office. At this time last year, the office was piled high with packages and lights burned far into the night. This year, some mysterious reason or reasons, mail is trickling into the post office and trickling out. Mrs. Conner, however, expects an upturn in business next week as the deadline on getting packages to the east nears. It still takes a week for a package to get to the east coast, and the Torrance postmaster fears that many people will wait until the last minute to do their Christmas mailing.

AIR POLLUTION inspectors from Los Angeles County used their noses last week to figure out the cause of the stench that just about swept people in North Torrance off their feet. Inspector Joseph C. Calhoun braved the overpowering odor, and poked around the excavation at Spencer st. and Amie Ave. He determined that excavators had uncovered an old oil sump that had ripened through the years. Acid was used to counteract the ripening process.

RESERVATIONS for the testimonial luncheon for City Manager George Stevens are coming in at a fast clip. George Bradford, chairman of the Chamber of Commerce committee sponsoring the event announced. Stevens will be dined and lauded at the luncheon, to be held Wednesday, January 15, at noon in the Plush House, in honor of his tenth anniversary as city manager.

Announce Santa Claus Schedule

Torrance's Santa Claus will be at the following locations from Monday, December 16 through Tuesday, December 24. Monday: 9:12 and 1:6 on float in front of McMahan's Furniture, 1306 Sartori. Tuesday 9:12 and 1:6 On float in front of Bank of America, 1255 Sartori; 8:30, Underprivileged children on Plaza Del Amo (next to the Board of Education) Wednesday 9:12 and 1:6 On float at Clark's Market (Walteria)—Hawthorne Blvd. and Pacific Coast highway; 8:45, Ann Olson Dancing School Christmas Party. Thursday 2:3, Harbor General Hospital; 3:45 On float at Fox Market, 1321 Post. Friday 11:1-3:30, Howard Wood School; 1:30-2:30, Harbor General Hospital; 2:30-3:30, Rolling Hills (will land by helicopter, Palos Verdes and Western); 3:30-6 and 6:30-7:15 On float at Baer's Draperies, 1512 Cravens. Saturday 9:12, Strand Theatre for Plasterers Union; 1:30-6 On float at Marys Color Bar, 1422 Marcelina; 8:30, Slim Edwards Music Studios. Monday 9:12 and 1:30-6:30 On float at Thriftymart in Southwood Shopping Center, Sepulveda and Palos Verdes (Southwood) Tuesday 9:12, and 1:30-6:30 On float at Torrance Hardware, 1513-1515 Cabrillo. Santa will pass out "goodies," courtesy of Downtown Retail Merchants Division of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

Recreation Dept. Yule Play to Be Given This Week

Attending "The Christmas Legend" at the Civic Auditorium has become a tradition with many families in Torrance. The third annual production of the original play written and directed by Mrs. Patricia Bennett will be presented Thursday, December 19, and Saturday, December 21 at 7:30 p.m. The Recreation Department invites children and adults to attend these free performances this Christmas season.

Ask Adoption Of Hospital Ward Patients

A chance for groups to "Adopt A Ward" or for individuals to aid less fortunate individuals was made available with the announcement the Volunteers Auxiliary of Harbor General Hospital is seeking active support in plans for a Christmas celebration at the hospital. Under the "Adopt A Ward" program planned by the women of the Auxiliary, groups could, for a minimum cost, brighten Christmas Day for 30 to 33 patients at a time. The hospital would furnish such sponsoring groups with the names and ages of all patients in the ward to be "adopted," making it possible for the group to provide individual type presents.

Catholic Group To Provide Gifts

The St. Vincent de Paul Society will provide hundreds of gifts for the Little Flower Missionary House, Convent of the Good Shepherd, Helpers of Holy Souls, Holy Family Convent, and other Catholic institutions at Christmas.