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Traffic Officer Letter to Santa judgment and patience.

MAKE IT BRIGHT

on someone's door. Santa.

new life and the new beginning in Christmas, not the

dark and somber wreath of death which has hung on the

homes of so many traffic victims at Christmas time in

In closing, Santa, I'd like

With best wishes for your

Torrance Police Department

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buy, rent or sell. Phone DA 5-1515.

Your Traffic Officer

years gone by.

And if you hang a wreath

I realize that I'm asking Leave him a bright candle for an awful lot this year; perhaps more than even you can give, but since this is not a selfish request, I'm sure you'll do your best to fulfill wheel; and to light his way As we once again celebrate the darkness of the night.

the birth of The Prince of Give every pedestrian a Peace, bring to every driver candy cane of caution that he the spirit of brotherhood to may walk with care and almake him considerate and ways reach his destination thoughtful of his fellow mot- without accident or injury. orists, now and in the new year just ahead.

JUDGMENT AND SKILL Fill his Christmas stocking please make it a bright and with great driving skill, good shiny one representing the

**U.S. Homeowners Invest Billions** In Improvements

Builders and home owners to ask you to be especially throughout the United States careful yourself this year; so have invested some \$28.5 bil- many drivers just don't reallion in new homes and im- ize they could kill Santa provements during the past Claus. year, according to a report by the Gas Appliance Manu- safety, facturers Association.

Despite a decrease in new home construction, the re port noted, a total of \$15 billion was invested in new homes while an additional \$12 billion went to improving existing dwellings during the 12-month period.

Continued popularity of gas appliances was reflected in total investment of \$1.5 billion by builders and homeowners in residential gas equipment installations since last fall.

This popularity was particularly evident in Southern California where approximately 85% of new homes built during the year were gas-equipped Great Builder Series dwellings, according to H. C. Ley, division sales manager for the Southern California. Gas Company.

"Interest in Great Builder Series homes has continued at near record levels," Ley said, "because such features as their compact, efficient gas appliances result in homes that are superior in terms of livability, space and arrangement."

Ley also based Great Builder Series popularity on the fact that builders are constructing homes which are "immeasurably better than pre-1950 types, without any appreciable spiraling of home prices."

Thermonuclear **Control Device** Subject of Quest

An encouraging advance in the quest for a controlled thermonuclear reaction was announced recently by scientists at the University of California Lawrence Radiation Laboratory, Livermore. The Laboratory is operated by the University for the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission.

Confinements of a deuterium (heavy hydrogen) plasma for about a thousandth of a second at a temperature of 60 million degrees Fahrenheit weer reported by physicists Frederic H. Coensgen, William E. Nexsen Jr., William F. Cummins, and Arthur E. Sherman.

Performed with a "magnet-ic mirror machine," the experiments are significant because of the relatively long confinement time achieved with deuterium ions at such high temperatures.

The confinement times, according to the scientists, are a thousand times longer than would be possible if the plasma in the magnetic field generated by the machine were unstable. Apaprently the confinement time at present is limited only by the period during which the magnetic field is maintained.

Two stages
The physicists also indicated that their present experimental device consists of only two stages of a planned three-stage machine which should produce even hotter plasmas and hold them for longer times.

The thermonuclear reaction on which the experiments were based involves the fusion of two deuterium ions to produce a helium-3 ion and a neutron, with a release of 3.25 million electron volts of energy in the process.

Successful achievement of practical controlled thermonuclear reactions would provide the world with a virtual ly unlimited source of power, since out of every 5000 hydrogen atoms in the water of the oceans is a deuterium

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