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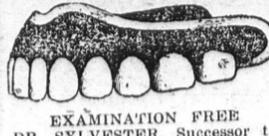
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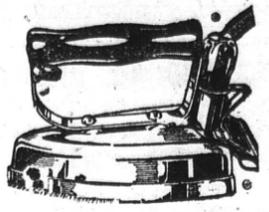
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TORRANCE NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Kite and children were dinner guests, Sunday, of their aunt, Mrs. J. W. Strickland, at Sierra Madre.

A Book of Verses and Bough; a Jug of Wine, a Loaf of Bread, and Thou; and pleasures many there will be when a Florence Oil Stove I can see—In my kitchen. Ask "Hardware" Reeve, Torrance.

Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Ackley, of Andreo avenue, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. H. V. Jaanes in Long Beach, over Sunday.

Mrs. H. C. Ainsworth, of Andreo avenue, was a guest last week of her mother, Mrs. Edith Simoneau, of Los Angeles.

Mr. and Mrs. James T. Wise, of Gamercy avenue, are expecting Mr. and Mrs. Walter Swindle and son of Deming, New Mexico, April 1st, to visit them. They expect to locate in Torrance.

Persuasion is reason plus enthusiasm, with the emphasis on enthusiasm. Say, we're enthusiastic about our pocket knives an dcarving sets. "Hardware" Reeve, Torrance.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Hannabrink and children, with Mr. and Mrs. Edward Ruweler and children, of Moneta, motored to Fillmore and looked over ranch land that Mr. Ruweler contemplates purchasing. They all enjoyed a picnic dinner.

If you stand around waiting for something to turn up, you may be turned upside down. When in the market for garden tools ask "Hardware" Reeve, Torrance.

The young people of the Baptist church will have a social, Friday evening, March 31st, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Kern, on Normandie avenue, near Gardena. They will meet at the church at 7:30 and all go on the Pacific Electric.

O. E. S. CARD PARTY

The Torrance Chapter of the O. E. S. No. 240, will hold a card party on the evening of April 6th at the home of Mrs. Pheabe Sykes, on Cota avenue, Torrance. A social evening at Mrs. Sykes home is always looked forward to with pleasure.

"VAMPS" WHO MADE HISTORY
By JAMES C. YOUNG.

(© by McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

THE OLD WOMAN WHO RULED A YOUNG KING.

WHEN young Henry II came to the throne of France in 1547 he was completely under the subjection of a woman fifteen years older than himself. But Diane de Poitiers ranked as one of the beauties of her day until an old woman, and throughout the life of the king she maintained her hold over him. She seemed to have discovered the secret of perpetual youth, which probably meant that she took excellent care of herself in a physical way, something unknown at that time.

Henry was only eighteen when he first met Diane. He was the second son of Francis I, and gossips would have us believe that she had already been loved by the father. However that may have been, she was a widow and a wonderfully beautiful woman. She easily enslaved Henry, who soon became the dauphin through the death of his brother, and then the king. Diane's power was unlimited, and, although she would appear to have liked Henry well enough, she turned her hand to enrichment of herself and relatives. The old, old story was repeated, of raids on the public treasury, heavy taxes, and a groaning populace. Diane heeded the storms of life very little. She kept Henry's queen, Catherine de Medici, in the background, and ruled things as her fancy dictated. But the little Catherine, an Italian, bided her time to be avenged. Undoubtedly Diane knew her feelings. She was a woman to her finger tips.

Throughout his life King Henry was a man torn between good and bad resolutions. A great hunter, he neglected affairs of state, and Diane managed them as she liked, always with an eye to the benefit of herself and friends. Then Henry would give up the chase and sedulously devote himself to the nation's business. At such times Diane tried to distract him with amusements, warning him that he worked too hard and must enjoy himself more. Whenever Henry turned, Diane was ever there before him, with a quicker wit and the ability to overreach him.

When Henry died Catherine came into power, as her sons were all young. Her first action was to banish Diane. Then she forced her to return much of the wealth she had seized, even including some of the crown jewels. And so long as Diane lived, Catherine never forgave the king's mistress, but followed her with spiteful revenge. Who may say what her own heart had experienced in the dark years when Diane smiled and nodded beside the throne?

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