Live In Torrance

The Torrance Herald

Buy In Torrance

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EX-COP, IS HELD UP, SHOOTS BANDIT

Glass Factory Will Start With Two Hundred Men Next January

W. L. Booth Lauds Men

Set Date for Election

GUN AIMER RECEIVES BULLET

Ora Singer, Lomita, Shoots With Bandit's Pistol Muzzle in His Ribs

N. Y. BANDIT IS FOILED

Seeks Silver From Service Station; Gets Lead Pellet Instead

Frank Raymonds, asserted New York bandit, is in the hospital at the Los Angeles county jail, with a deep bullet wound in his shoulder—and all because he selected an ex-cop as his intended victim in a would-be holdup in Lomita Sunday night—an ex-cop who shot while "covered" by the bandit.

The wound was inflicted by Ora F. Singer, who once served on the Redondo Beach police force. It was inflicted while Raymonds was pressing the muzzle of a revolver in Singer's ribs. Had it been a couple of inches lower it might have killed the former New Yorker.

Singer was standing in the doorway of the service station at Cypress street and Redondo boulevard last Sunday night about 7 o'clock. Suddenly a man pressed something sharp against his side and said "Put up your hands."

"I thought it was one of the boys staging a little joke," said Singer, "so I said 'Where do you get that stuff?'"

The bandit replied "I'm not fooling; stick 'em up."

Thought It Was Joke

Singer knew then that it was no joke. But he also remembered instructions received from Chief Henry of Redondo. Henry told Singer when he engaged him as a policeman that if he ever was held up to look carefully to see if the bandit was nervous.

"If he's nervous don't make any quick moves," Henry had said; "but if he is calm and cool, go as far as you like. A calm man won't shoot you if he possibly can avoid it."

This advice went through Singer's mind. Continuing to "josh" the bandit, the ex-cop reached to his right and grabbed a pistol from a drawer. With a pistol-muzzle still at his ribs, Singer quickly swung his own pistol into position and fired. The bullet entered Raymonds' shoulder just above the lung. The bandit dropped. Constable Taber was called. Raymonds was given first aid by a Lomita physician and taken to the jail hospital.

After the shooting Raymonds said to Singer: "Why in the world did you shoot me? You shouldn't have shot me."

"You're lucky I didn't kill you," said Singer.

Regrets Selection

Raymonds confided in officers that if he had known Singer was an ex-policeman he never would have tried to hold him up.

The prisoner says he came to California three weeks ago from New York. He gave an address on Avalon boulevard in Los Angeles as his address. He declared he came to Lomita in a bus, but officers think he was driven in a Ford coupe by a woman and that he waited near the service station to stage his holdup. The Ford and the woman occupant disappeared when the shot rang out.

Officers are endeavoring to connect Raymonds with the burglary of the E. O. VanZell home at 2523 257th street Saturday evening. Mr. and Mrs. VanZell went to a football game in San Pedro Saturday afternoon. While they were there a pickpocket relieved Mr. VanZell of $23 in cash. When they returned home they discovered that the house had been looted. The robber entered through a kitchen window and made off with several articles of wearing apparel, a [illegible]

watch, suitcase, and numerous other articles.

Deputies assert that packing from a box of Winchester pistol cartridges was found in the house and that Raymonds' pistol contained Winchester shells.

They also say that Raymonds' [illegible] was jammed when they took [illegible] after he had been shot [illegible]. They believe that this [illegible] saved Singer's life.

Adv. [illegible] Consolidated Lumber Co.

Best Christmas Party in South Torrance Plan

Children and Adults Will Enjoy Big Yule Party, Dec. 22

The best community Christmas party in the southwest.

That's what the committee in charge of the big Yuletide observance to be given in Torrance on Wednesday night, Dec. 22, under the auspices of the Torrance Volunteer Fire Department are planning—and from details so far agreed upon, it looks as though they are right.

Every child in Torrance—and most of the old folks—are promised a real jolly time. The program will be not only for fun but also will stress the real significance of Christmas. A pageant of the three wise men is being arranged. Of course Santa Claus will be there, and presents will be given to all the children.

The program will be staged next to the new city hall and seats will be arranged for 1200 persons. Reservations for children will be made in the front rows, so that every tot will be sure of getting a good seat.

Further details will be announced next week.

Roy Winters Is New Master of Lomita Masons

Former Torrance Man Elected by Newly Organized Body

Officers-elect of the Lomita Masonic lodge, No. 644, are John Roy Winters, master; John Glenn Wilson, senior warden; Andrew Edwin Perkins, junior warden; Llewellyn J. Hunter, treasurer; and Edgar S. Harvey, secretary.

Appointive officers will be announced later by the master-elect.

Torrance Plays League Leaders In Sunday Game

Merchants Meet Redondo in Effort to Shake Top Notchers

A battle for the leadership of the league will be staged at the baseball park of the Chanslor-Canfield Midway Oil Company Sunday afternoon at 2:15, when the rollicking Torrance Merchants face the Redondo Merchants.

The Redondo team has not been beaten since the opening of the league, and the Torrance outfit is in second place. If the Torrance aggregation wins Sunday—and they say they will—the locals will be only a game behind the league leaders.

Manager Ed Tansey announces that Carl Hines, formerly star mound artist of the C.-C. M. O., will pitch for Torrance.

ASKS BILLIARD PERMIT

A request for the operation of a billiard hall at the Columbia Cafe on Border avenue was referred to the police committee by the Board of Trustees Tuesday night.

MILL HEAD PRAISES CREWS

Says Efficiency Result of Loyalty Won New Torrance Plant

WILL RUSH SHEET UNIT

Columbia Executive Says Work Will Be Speeded on $2,000,000 Program

Co-operation of executives and loyalty of workmen, which have combined to increase efficiency, were responsible in a great measure for the decision of the Columbia Steel Corporation to add a $2,000,000 sheet mill to the Torrance plant, according to W. L. Booth, general manager.

Mr. Booth is naturally elated that the company has scheduled such a program for Torrance, but places much of the credit for efficiency of the plant with the men of the Torrance organization. And he declares that this efficiency, as much as anything else, brought the big sheet steel mill to Torrance.

Praises Plant Men

"Our superintendents, foremen and men," said Mr. Booth, "have developed a splendid organization in Torrance. Their morale and loyalty to the company and to each other have made the local plant one of the best in point of efficiency in the country. Of course everyone in the local plant is proud of the plant's record and is delighted to know that the company executives stand ready to expand the Torrance unit."

Work on Columbia's sheet mill will be pushed as rapidly as possible. The company will drill water wells to supply its own water, in case a test well logs water gravel in sufficient quantity within 700 feet of the surface.

That the operation of a sheet mill in Torrance will attract to Torrance other industries using sheet steel was the opinion of interested observers this week.

Trustees Order Trees Cut Down; Brooks Votes No

Torrance trees came in for considerable discussion and action at the meeting of the Board of Trustees Tuesday night. The discussion ended when a resolution passed by a vote of four to one to cut down all trees on Cabrillo avenue between Carson and Doble streets. Trustee Willis Brooks voted against the resolution. Trustee Inman said trees are not needed in the business district and that they obstruct the view of signs. Permission was granted for the removal of trees in front of the Columbia Cafe on Border avenue.

COOKED FOOD SALE

The Ladies' Guild of the Central Evangelical Church will have a cooked food sale Saturday, Dec. 11, at 10:30 a.m.

Stop at their tables in the Piggly Wiggly Store on Sartori avenue and stock up for Saturday and Sunday dinners.

ALLOW GARAGE

Trustees Tuesday night granted a request from Carl Carlson for the construction of a corrugated iron garage building on Border avenue adjacent to the service station at Border and Redondo boulevard.

SIX NEW ENTRANTS

Due to the inclement weather, only 20 babies were in attendance at the Mothers' Educational Center last Friday. Six of those were new entrants.

Observations

Crowds—They Are Always Interesting—How Throngs Affect Individuals—Emotion Stronger Than Mind When Humans Gather in Masses

By W. HAROLD KINGSLEY

CROWDS are always interesting. The popularity of football in the United States is increasing every year. It is evident that the human instinct for large groups is as responsible for this as is the thrill of the contest. Football crowds are brilliant gatherings. Organized cheering and the unorganized roar of 75,000 men and women during an especially exciting moment make these games as popular as does the combat between the teams on the field.

Last Saturday in the Coliseum one dreamed back to the days of Rome and, being part of a crowd of 75,000, could easily imagine the tremendous excitement of the Roman throngs when men were driven into the arena to certain death at the talons and fangs of beasts.

Happily the love of humans for great crowds banded together to witness a contest still exists, but more happily still, it is satisfied by clean contests between stalwart young men instead of bloody and fatal fights between men and animals.

In England the largest crowds of modern times gather to witness football games. In the United States the size of throngs at our college games is limited only by the seating capacity of our stadiums.

Only in a few countries, Spain and Mexico, does the inhumane contest of men against animals still invite the attention of the people.

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THE psychiology of the individual in a crowd is as interesting as the psychology of the whole throng. The next time you are one of a great crowd at a football game, for instance, put yourself under scrutiny. You will find it a lot of fun. Watch your own reactions to those of the mob and you will have a good measure of your own individual independence.

I find that a sensation almost approaching ecstacy overwhelms me when I consciously allow myself to be swayed by the fervor of the mob. I studied this phase of the effect of a crowd carefully in the Coliseum last Saturday. As one floating on water wings in a gently rolling surf I consciously allowed my sensations to be lifted and lowered with those of the great throng, and the effect was unusually pleasant.

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WHEN the band, garbed in brilliant uniforms, came martially down the green field I sat back and waited for the sensation of the crowd to become my own. Slowly I felt the spirit of enthusiasm of the great throng seep into my being until with the crowd, almost automatically, I found myself joining in a roar of exultant appreciation. Not that there is anything unusual in that. All humans are affected the same way, I think, but it is intensely entertaining to study one's own reactions under crowd conditions.

The power of a great crowd's emotions upon the individual is almost irresistible. Try and fight it. When the huge throng roars in appreciation or is swayed in unison at some great exciting moment, try to remain calm. It is next to impossible—at least to anyone at all sensitive.

* * * *

EVEN the more base emotions of a great crowd are difficult to resist. I recall one play of last week when a U. S. C. player was tackled rather hard. A section of the crowd started to boo. The boo was taken up by others until it became almost a roar. My own reaction to the play was not that of the original booers. I saw the tackle, thought it hard, but did not consider it dirty football. Yet as the boos of the crowd swelled in volume I caught myself believing that perhaps, after all, the play had been unnecessarily rough. I didn't boo, but my sensations were materially affected by those who did.

There is a vast good-nature in a great crowd. People in masses accept little inconveniences with a humor that is impossible in an individual. I went to a big game once after a heavy rain. All the seats in the stadium were wet. By the end of the first quarter the water had soaked through almost every pair of pants and skirt in the crowd of 60,000, and the fun the crowd had over this mutually realized fact was the finest example of human good-nature that I had ever seen. Had one individual on some other occasion and not in a crowd sat in a puddle which soaked clear through to the skin, he certainly would have reacted with anything but good humor.

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ANOTHER strange thing about crowds. A great throng's good humor and good nature can be changed to gigantic anger in the flash of an eye. I recall a situation that illustrated this point. On the first Armistice Day after the war in a big factory town back east the shops declared no holiday. At noon 20,000 men walked out of the factories and paraded to the business section of the city. Here on the main street they assembled, blocking traffic completely but deporting themselves with great good nature, singing songs and listening to impromptu speeches made from the roofs of buildings and the platforms of street cars. The whole business district gave itself over to the spirit of the men and the thought of danger never entered any head.

A street car was crawling slowly through the mass of men on the street. Suddenly one in the crowd leaped to the rear platform of the car and pulled the trolley off the wire. The crowd laughed at the incident, and would have allowed the conductor to put the trolley back on and proceed. The conductor, who apparently was not a student of mob psychology, shoved the trolley remover off the platform and he fell on his back on the pavement. A murmur of resentment swept over the crowd. What had been high good humor changed by magic to sullen anger. The air fairly bristled with danger. At that moment had someone led an attack against that street car it would have been torn apart and someone probably would have been severely hurt. As it was, shouts of anger against the conductor rose above the low murmus of the throng. A few leaped to the platform for action, and just about that moment a police wagon, with siren shrilling, drove slowly into the throng, slow enough to hurt no one but fast enough to disperse the throng and avert what might have been a serious situation.

* * * *

I WAS in the middle of the crowd in the capacity of a reporter, but I caught myself full of the wrath of the crowd when the conductor shoved the man off the platform. Like everyone else I was resentful and filled with a knowledge of power, the power of numbers. I think it was lucky that the police car arrived. It took the attention of the crowd off the street car and the conductor at just the right moment.

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THE emotions of a crowd change like magic. A good-natured throng is only a step from being a mob.

The reason for this is that a crowd is governed almost entirely by emotion, whereas an individual's reactions are more affected by the mental. Of course emotions guide more of the average man's activities than does his mind, a theory that is almost undebatable, but in a crowd in which all thoughts and eyes are centered on one thing, the mass reaction sweeps the mental almost entirely away and the average emotion by virtue of its contagion becomes the unanimous emotion. There are strong in-

(Continued on Page 11)

WILL VOTE JANUARY 18TH

Trustees Introduce Ordinance Calling Special Annexation Election

RESIDENCE LAND NEEDED

Proponents of Measure Follow Logic of Recent District Survey

Interests owning 1700 of the 4000-odd acres in the Meadow Park-beach frontage tract proposed for annexation to Torrance formally protested against the proceedings before the Board of Trustees Tuesday night. The board heard the protests and introduced an ordinance setting the election for Jan. 18.

Protests were entered by Tom Tomlinson, representing the Huntington-Redondo Company interests, owners of 800 acres fronting on the ocean, and by Dr. C. N. Ellinwood, owner of the Ellinwood ranch of 900 acres.

No protest was entered by owners of other large tracts in the territory proposed for annexation.

The ordinance calling the election was in compliance with a petition signed by 15 residents of the territory. The trustees signified their intention of adopting the ordinance next Tuesday night.

Lomita Men Opposed

Torrance officials said after the meeting that it is not their intention to work a hardship on any of the property-owners in the territory invoveld, and that they called the election merely in compliance with the petition so that the people of the district may decide for themselves whether they wish to annex to Torrance.

Considerable opposition to the proposed annexation has developed outside of the territory directly affected, particularly in Redondo Beach and Lomita.

Interests planning for the incorporation of Lomita as a city are actively fighting the annexation proceedings from the outside in the hope that it may be defeated and the territory later included as part of the proposed municipality of Lomita.

Dr. Ellinwood and the Huntington-Redondo Company interests declare that they desire incorporation with no city at the present.

Conferences Planned

That a number of conferences on the matter will be held in the near future is certain.

Proponents of annexation have become well acquainted with the Torrance plan of development, which is based on the result of the recent economic and civic survey completed at a cost of $4000. This survey makes clear that the industrial future of Torrance makes it essential to increase the territory available for residential purposes in order to house persons coming to Torrance with new industries and to affiliate with those industries which have announced big expansion programs in Torrance.

Industries now located in Torrance have realized, since oil development took away much potential residence territory, that the potential residential area should be increased. Aware of these basic facts, residents of Territory west of Torrance last year annexed to Torrance, and the same knowledge prompted circulation of the Meadow Park-beach frontage consolidation petition.

Recall Former Case

Local observers recall that numerous large property-owners between Torrance and Redondo objected to the annexation proceedings a year ago. These included the Chanslor-Canfield Midway Oil Company, the Del Amo interests, and the California Petroleum Corporation. A complete study of the facts, however, prompted these interests to withdraw their opposition and to support annexation both morally and actively.

All the facts concerning the industrial and residential development plans in this territory, together with economic data as they concern taxes, will be explained in detail to all property-owners in the territory proposed for annexation upon receipt of the proceedings announced yesterday.

Eastern Stars' Installation of Heads Delayed

Illness of Mrs. Acree Prompts Delay in Order's Ceremony

Owing to the illness of Mrs. M. L. Acree, mother of Mrs. E. N. Tomkins, matron-elect, the installation of the officers of Torrance Chapter, O. E. S., to have been held this evening, has been postponed. The date of installation will be announced later.

The regular meeting will be held tonight, Dec. 9, at which there will be balloting and the usual order of business.

Masons Elect John R. Guyan Lodge Master

Other Officers Chosen at Annual Election Thursday Night

Following a dinner served by the Eastern Star last Thursday evening the annual election of Torrance Masonic Lodge was held, with the following result: John R. Guyan, master; John E. McMasters, senior warden; E. N. Tomkins, junior warden; Joseph Stone, treasurer; W. H. Stanger, secretary.

Appointive offices have been filled as follows: Jesse H. Sprout, chaplain; Hugh R. Seckler, senior deacon; W. W. West, junior deacon; Ben Olsen, marshal; John Bartz, senior steward; Frank DeWitt, junior steward; Joe Bey, tyler.

Open ceremonies will mark the installation of the officers early in January.

Sherman Monnie Badly Shocked by High Voltage

Sherman Monnie, shop foreman at the Day and Night Garage, narrowly escaped death last Saturday afternoon when, standing on a wet floor, he touched a live wire on an electric testing bench and received 220 volts. The shock threw him to the floor and he was incapacitated for several days. He is now back on the job.

Mother of Steel Company Manager Torrance Resident

Among the new residents of Torrance is Mrs. James Wilkes, mother of D. H. Botchford, vice-president and general manager of the Columbia Steel Corporation, who has been in Torrance for more than a week completing details of the company's big expansion program here. Mrs. Wilkes is residing at 737 Sartori avenue.

Santa Fe Orders Crossing Remedy

Answering a letter from the city clerk of Torrance, the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad Company informed the Board of Trustees last night that orders had gone forth against the blocking of Torrance streets by the company's trains. The company is investigating the advisability of installing an automatic signal on the intersection of its tracks with Redondo boulevard.

3 SHIFTS TO GO ON SOON

Tests Completed, Permanent Operations Will Begin, Says Frank Coates

MEN WILL NEED HOMES

Company Wishes Employes to Live Near Work, Says Manager

Capacity production, with 200 men on the payroll, will be started at the Torrance Flat Glass Company's Torrance plant early in January, according to an announcement by Frank S. Coates, general manager, Tuesday.

During the recent shutdown at the company's big plant a number of changes and alterations have been made. These changes and additions are of a nature that will make the Torrance plant the best flat glass factory in the country, Mr. Coates believes.

[illegible] facilities have been completed which will enable the company to handle 10 cars of raw material in eight hours.

Orders sufficient to guarantee operation with three full crews working eight hours a day each have been secured, and scores of inquiries which will develop into orders have been received, according to Mr. Coates.

Mr. Coates declared that when the plant starts running production will continue unabated.

One of the changes made at the plant will enable the company to produce flat glass 14 inches wider than formerly.

"With 200 men at work and with the company desiring its employes to live in Torrance, many houses will be required to house them," said Mr. Coates. "Most of the men want to live here."

Officials of the company regard all previous operations at the plant as tests, and announce that now the experimental stage is over and that when the wheels start turning in January operations will be permanent.

Outfall Sewer Fight Decision Due on Friday

Ocean Disposal Fight Up to State Board of Health

Decision on the location of the great ocean outfall sewer to serve a great portion of Los Angeles County, including Torrance and Lomita, will be made by the State Board of Health Friday, it is believed.

Engineer A. K. Warren of the metropolitan sewer system has always favored location of the outfall at White's Point. San Pedro interests have fought this location with persistency. Recently the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce received a report from a board of neutral engineers favoring the White's Point or breakwater location. Long Beach interests are opposed to the breakwater outfall, which is favored by San Pedro interests.

The city trustees of Torrance Tuesday night adopted a resolution stressing the need of early operation of the big sewer system and endorsing the recommendation of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce engineers.

PHILLIPS SELLS

William Phillips announced today that he has sold his interest in the Rol-Tan cigar store and billiard [illegible] to A. Carter.