

Live In Torrance

The Torrance Herald

Buy In Torrance

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HOUSING SHORTAGE HERE IS ACUTE

Warner Brothers Are Taking Scenes For Movie Feature Here

EMPLOYEES FOR MILL ARRIVE

Steel Workers Fill All Vacancies and Demand Increases

SEEK HOMES FOR RENT

Chamber Advertisises in the Times in Appeal to Builders

With the arrival of about 50 future employees at the Columbia Steel Corporation's sheet mill, now building, the housing shortage in Torrance this week became more acute than it has ever been in the history of the city.

Hotels and apartments are full and vacant houses for rent are practically unavailable.

To relieve the situation the Chamber of Commerce has interested many builders in Torrance and dwelling-house construction is expected to break all records within the next few months.

In a further move to provide homes for the coming workers the Chamber of Commerce tomorrow will publish a large display advertisement in the Los Angeles Times, directing the message particularly to persons who may be interested in constructing houses for rent.

Vacancies in Torrance, even during the so-called dull period, have been fewer than in any city in the Southland. One owner of a large group of houses reported that he has not had a vacancy for nine months. This situation makes building of homes for rent in Torrance an attractive proposition to investors. While rents are not exorbitant they have been secured by the fact that houses for rent are almost always occupied. In other cities owners must count on considerable periods of vacancy.

The demand for houses both for purchase and for rent is stronger here today than it has been since the days of the oil boom. That the demand is not temporary but will be lasting is established by industrial developments of the future, particularly the General Petroleum Corporation's plans for a refinery to employ 3500 men.

Ask for Car Stop At 222d Street

Residents of the 222d street district Tuesday night petitioned the Board of Trustees to request the Pacific Electric Railway Company to establish a stop for cars at 222d street and Cabrillo. The board instructed City Clerk Bartlett to acquaint the P. E. with the request and ask the company's cooperation.

Elheinan Darling Claimed by Death

Elheinan W. Darling, who came to Torrance to reside about two years ago, passed away Tuesday, March 1, at the home of his son, H. W. Darling, 918 Amapolia avenue. His age was 74 years.

Mr. Darling is survived by three sons and three daughters: H. W. Darling and M. L. Darling, of Torrance; C. O. Darling, of Hermosa Beach; Miss Della Darling, of Alhambra, Ia.; Mrs. Mary A. Taylor, of Port Dodge; and Mrs. Charles Leach, of Des Moines.

Funeral services were held Wednesday at 2 o'clock at Stone & Myers' chapel. Interment was made at Roosevelt Memorial cemetery.

BILL THE BARBER SAYS When better movies are made no one will go and see them.

Observations

The Doheny Decision—The Senate and Cloture—A Great War Book—Will Our Legislature Over-ride the Will of the People?

By W. HAROLD KINGSLEY

CONFIDENCE in government ought to be one of the reactions to the United States Supreme Court's decision Monday cancelling the Elk Hills oil lease given by the government through former Secretary of the Interior Fall to his old friend, E. H. Doheny.

The highest tribunal in the land, in an opinion handed down Monday in which eight justices concurred, stated that there were clear evidences of fraud prior to the granting of the lease. Doheny said on the stand that the lease was worth \$100,000,000. The Supreme Court canceled the lease.

The opinion of the last court of appeal on Monday dissipated any such ideas that may have remained in the minds of the country's citizenry. The opinion does more than cancel the lease. It notifies all and sundry that the people cannot be defrauded, even by the very wealthy. It establishes once more the impeccable integrity of our highest tribunal. It ought to create confidence in government and establish a precedent in forbidding fraudulent grabbing of public domain by private interests which are willing to prey upon the cupidity of public servants.

Under the practice of unlimited debate any senator can talk any bill to death. When cloture (limit to debate) is denied we have in the Senate the strange phenomenon of government by the minority. That is what we have in connection with the Swing-Johnson bill. How Daves, arch-enemy of unlimited debate, must have boiled!

It is difficult to understand those senators. They are the acme of inconsistency. They favored the Boulder dam legislation. Yet they refused to limit debate on it. But two days later they voted for limited debate on a prohibition administrative measure. And then we have good reason to assume, many who voted dry repaired, as is so often the custom in Washington, to a nearby handy-place for a drink.

To all who wish to gain true impressions of the life of our aviators at the front allow us to commend the reading of "War Birds," the diary of an unknown aviator.

This is the most frank, honest, direct book on the war that has yet come off the presses. Most of the war stuff that goes into print is tommyrot. It is fetters delusions. And the people who labor under these delusions should have their opinions set to rights. "War Birds" may not commend the American aviator or soldier as a fit applicant for a job as a sincere evangelist or lecturer on the Chautauqua platform, but it tells the truth straight from the shoulder.

However, if you prefer to think of our soldier boys as upstanding lads imbued with the spirit of crusaders and fired with holy zeal, don't read "War Birds." You might be shocked.

DON'T feel sorry for the marine who went aboard the transport for China without orders and who now awaits court martial for his act. He wanted to go to China. He knew he would be court-martialed when discovered on the ship. But he went anyway. The sentence of the court will probably take away some of his pay. But he'll be a hero. Marines and soldiers do not regard courts martial in the same manner as civilians regard arrest. Prisoners in the service often fare better than men on regular duty. The cooks give them the best food. They perform manual labor which is often a relief from routine military duties.

The marine who stowed away for China, in the eyes of other marines who stayed home but wanted to go, is "sitting on the moon."

TWO "stories" of interest in the paper today. Both pertain to modern science. One tells of a new method of refrigeration by gas flame—fire used to produce ice. The other tells of electrically charged fences along railroads which signal trains of landlides. What next?

THE California Senate highway committee by a vote of 10 to 1 Monday recommended for passage Senator Breed's highway bill. One of these provides for a one-cent increase in the gasoline rate. Senator Chamberlain of Los Angeles alone voted against recommendations for passage of the bills.

The people of California turned down an increase in the gasoline tax at the last general election, and did so by an overwhelming majority. Is the California legislature now going to increase the tax over the constitutionally set limit?

The value of the initiative and referendum are open to doubt, but when they are operative we believe it is essential in a democracy that popular decisions reached by their use should be mandatories to legislators.

Voters should watch carefully the way their representatives vote on these highway bills. Those who refuse to obey the plain-spoken dictates of the constituents should receive certain discipline when they once more solicit favorably to them—ballooning by the deer people.

HENRY FORD is spending his money well. This week he purchased the furniture used in the "front parlor" by Mrs. Abraham Lincoln. He intends using it in his plan to reproduce the old Lincoln home at Springfield, Ill. Ford has purchased many historic items and buildings in New England. He is perpetuating them as places of historical interest. In doing so he is preserving American tradition. To preserve symbols of good national tradition is to provide examples for sensible living by present and future generations.

The country should be grateful that Ford is willing to utilize some of his great fortune to this worthy end. And in the meantime he is probably enjoying himself immensely.

SOUTH CAROLINA is enforcing blue laws which went into the statute books in the seventeenth century.

The attempt to bring these ancient laws to life will fail. They are as out of date as bustles and what-nots.

It is a foolish government that seeks to make people observe religious tradition. Enforcement of blue laws will not drive people into the churches. Church congregations will grow in proportion to

EXTRY! EXTRY! CHARLES SMITH, LOMITA POSTMASTER, NABBED ON BOLD BURGLARY CHARGE

Friends of Charles Smith, Lomita postmaster, member of the Republican county committee, and respected citizen, were surprised this week to learn that "Charley" is facing trial on a charge of burglary—said charge being based on the declaration that Charley took four cigars from a box in the drug store which he recently sold to H. M. Peltzer.

This alleged crime was committed, according to the complaint made by Peltzer, about 7 o'clock last Saturday morning.

Charley got to work at the post-office about 7 o'clock and didn't have any smokes. So he went to the counter and took four out of the box, intending to pay Peltzer when the drug store owner came down to work.

But Ben Wayt was watching, and the alert sleuth immediately placed

Charley under arrest.

And now comes the odd feature: According to Charley, Peltzer urged him to buy back the drug store. This Charley wouldn't do. Peltzer Monday noon signed a complaint charging Charley with burglary.

So Charley appeared before Justice Patterson and entered a plea of not guilty. The case will be given preliminary hearing on March 11.

Said Mr. Smith: "I never was so surprised in my life as when Mr. Wayt put me under arrest. I couldn't make myself believe that it was anything but a practical joke. It certainly gave me a jolt when I found out it was serious. At the same time it may turn out to be funny before it's over. But I don't think the joke will be on me."

Will Gets Two Dimes From John D.



ORMOND BEACH, Fla.—Will Rogers, famous comedian and mirror of Beverly Hills, Calif., considers his visit to John D. Rockefeller Sr. a profitable one. In the morning he entertained the oil magnate and the rest of his foursome during a round of golf, for which he received one bright new dime, and later lunched with him at his home, "The Casements," at Ormond Beach, where he was presented with another. Photo shows Rogers and Mr. Rockefeller standing in the doorway of "The Casements."

RESIDENTS HIRED AS EXTRAS

Scores of Torrance and Lomita Folks Act in Picture

BIG SET IN OIL FIELD

Company to Shoot Scenes Three Days; Gusher to 'Roar In'

With scores of Torrance and Lomita residents taking part as extras, Warner Brothers, big motion picture producers, started today on location in the local oil field to shoot scenes for the Monte Blue feature, "The Brute." Location is south of the old Redondo road, several blocks west of Arlington avenue, where a set representing the "main drag" of an Oklahoma oil town has been erected amid the forest of derricks.

To Shoot Three Days

Scenes will be taken Thursday, Friday and Saturday, both day and night.

The picture stars Monte Blue, and is built on an Oklahoma oil field story. At location the company has erected an oil well derricks. Colored water will be used as oil and will be impelled high into the air when the gusher "roars in."

The Lomita and Torrance residents who were booked as extras will make up the crowd in the oil town, and were due to report in their old clothes.

The set in the oil fields attracted hundreds of persons this week, and the mimic street was thronged with people gazing at the saloons, stores, and other "buildings."

One feature that attracted comment was the type of hitching post for horses. These had been carpentered to appear as if horses had gnawed the wood.

Tentative arrangements have been made for a preview of the completed film at the Torrance theatre so that local residents may enjoy the novelty of seeing themselves on the silver screen.

Miss Elsie Teal Will Play in Joint Recital Here on March 11

The Schumann Club of Torrance is presenting Elsie Teal, concert pianist, and Martha Shryock, dramatic soprano, in recital at Torrance High School auditorium Friday evening, March 11.

Miss Teal is well known to music lovers of this vicinity, having appeared here many times. Miss Teal made her New York debut at Aeolian hall in 1920. She was known throughout the east as a serious artist of exceptional attainments.

Read what some of the leading newspapers say of Miss Teal: New York Telegram: "Clear technique, clear touch."

New York Herald: "Pianist of capability, commendable touch, and good tone."

Hartford Times: "Miss Teal's playing is always interesting. Her technical resources are unlimited and her playing will prove accept-

able to even the most artistic." Martha Shryock is the possessor of a very lovely voice which she uses most artistically. She wins her audience whenever and wherever she appears. She has studied for the last five years with Proschowky, who was the teacher of Galli-Curi. He says: "Martha Shryock is the possessor of a beautiful soprano voice which she uses most artistically. She sings with great feeling and a fine understanding. I feel confident that she will continue to bring much pleasure to her audiences as an interpreter of songs."

Here's what the Chicago Music News Says: "A very charming singer, Martha Shryock, gave a good account of herself in a recent recital. Pleasing personality, good poise, and a beautiful lyric voice, with splendid diction, are among commendable qualities of this young soprano."

Famous Expert To Speak Here On March 17

Dr. Miriam Van Waters Will Lecture at Women's Clubhouse

The woman who is regarded as the world's greatest expert on child welfare problems will lecture in Torrance on Thursday night, March 17, under the auspices of the Women's Club.

She is Dr. Miriam Van Waters, referee of the Juvenile Court of Los Angeles and noted magazine writer.

The Women's Club committee is working actively to insure a large attendance at the lecture.

Fire Chief Warns Against Driving Close to Trucks

"Ben Hannebrink, chief of the Torrance Volunteer Fire Department, today issued a warning to the public against driving automobiles too close to the fire truck when the truck is on its way to a fire.

Persons in automobiles are required by ordinance to draw up to the curb and stop when they hear the fire siren, and are required to stay at least 500 feet behind the truck after it has passed.

"On one of our recent runs," said the chief, "several cars drove too close to the truck, and it was only by good fortune that an accident was avoided. The trucks are heavy and cannot be guided as quickly and easily as smaller cars. In order that accidents may be avoided we earnestly request the public to obey the ordinance."

SEEK BIDS ON MIXER

City Clerk Bartlett Tuesday night was instructed by the Board of Trustees to advertise for bids on a cement mixer for the city street department.

Use Duro-cote for that Jenky roof. Consolidated Lumber Co.

IT PAYS

C. M. Howard and L. G. Barkdull today volunteered the information that the display advertisement run by them announcing the opening of the new Quality Market last week brought hundreds of new patrons to the popular Redondo boulevard store.

"Customers come from towns all over this part of the county," said Mr. Howard. "Hundreds of Torrance patrons who never before had traded with us came to the opening. The only advertisement we did was in The Herald and the Lomita News. The advertisement got wonderful results, and we want you to accept our thanks and tell your readers that we are glad to praise Herald and News advertising as the best we have ever used."

Mrs. Anna Blach, Aged 82, Expires

Mrs. Anna Blach, aged 82 years, died February 25 at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Albert Phillips, 1618 Amapolia avenue.

Funeral services were held at Stone & Myers' chapel on Saturday, Feb. 26, Rev. B. H. Lingenfelter officiating, and the body was taken to Mandan, N. D., for interment.

Mrs. Blach had been a resident of Torrance for the past 18 months.

February Building Permits \$63,750

Building permits for February were \$18,000 higher than those of January. The February construction aggregate, as shown on city hall records at the close of last month, was \$63,750, as against \$45,750 in January.

Annexation Case Postponed Again

Hearing of the annexation suit brought against the city of Torrance by the Huntington-Redondo Company was postponed for an-

This Reveals How East Took News of California Rainfall

Jack Barnes has received an interesting newspaper clipping from his cousin, Miss Viola Jones, of Jamestown, New York. It will give Californians some idea of the manner in which eastern newspapers told the world about the rainstorm on the Pacific coast. Needless to say, the reports of California's climatic upset, like that of Mark Twain's death, were greatly exaggerated. The newspaper clipping received by Mr. Barnes comes from a paper in Chautauque County. It follows, in part:

"Writing to a relative who went to California to spend the winter, I would be thankful if the California folks would only come east and get dried off."

Other indications of how the east received news of our "high fog" came to Sam Levy, who received a telegram from Boston relatives requesting him to wire if "everyone was safe."

Grover Whyte received a letter from his mother saying that it must be odd to "have snow in California."

And in the meantime we out here go on enjoying the sunshine after the rain, feeling just a little bit better because the storm gave us just an inkling of what easterners have to put up with half of the time.

Mrs. G. H. Sapp Severely Hurt As Cars Crash

Woman, Well Known Here, Injured in Auto Collision Sunday

Mrs. G. H. Sapp, former president of the Torrance Parent-Teacher Association, sustained severe injuries Sunday when the car she was driving on Long Beach boulevard near Southgate was hurled off the pavement and over the curb by the impact of another machine.

Mrs. Sapp was turning left when she saw another car rapidly approaching. The driver of the approaching car was looking backward. Mrs. Sapp sounded the horn, but the oncoming car was coming too rapidly to stop, and crashed into the side of Mrs. Sapp's machine.

The Sapp car was thrown about 20 feet and landed on its side. Mrs. Sapp's shoulder and back were severely strained, and her physician reports that it will be several days before it can be ascertained whether she suffered internal injuries.

R. N. A. INITIATION

The regular meeting of the Royal Neighbors will be held Friday evening, March 4, at the Knights of Columbus hall, corner of Redondo boulevard and Poptola avenue.

Plaza del Amo Residents Ask Trees Removed

Eighteen signatures were on a petition presented to the Board of Trustees Tuesday night asking for the removal of trees in the center of Plaza del Amo east of Arlington avenue. The petitioners were residents of the street. The matter was referred to a committee for investigation and report.

Rebekahs Enjoy Long Beach Visit

Members of Trio Rebekah Lodge who enjoyed a visit at Del Mar Lodge, Long Beach, on the occasion of an official visit by Mabel Sealey, president of the Rebekah Assembly, were Mr. and Mrs. Jack Ferguson of Torrance, Mrs. E. B. Goodrich of Gardena, Mrs. H. W. Brumpton, Mrs. Julius Gertzgen, Mrs. John Waite, Mrs. Alex MacPhail, Mrs. R. I. Hudson, Mrs. J. L. Luck, and Mrs. Henry Robinson.

Two Civil Service Positions Are Open

Notice of examinations for two important positions with the civil service commission has been received by the Torrance Chamber of Commerce. The positions are as follows: Associate examiner at \$3000 a year, and assistant examiner at \$2400 a year. Persons interested in making applications may receive complete information at the Chamber of Commerce

Watch for News of Our New Serial Story