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George C. Ward Given Honorary Degree by U.S.C.

Vice President of Edison Co. Receives Signal Recognition

In conjunction with the annual commencement exercises of the University of Southern California, held in Los Angeles Coliseum Saturday, George C. Ward, vice-president of the Southern California Edison Company was given the honorary degree of Doctor of Engineering in recognition of his distinguished services to the south-west.

This degree, one of the rarest of all honors to be conferred, has been awarded only once before by the University of Southern California. While the universities throughout the United States granted more than 700 honorary degrees last



GEORGE CLINTON WARD

year, only seven of these were Doctor of Engineering.

George Clinton Ward began his engineering career in New York State following his graduation from Phillips Andover Academy. As chief engineer of the Raquet Lake Railway he attracted the attention of Collis P. Huntington, and as a logical sequence became associated with the late Henry E. Huntington when the latter began his work as an empire builder in Southern California.

H. E. Huntington, looking about for an additional power supply for his electric railroad interests, commissioned Ward to make a hydro-electric development in the High Sierras of Fresno County. This was the beginning of the Edison Company's famous Big Creek-San Joaquin project. The most notable feature of this undertaking is the Florence Lake tunnel, completed in 1925, 14 months ahead of schedule. This tunnel, 13 miles in length, is the longest water tunnel of its kind in the world. It diverts the rainfall of the Florence Lake watershed into Huntington Lake, making it available for the four powerhouses of the Edison Company now in service, as well as for others that are to be constructed.

CHANCE TO SEE SMOKE EATERS AT THEIR JOB

Torrance Firemen To Give Big Demonstration With 'Fire Brigade'

The Torrance fire department will take an active hand in the presentation of "The Fire Brigade" at the Torrance Theatre next Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. "The Fire Brigade" is a super-film detailing the heroic lives of firemen which has attracted nationwide attention, is being sponsored in Torrance by the fire department. Members of the department have had tickets on sale this week.

In addition to the picture, Torrance residents will be given an opportunity, in connection with the special film offering, to see the Torrance firemen in action. At 6 o'clock each evening during the stay of the film here the department apparatus will roll to the front of the theatre and life-saving demonstrations, including net-jumping and ladder work, will be given. Spectators will be shown just how the firemen would go about it to get them down if they were caught on the roof or in the upper stories of a building during a fire.

The coming of "The Fire Brigade" to Torrance will give the city a chance to see not only a thrilling spectacle on the screen, but an opportunity to observe the kind of stuff from which the Torrance firemen and all other smoke-eaters are made.

"The Fire Brigade" itself is a picture not soon to be forgotten. Members of the fire department, selling tickets, have encountered residents who, although they had chanced recently to see the picture in a nearby city, were planning to view it again, so great was the appeal of its drama and whirlwind action.

May McAvoy and Charles Ray head an all-star cast with roles which are perhaps the greatest of their careers.

Odd Fellows-Rebekah Memorial Service Is Planned for Sunday

The Odd Fellows and Rebekah lodges will hold their memorial services at the Odd Fellows Temple on Redondo boulevard, Lomita, on Sunday, June 12, at 2:30 p. m. The address will be delivered by Rev. Martin Luther Thomas of San Pedro, assisted by Rev. Tinning of Lomita and Rev. Lindsey of Harbor City.

Mrs. Mattie Romberg of Los Angeles will sing. The public has been invited.

Standard Employes Give Another Dance

Employees of the Standard Oil Company, encouraged by the success of a baseball benefit dance given in April, have decided to repeat, and will sponsor another dance at the Women's Clubhouse Saturday evening. Employees of the Torrance-Redondo-Inglewood district of Standard Oil are associated in the venture.

Mr. and Mrs. William Rojo Jr. are among the new residents in Torrance, moving to Gramercy avenue from Los Angeles. Mr. Rojo is a member of the force of the Torrance Laundry.

Chief Urges Fire Control In Building

Hannebrink Reviews Work Done by Association of Fire Chiefs

One of the most effective means of reducing fire hazards is to give such buildings as are erected in the city the greatest possible in-combustibility, it is pointed out by Fire Chief Hannebrink, in reviewing measures being taken by the International Association of Fire Chiefs to combat loss of life and property by fire in the United States.

"It would be impracticable, of course, to build an all-fireproof structure," Chief Hannebrink continued. "In a residence of this nature the beds would have to be of steel or concrete slabs, and furniture would have to be of similar material. There could be no draperies, rugs, linen, and clothing. But it never is impracticable to construct a building as fire-safe as is compatible with comfort.

"Take the average wood frame house as an example. When the wood frame is covered with a sheathing of wood, and this in turn is covered with wood siding, and when the lath under the plaster and the shingles on the roof are of wood, you have a highly combustible, conflagration-breeding type of construction—one that would put surrounding structures in jeopardy if a fire should break out, particularly if there were a high wind blowing. For a high wind would carry burning embers to adjoining roofs and scatter sparks far and wide.

"But it is probably a long way off before wood frame houses will be altogether abandoned, particularly since the development of modern building materials has resulted in a protected type of wood construction that retains all the good features of the all-wood house.

"In building such a fire-protected wood house the wood frame is erected in the regular manner. But instead of a sheathing of wood being applied over the frame, an in-combustible type of sheathing is now used. This protects the frame from the outside. To protect it from the inside a metal or rock lath is used in place of wood lath. With a roof-covering of asbestos or other fire-resistant material, a house so built possesses as high a degree of protection from fire as is possible in a frame structure."

Chief Hannebrink feels that preventing fires is just as important a part of the fire department's work as fighting fires, and, along with the thousands of other fire chiefs throughout the country, he is actively co-operating with the International Association of Fire Chiefs in its great "1927 is Fire Prevention Year" movement, which it is hoped will acquaint the public with means for reducing the annual fire toll.

L. Wright of 2066 220th street has returned from the second annual convention of the Church of God of Southern California, held at Pacific Palisades. Fifteen hundred delegates and their families attended.

Millinery Picnic Plans Are All Set

Everything is set for the all-day millinery picnic at Bixby Park tomorrow, Friday, June 10. Over 500 students are enrolled in the classes for seven schools. The class instructor is Effie Jane Hayden.

Each class will put on a "stunt" and everyone anticipates a particularly good time.

ONE WAY OUT

A man took his wife and their three-months-old baby to a theatre

one evening. During the first act the child commenced to scream so lustily that an attendant appeared and said that if they could not keep the baby quiet they would have to leave, and their money would be returned to them. The child went to sleep thereafter, and all was peace and quietness until half-way through the last act, when Jock began to be tired of the play. He turned to his wife and whispered: "Maggie—pinch the kid."

A STIFF ONE

Four-year-old Dorothy had just

heard her mother giving a grocery order over the telephone. "Mamma," she said, "did you order some corn starch?" "Yes, dear." "What for?" asked Dorothy. "To you goin' to launder your corns?"

Educational Center Serves 24 Kiddies

Twenty-four babies were present at the Mothers' Educational Center last Friday. Included among the seven new entries were two babes from San Pedro.

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