

A Newspaper  
for All the People  
All the Time

# The Torrance Herald

Torrance  
Population  
8200

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## IS KEYSTONE ANOTHER SIGNAL HILL?

### FOUR YOUNG MEXICANS DIE IN SNOW BANK

Popular Young Torrance Men Believed Frozen to Death in Mountain Blizzard

Four popular young men of the Mexican colony in Torrance are believed to have perished in a mountain snow storm in Colorado. The young Mexican men, all about 21 years of age, left Torrance a month ago to seek work in the mines of Colorado. They were traveling in an open automobile. A little over two weeks ago, press reports from Colorado stated that four Mexicans had been frozen to death in the mountains when they were engulfed in a snow blizzard. There were some fears expressed by residents of the Pueblo at that time that the unfortunate victims may have been the Torrance men. Letters were written, but no responses have been received by the relatives and friends in Torrance and Redondo. Now that a month has passed without trace or word of the four men, the fears have increased. The Mexicans were all unmarried and worked at the Columbia Steel mills in Torrance, quitting their jobs on payday, November 5, and leaving for Colorado the following day. Their names and addresses are: Luiz Hurtado, 1518 Cedar street, Torrance; Luiz Ayala of the Pueblo, Torrance; Henry Suazo of the Pueblo, Torrance; and Carlos Murillo, of Redondo Lane, Redondo.

### HELL'S ANGELS WAR PICTURE SHOT IN HILLS

Battle Scene Enacted in WALTERIA HILLS FOR TALKIE FILM

The Caido Company, Inc., a moving picture concern of Los Angeles, shot a war scene Friday afternoon on the hill west of WALTERIA in South Torrance. The scene is to be used in a picture called "Hell's Angels." It was said to be a mistake in order to get the sound effect. The marching troops of several hundred men and the boom of guns and explosives made a very realistic scene. The ten acre tract used was leased from L. M. Ellingswood of San Francisco.

### Elaborate Party Planned For Shriners' Children

Preparations to care for 5000 children of Shriners are being made at Al Malakiah Temple for the first annual Christmas party to be held Saturday night in the shrine ballroom. The party is restricted strictly to the children of Shriners between 6 and 16 years old, and, while parents will be admitted, they will be assigned seats in the balcony and will not be permitted to participate in the events of the evening. Santa Claus, a dozen huge brightly decorated Christmas trees, an act of juvenile acts and entertainers, a parade led by Al Malakiah Temple's band, patrol and chanters; 10,000 balloons, a ton of confetti and thousands of ice cream cones, are some of the things already planned.

**BILL THE BARBER SAYS**

Today is the tomorrow you worried about yesterday.

### C. of C. ELECTS NEW OFFICERS AT WALTERIA

Compromise On Water Rates Made With C. H. Quandt. Newman is President

Election of officers was the chief business of the WALTERIA Chamber of Commerce at the monthly meeting this week. The following officers were elected unanimously: L. P. Newman, president; R. F. Snood, vice president; C. L. Palmer, secretary; W. Westenhaven, treasurer. With the exception of Mr. Palmer, the officers are new ones. The following trustees were elected: Mrs. T. Buckingham, Mrs. S. D. Sexton, C. H. Quandt, J. M. DeVito and Chas. Armstrong.

P. E. Bennett, the outgoing president, refused to consider re-election as he had served in that capacity for the past three years. The water committee reported that at a final meeting held Monday evening at the school house, a compromise was effected with C. H. Quandt, owner of the plant that supplies to the WALTERIA residents, concerning water rates. Rates were given as follows: First eight hundred cubic feet for \$1.50; the next 500 cubic feet at 5 cents per 100 cubic feet; the next 3700 cubic feet at 10 cents per 100 cubic feet, and the next over 5000 cubic feet at 8 cents per 100 cubic feet, to be effective from December 1.

J. M. DeVito reported that in an unofficial census taken in WALTERIA recently, the population was found to be 104 families or 480 persons. These figures are to be used by the committee buying confetti and toys for the community Christmas tree planned for December 21 to be held at the school house.

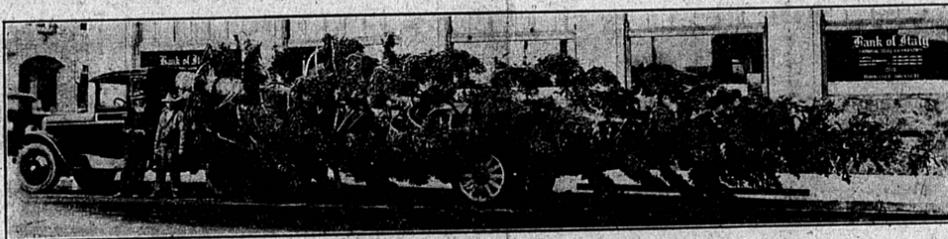
The next meeting of the Chamber of Commerce will be January 2. At this meeting the new officers will be installed.

The party given by the Filialis club at the Barbers Hall Friday evening was well attended. Music and dancing was enjoyed. Luncheon was served. Mrs. L. R. Burton of Wilmington won the prize, a beautiful hand made quilt.

Mrs. W. K. Adolph returned to her home on Hawthorne boulevard after a six weeks visit at the home of her aunt, Mrs. Fabreu in San Antonio, Texas. She was accompanied home by her father, E. C. Adona, of Long Beach and G. Nava, and J. Abreu of San Antonio. They drove back and reported much rainy weather.

Mr. E. Perkins of Redondo Beach was a dinner guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Adolph on Hawthorne boulevard Wednesday evening.

### Mighty Forest Beauty Soon To Be Aglow With 1000 Lights in City Square



Here is the 50-foot fir tree, resting from its long ride on the Dodge Brothers' truck. Last week it was the 50-year-old monarch of the mountains—this week it will be the ruling monarch of Christmas Trees, with its 1000 colored lights to adorn its shapely form.

From the far flung horizons, away beyond the shining dome of Mount Baldy, Nature has labored for fifty years to produce a perfect Christmas tree—and men and heavy trucks have worked throughout the day and night to bring this perfect specimen of silver fir tree for the children and older folks of Torrance and this countryside to enjoy.

It was a mighty task to bring this monarch of the Virgin Forest to the business center of Torrance, but it was accomplished in masterly style by our good natured and jovial Superintendent of Streets, Andy Gascoigne, and his corps of willing helpers.

Last Tuesday night at 2 a. m. when the fog was still hugging around our homes, the party left Torrance on their long trek to the mountains where the tall fir trees grow. In the party besides Supt. Gascoigne were Addis Thomas, Bob Russell, Paul Cady, Roy Wilson and Jack Hudson. Bob Russell was driving the big Dodge Brothers truck with its long trailer, upon which was to be mounted the biggest Christmas tree that Torrance has ever seen.

At 9:30 o'clock, the party reached the forest of firs beyond the camp at the Los Angeles County Playground. The big truck's powerful motor had tugged up the mountainside and through the narrow steep grades 3 miles beyond the beaten roads of the tourist or camper. Finally it halted, when the last meagre trail ended, way up 8500 feet above the bounding surf of the Pacific.

There the party was met by forest rangers and upon authority of Superintendent of Parks and Playgrounds Watson, the search began for the finest and tallest tree in the woods. Soon the sharp axes of the woodsmen were busy hewing the big trunk of the forest beauty. It fell with a mighty thud—after resisting the winds and the storms of the past fifty years. How do we know it is 50 years old? Why, the foresters can tell by the rings in the wood.

Then came the job of carrying the fifty foot tree

to the truck. The six Torrance men, aided by a score or more of county foresters carried it thru the thicket and placed it on the strong frame of the Dodge Brothers truck and its trailer.

By noon, the fallen giant and its party were back at the County Playground camp, tired but happy that they had found such a perfect tree for the folks back home.

The long trip down the mountain grade was slow but uneventful and the truck with its precious cargo pulled into Torrance at 6:30 p. m. It was parked alongside the Bank of Italy building for its rest through the night, and George LaPlante took its picture, like you see above, resting on the truck and trailer.

Next day, Thursday, bright and early, Andy Gascoigne and his crew were back on the job erecting their prize, and it was not until then that passersby realized what a perfect tree it was—round, and tall and graceful. Its broken branches were replaced with others brought from sister trees in the forest. So now it stands, erect, and challenging, the tall flag pole at its side to touch the sky.

All day Saturday and Monday, the Two Macks Electric Company men have been stringing the thousand colored lights that will adorn its shapely limbs. And what a sight it will be, all aglow with a thousand lights, and tinsel, and stars, and glittering snow. Alongside its base, workmen are building an Eskimo hut for Santa Claus and very soon now, dear old Saint Nicholas will come to Torrance and be "at home" in his Eskimo hut to talk with the little boys and girls of Torrance, and Lomita and Gardena, and Moneta—WALTERIA, Keystone, and all around the countryside. He wants you to come and give him your order for Christmas eve. We haven't heard exactly when Santa is to arrive in Torrance, but we are sure when he sees this wonderful Yule tree with its thousand lights, he won't be able to stay away long. So keep watching for him—he'll be in his Eskimo hut in the little park in front of the Torrance Theatre.

### HUGE EXPOSITION TO HONOR STATE'S 80 YEARS OF PROGRESS



Here are the men delegated by Governor C. C. Young and A. R. Heron, state director of finance, to carry on the 1929 California State Fair and Pageant of Progress. Constituted as the California State Agricultural Society, they are: Back row, left to right: Harold J. McCurry of Sacramento, Fred H. Bixby of Long Beach, Charles W. Paine of Sacramento, Edward Dinkelspiel of Suisun and W. H. Brooks of El Centro. Front row—Carl A. Melcher of McFarland, Sam H. Greene of Oakland, T. H. Ramsay of Red Bluff, R. A. Condee of Chino, John M. Perry of Stockton, Ellis Franklin of Colfax, Justus F. Craemer of Orange and A. C. Hardison of Santa Paula. Condee is president of the state fair and Paine, secretary-manager. As 1929 is the eightieth anniversary of the admission of California to the Union, the State Fair next year will have as its theme "Eighty Years of Progress," and will be planned on a greater scale than ever before. It is expected arrangements will be made whereby all the other western states, Canada, Mexico, Alaska and Hawaii will join in the mammoth exposition. The big event will be held at Sacramento, opening August 30th and concluding on Admission Day, September 9th.

**TWO CARS HIT; NOBODY HURT**  
Cars driven by June Johnson of the Norman Arms apartments and Walker Schroeder, 311 Portola avenue, collided at the intersection of Portola and Redondo boulevard Saturday evening around 6 o'clock. No one was injured in the crash.

### TORRANCE RNA WIN CONTEST FOR MEMBERS

Torrance Royal Neighbors Drill Team Work Highly Applauded

Climaxing a two months' life insurance and membership contest drive in which seven camps of the Royal Neighbors of America rivaled for honors, the Torrance camp was acclaimed victorious last Thursday night when the society met in Inglewood to hold its initiatory rituals. Through earnest endeavor the Torrance camp brought the amount of its insurance up to \$8,242.00 above the \$10,000 quota, set for each camp when the drive was launched in October, and Inglewood fell short of the Torrance figure only \$172.00. The remaining camps, Sawtelle, Ocean Park, San Pedro, Redondo and Culver City, will have to bring in the required amount by June, when the jubilee contest ends. Mrs. Kirchner, district deputy stated.

In all, ninety-five new members were brought into the society, and fifty-one of that number were initiated with Mrs. Norah Kinsor, oracle of the Redondo camp, putting on the work. The Inglewood and Torrance drill teams did some beautiful work, and were highly complimented by State Supervisor Mrs. Christiana Hamill, who recently toured the state for the purpose of visiting R. N. A. camps and investigating activities in them. Mrs. Hamill declared that Thursday night's class was the largest she has yet had an opportunity to participate in. She urges members to continue in their efforts to secure new members for this progressive organization which has a membership of over 400,000.

A delightful entertainment program, featuring vocal and piano numbers, and a two act play, concluded the evening's performance.

### GET LICENSE PLATES WED. AFTERNOONS

The new 1930 automobile license plates may be procured over the counter at the Oakland-Frontier agency, 1412 Carson street, on Monday, December 16th, and every Wednesday afternoon thereafter until January 15th. This service is offered by the Automobile Club of Southern California to its members and also to non-residents who are making applications for their first California license. C. S. Evans, representative of the Southern California club stated. Only thirty days is allowed by the state this year for motorists to secure license, and drivers are urged to make their applications early for this reason. It will be unlawful to drive with 1929 plates after January 15th unless application has been made for new plates by that time.

### Two Bikes Stolen From Local Theatre

Bicycles belonging to A. Dumont, 2741 Arlington avenue and Paul Knapp, 2350 Eldorado avenue, were stolen from outside the Torrance theatre a couple of days ago. Full descriptions of the bikes have been given to the local police, who are looking for the thieves.

### OIL COMPANY HAS 200-ACRE TRACT LEASED

Harbor Oil and Gas Corporation Starts Active Operations in Keystone

The Harbor Oil and Gas Corporation, which has started operations in Keystone, has acquired approximately 200 acres of oil and gas leases from Ira Foreman and others in the heart of what some of the leading geologists of the country claim is the big oil basin of the Los Angeles Basin. The above mentioned leases are within the area bounded by Vermont avenue, on the west, Carson street on the east and Willow street on the south which was formerly a part of the Carson estate. The oil leases are surrounded by five major oil tank farms and five test holes have been drilled to locate the structure.

The Harbor Oil and Gas Corporation started drilling operations on a test well, November 13, 1929, on Lot 4, tract 2952. The pump-hole and spud cellar are already completed and the mud pit will be completed within the next few days. The drilling contract has been let and signed and the rig builders have moved in a load of foundation timbers for derrick and derricks and make ready to install first class rotary equipment and spud in at the earliest possible date.

It is reported that the Archer No. 1 well which spudded in Sept. 5 has wonderful showings and it is understood that it is now down 4802 feet and the crew is now reaming the hole making ready to set casing. Many of the major oil companies are leasing in the district and many individual leasing agents are active.

The Harbor Oil and Gas Corporation is negotiating at this time with several large drilling companies to start their wells immediately.

There is certainly a plenty of excitement around the new field. Mr. Harry J. Keeley, secretary of the company says in his opinion the Keystone district will be another Signal Hill and Santa Fe Springs in production, if not larger. The Harbor Oil and Gas Corporation has opened a field office at 22402 South Main street, Keystone, 3 1/2 miles north of Wilmington.

**FOOD SALE**  
Lutheran Ladies' Aid ladies will hold a food and apron sale at the Figgly Wigly Saturday, December 14, beginning at 9:30.

ONLY 12 SHOPPING DAYS 'TIL CHRISTMAS

### Christmas Bargain Saturday This Week, December 14

The last Bargain Saturday of the year will be staged by Torrance Merchants this week, and a tempting array of Christmas values has been prepared to attract buyers to Torrance stores. Copies of this edition will be sent to every resident of Gardena, Moneta, Lomita, Keystone, WALTERIA and all territory between the city limits of Los Angeles, Long Beach, and Redondo Beach. Outstanding sales items in crisp new holiday gift merchandise will be offered for the weekend, and readers of the Torrance Herald and Lomita News will find much to interest them in the big edition that will be distributed Friday morning.