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The Torrance Herald

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FIFTEENTH YEAR—No. 58 TORRANCE, CALIF., THURSDAY, DEC. 26, 1929

DOLLS DANCE, TOYS PLAY IN BOOSTER HALL

Keystone Community Christmas Festival One of Best in Keystone History

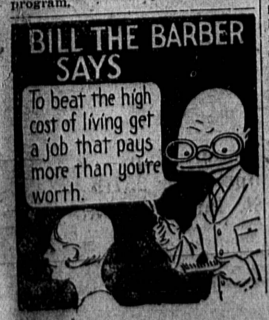
KEYSTONE, Dec. 26—Residents of Keystone had the opportunity on Monday evening of witnessing one of the best programs ever given in Keystone. Under the direction of Mrs. H. B. Transchel, general chairman, assisted by a corps of women, the first attempt at a community Christmas program and tree, was made with the Boosters' Hall on Main street the setting. The hall was filled with people from the community to witness this community event. To make this affair the success that it was the various organizations of Keystone and the Keystone Baptist church and some individuals contributed both with funds and with their time and effort, everybody working hand in hand to make the event a success. A Christmas tree decorated with tinsel, colored lights and many oranments was a beautiful sight.

Beautiful costumes were used throughout the program making it very picturesque. Thomas A. Cowan, president of the Chamber of Commerce opened the program making several announcements and welcoming those present.

The program follows: recitations, "Welcome" by Harold Gregory, "Merry Christmas," by Phyllis Howe, and "If I Were You," by William Transchel and Noriyuki Masuada, and "Daddy's Gift," by Verna Bredahl. This was followed by "The Doll's Christmas Eve" a play depicting the magic hour of midnight on Christmas Eve when the dolls and other toys came to life for one hour. Mrs. Harry C. Rocque took the part of the mother reading the bedtime story to the children. Many of the younger children in Keystone took parts in this play, each in costume. The scripture reading by Mrs. H. B. Transchel was made quite realistic by the beautiful pantomime of the birth of Christ and the shepherds arriving. Community carol singing was led by Rev. H. B. Transchel, pastor of the Keystone Baptist church accompanied at the piano by Miss Monavee Cowan. The last number on the program was the cantata "The Crowning of Christmas." The theme of the cantata was that the children of Keystone could not decide which holiday of the year was the best and so each holiday appeared to plead their cause. Thomas A. Cowan Jr., announced the holidays.

Little LaVon Cooper represented New Year's Day. Appearing with her were the four seasons of the year represented by Audree Rocque, Ruth Nahmens, Charlotte Tipton and Lillian Strohl. Dressed as George Washington, Norris Lindsey spoke for Washington's birthday. Children's day was represented by a group of girls and boys, Henrietta King giving a recitation. Independence day came forth with Henrietta Brown taking the part of "Miss Columbia" and Roland Sampson as "Uncle Sam" followed by a group of girls and boys. Dressed as puritans, Mrs. George Nahmens and Z. W. Jennings represented Thanksgiving day and sang a beautiful duet. "Christmas Day" was represented by Santa Claus and was acclaimed by all is the best holiday of the year. Phyllis Howe crowned him as the best holiday.

Bags of candy and nuts were distributed to the children by Santa Claus and a turkey was presented to Rev. and Mrs. H. B. Transchel by an appreciative group of the community for their untiring efforts during the rehearsals of the program.



Japanese Children Given Party at New Salm Home, Their Gift To The King

The true Christmas spirit was exemplified Tuesday afternoon when a most unique Christmas party was given by Mr. and Mrs. John Salm for 60 Japanese children.

The spacious basement of their beautiful new home on 182nd street was used for the event. It was decorated in red and green with a lovely Christmas tree as a center.

An impromptu program was given by the children, after which the scriptures on the birth of Jesus were read from the second chapter of Luke by Jeannette Jones.

Mrs. Salm then told the children why we celebrate Christmas, by giving the story of His love.

Japanese children were made happy, each one receiving a gift and a beautiful silver cornucopia, filled with candy. They were dismissed with prayer by little Margaret Ruth Salm who prayed that they too might know Jesus.

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Math. 25:40.

Christmas Cantata to Be Given at Christian Church

The Christmas cantata, "Tidings of Great Joy," will be given at the Torrance Christian Church, Engracia at Arlington, next Sunday evening, December 29, beginning at 7:30 sharp. The text was arranged and music composed by E. L. Ashford. Mr. Elder, pastor of the church says: "This beautiful cantata will be given by our chorus, choir numbering twenty voices, the personnel of which is as follows: Sopranos, Mrs. Jane Briney, Betty Danford, Mrs. Earl Babcock, Mrs. Francis Buskley, Mrs. Velma Sanderson and Mrs. John Hoffmaster; altos, Mrs. L. G. Danford, Mrs. E. G. Rowell, Mrs. R. V. Roelofs, Mrs. Effie Booher and Mrs. George Elder; tenors, Mr. Scott Ludlow, Mr. Lex Briney, Mr. Selby and Mr. George Elder; basso, Mr. L. G. Danford, Mr. Luther Pierce, Mr. Earl Babcock and R. V. Roelofs; Mrs. Percy Jameson, pianist; Miss Peters, violinist, and R. V. Roelofs, director. This cantata has been in the course of preparation for several weeks. Mr. Roelofs, director, and his assistants have worked hard in order that every number might be put in what one may term, a first class condition.

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No. 1—Hearken Unto Me. (Opening chorus by the choir).
No. 2—Oh, Come, Emmanuel, (Soprano solo).
No. 3—Therefore the Redeemed Shall Return. (Quartet).
No. 4—My Soul Doth Magnify the Lord. (Solo, quartet, choir).
No. 5—Pastorale. (Piano and quartet).
No. 6—There Were Shepherds. (Soprano solo, violin, women's voices, men's voices, choir).
No. 7—The Virgin's Cradle Hymn (Contralto solo and men's quartet).
No. 8—Christ Was Born on Christmas Day. (Choir).
No. 9—Quest of the Magi. (Baritone solo, men's voices).
No. 10—Come and Worship. (Final chorus by the choir).

"We have spared neither time nor effort, not even expense in making this cantata ready for the public's reception," says Mr. Elder.

Two hundred copies of the printed text will be available for distribution. "A festival of music you cannot afford to miss," said the pastor.

TELEGRAM AND CHECK GIVEN TO REV. ELDER

At the close of the Sunday morning services at the First Christian church, R. V. Roelofs, chairman of the board called Rev. and Mrs. Elder to the front and read the following telegram:

"Merry Christmas and the best of everything for the New Year to you and yours." (Signed) Members of the First Christian church, and then presented to the pastor and his wife a check for $41.00, as a token of love and appreciation of their year of service here.

Rev. and Mrs. Elder were at a loss for words to express their appreciation, and the Reverend's eyes filled as he told the reporter of the gift.

FATHER OF MRS. DEGNER IS MURDERED

Funeral services for John Kraml, 69, who was brutally murdered in a San Pedro store recently were held Monday at the Goodrich mortuary in San Pedro, with interment at Roosevelt Memorial park.

Mr. Kraml was the father of Mrs. E. E. Degner of 1230 Acacia avenue, Torrance.

The victim worked at the men's clothing store of his son-in-law, Gus Kroesen, from 9 p. m. until 8 a. m. and was evidently taken by surprise by the murderer while in the act of putting a pair of sox into a box. When found, with his head crushed almost beyond recognition, he still clutched a pair of sox in one hand and a box in the other.

Bloody fingerprints were found on the cash register in the store, showing that an attempt had been made to open it, and the wallet and watch of the dead man were missing.

Although the murderer left finger prints and bloody foot tracks behind him, yet he failed to leave traces leading to his apprehension.

Captain H. L. Barlow, the finger print expert of the police department, and the man who identified William Edward Hickman two years ago, is working on the Kraml case.

MORE WELLS GOING DOWN IN KEYSTONE

Over 125 Foot Oil Sand Reported in Archer No. 1—Other Drillers Plan Holes

Harbor Oil and Gas Corporation have completed all arrangements for immediate operations on the Stone lease here which is 3½ miles north of Wilmington. All machinery and a first class rotary rig will be on the lease ready to install the minute the derrick is completed. This well will be spudded in about 1200 feet from the Archer No. 1, which has wonderful showings at 5150 feet. It has been reported upon good authority that they have approximately 125 feet of very fine oil sand carrying high gravity oil.

The Harbor Oil and Gas Corporation have in excess of 200 acres under lease and secretary, Harry J. Keeley, when interviewed states the company is negotiating for the drilling of two and probably three more wells in the immediate vicinity of its test well, 22404 South Main street, where the company is moving its new field office.

Many oil drillers from Signal Hill and Santa Fe Springs are watching results from Archer No. 1 and Harbor-Stone wells and it has been stated upon good authority that 13 oil operators and drillers from the above mentioned fields have secured interests in leases with a view to drilling in the Keystone district, offsetting several leases owned by Harbor Oil and Gas Corporation.

ANNUAL SALT CROP HARVEST OF MANY TONS

Harbor District Concern Supplies Canneries with Important Commodity

The annual crop of salt at the Long Beach Salt company's plant just east of Wilmington totaled this year about 5000 tons, according to E. H. Ward, the manager. The crop has just been harvested.

The salt company has about 200 acres of land extending from Cerritos channel west to the turning basin of the harbor to Anaheim boulevard. Each spring the acreage is flooded with brine from the sea. The evaporation process takes about six months. Evaporation of the water leaves the salt on the ground. Then the salt is gathered, piled up in large heaps to dry under the sun. It is subsequently taken into the mill and refined. Following the refinement process it is packed and shipped to various markets.

From Manager Ward it was learned that most of the crop of the local concern is purchased by the canneries in the harbor district.

The Long Beach Salt company two years ago obtained 5500 acres of land at Dry Salt Lake, twenty-five miles northwest of Mojave. The crop there this year totaled 10,000 tons.

Because of the rarefied air at the desert the evaporation there is much more rapid than here. The evaporation in Long Beach takes six months; on the desert the evaporation takes only four months.

It is claimed that salt obtained by evaporation is better than salt obtained in mines.

The Long Beach Salt company is one of the oldest, if not the oldest, industry in this district. It was established in 1900. About

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TWO WOMEN ARE KILLED BY SAILORS' CAR

Mrs. Ornberg and Mrs. Luce Lose Lives in Crash at 128th St. and Western Avenue Wednesday Night

Mrs. Bent Ornberg, 457 West 16th Street, San Pedro, was killed instantly and Mrs. Eva Luce, 1731 South Walker, San Pedro, died at the Georgia Street receiving hospital in Los Angeles, from injuries received when the sedan in which they were riding with Mrs. Ornberg collided with one driven by Edward P. Martin, also of San Pedro, about 10 o'clock Wednesday night at 128th and Western avenue. Reports from the sheriff's substation at 108th and Vermont did not state the extent of Mrs. Ornberg's injuries nor those of Mrs. Effie Franklin, 746 West 11th street, San Pedro, also an occupant of the Ornberg car. Mrs. Ornberg's body was taken to the Gilliland funeral parlors at Hawthorne.

The Ornberg and Martin cars were traveling south on Western avenue and as Martin attempted to pass the other car they collided, both rolling over. The Ornberg car was overturned and hit a tree. The car was wrecked.

Martin was accompanied by J. K. Weidner, Randolph Carlson and S. N. Hanson, all sailors on the steamship Indian Arrow, General Petroleum tanker. The sedan they were driving was rented from an auto parking station in San Pedro.

CHURCH FILLED FOR PAGEANT

Sixty Dollar Offering Following Christmas Service at First Christian

A crowd, estimated at two hundred fifty to three hundred, (including the little folks), witnessed the Christmas pageant, "Somebody Cares," rendered at the First Christian church last Sunday evening. Rev. Elder, pastor of the church, commenting on the crowd said: "The congregation tonight reminds one of an eastern congregation. You know it is generally conceded that people attend church services in greater numbers back east than in California. However, we have reversed the order this evening. It does me good to see many of you standing, not that I like to see you really standing but that the crowd and interest proved it. It is reported that many have been turned away."

So pleased were the people with the little folks and members of the cast that they gave expression of their gratitude by making an offering of $60.00 for Benevolence. The "Melody Maids," Albert Morrazz, accordionist, Betty Stevenson and Bobbie Elder, violinists, made splendid contributions to the program. Mrs. Hoffmaster and Mrs. Elder, directed the entertainment of the evening.

Protest Date Set for Improvement of 252nd Street

The improvement of 252nd street between Belleporte avenue and the west boundary of the City of Los Angeles (Shoestring strip) advanced another step last week when the Los Angeles City Council adopted an ordinance of intention to do the work. January 22, 1930 was fixed as the date for hearing any protests.

TOM M'NEIL BADLY HURT IN AUTO ACCIDENT

Popular Torrance Youth Unconscious for 30 Hours Following Crash on Western Avenue

Thomas McNeil, 1744 Andreo avenue, is in a serious condition at the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital as the result of an auto accident at 186th and Western avenue about 7 o'clock Christmas eve.

The boy suffered a concussion of the brain, as well as cuts and bruises, and did not regain consciousness for 30 hours after the accident.

It is asserted that McNeil was going north on Western avenue and lost control of his car in attempting to pass another car traveling in the same direction. His roadster hit a telegraph pole on the left side of the road and was wrecked. The youth was on his way to Los Angeles to bring his sister home for Christmas.

Thomas is 17 years old, and the son of Mr. and Mrs. T. D. McNeil of 1744 Andreo avenue.

TWO KILLED THREE HURT IN ACCIDENT

Mr. and Mrs. Michielsen in Hospital; Mr. and Mrs. Sperry Die Near Anaheim

A tragic ending to a merry Christmas reunion was the instant death of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sperry of Anaheim, which occurred in an auto crash west of that city early Wednesday night.

Following a joyous day at the home of Mr. Sperry's sister, Mrs. J. W. Michielsen, 2550 Redondo boulevard, the Sperrys in the Michielsen car, were enroute to their home when the crash occurred. Mr. Michielsen was driving.

Mrs. Michielsen is in the Orange County hospital with fractured ribs and possible internal injuries, and Mrs. H. C. McCreery, 1472 West Jefferson street, Los Angeles, driver of the other car is in the same hospital in a critical condition.

Mr. Michielsen, his head and hands a mass of bandages is still in a dazed condition. He doesn't know what—nor how it happened. He believes, however, that the other car struck them broadside.

Mr. and Mrs. Sperry are survived by two daughters, Mrs. Miller, wife of Dr. Ernest Miller, well known physician of Anaheim, and Mrs. Dave Russell, also well known in that city.

Mrs. Michielsen is an active member of the Orange street P.-T. A. Telephone reports from the hospital, as we go to press, are to the effect that her condition is favorable. X-rays will be made today, to determine the extent of injuries.

TENTH DIST. MEETING HELD IN GARDENA

The next meeting of the Tenth District P.-T. A. will be held at Gardena high school on Jan. 2. Tenth district meetings are as a rule held in Los Angeles, but for the coming date an exception will be made, with the view to permitting the members of the Tenth district to see and admire the beautiful oil paintings which are a part of the decorations of the Gardena high school.

A splendid program has been prepared for the afternoon, and at noon the Gardena high school association will serve a 50-cent luncheon.

All members of the Torrance P.-T. A. are urged to attend.

Assessment Maps Adopted for 257th St. Improvements

Assessment district maps were adopted December 18th for the improvement of 257th street between Belleporte avenue and the west boundary of the city of Los Angeles.

FORD PLANT NEARLY READY

—Courtesy Long Beach Sun.

The above pictures give an excellent idea of the progress of construction at the Ford plant. The upper left picture shows the big warehouse. The brick work on the exterior of this structure is now under way. Upper right picture shows the interior of the assembly building, where the production equipment will be installed. Lower left picture shows the two-story office building, which will be completed in thirty days. Lower right picture shows the warehouse from the water. In front can be seen the oil house, and in back can be located the water tower that is now being erected.

March 1 has been set as the date the $10,000,000 assembly plant of the Ford Motor company at the harbor is to go on production. On that day the Clinton Construction company, which has the general contract for building the plant, will complete its work, and if machinery and equipment for the factory arrives on schedule, the wheels will begin turning at the assembly plant on that date, less than 2½ months hence, it was stated this week.

Production equipment is arriving daily and two immense boilers from Erie City, Pa., arrived on the President Polk. They will have 292 horsepower each.

As the production equipment will all be installed in the assembly building, finishing touches can be applied to other buildings without interfering in any way wth production activities.

Usually production equipment for new Ford plants is shipped with unerring dispatch from Detroit, and because of this fact indications point not only to the completion but also to the operation of the motor company's establishment on March 1.

In thirty days the office building should be completed and in six weeks the large warehouse should be finished. The oil house and the assembly building are now about 95 percent complete.

The brick work on the warehouse has been initiated, and the steel work on the warehouse is virtually finished save for a small portion of fill work on the structural steel.

The pour of concrete on the first floor of the warehouse has been made and this week the pour of concrete on the second floor of this structure is being made.

With the plastering of the interior of the office building completed, the application of the concrete finish to the floors will proceed with the same rapidity and skill that have characterized the construction of the Ford Motor company's gigantic plant in the harbor district.

In the assembly building there will be a network of conveyors but not many machines it is understood.

It is estimated that about 3500 people will be employed at the new Ford assembly plant, and Torrance will benefit materially by this increased employment, as a large number of these employees will reside in Torrance, and particularly in Keystone and East Torrance, because of their close proximity to the Ford factory.

Torrance retail merchants are expecting a substantial increase in trade from the Ford employees as soon as the factory is in operation about March 1. Already a large number of workers in the Wilmington refineries have made their homes in Torrance and Keystone, and the employment offered by the Ford plant will take up whatever unemployment there may be among Torrance workers during the curtailment of drilling operations in the oil industry.