

Consolidated
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Torrance Herald
and Lomita News

The Torrance Herald

and LOMITA NEWS

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EX-CONVICT IS CHARGED WITH GRAVE CRIME

Knife Victim Accuses Man of Mayhem; Hearing is To- morrow Afternoon

As result of an alleged drunken brawl at the home of Dave Adamson, 2930-C Camino Real sometime Sunday night, a Lomita resident, Lars Olsen, 40, lost his right eye, and a man who gave his name as John Lang, 48, address unknown, is to have a preliminary hearing tomorrow, Friday, afternoon on charges of mayhem.

Although Lang and his companion, who gave the name of John Rhodes, 48, of no particular address, deny he assaulted Olsen and claim they were not present outside the house when the accident happened, Olsen from his bed at the Torrance Memorial hospital signed the complaint against Lang Tuesday and positively identified his assailant, according to police.

Unattended 20 Hours

Dave Adamson, owner of the house where the alleged assault took place, was not present when it occurred. Police learned when questioning several people who frequented the house Sunday night, Olsen received a deep gash, which police believe was inflicted from a knife, under his right eye. Surgeons at the hospital removed the injured eye a few hours after Olsen was received for treatment. His condition was serious for some time due to being left nearly 20 hours without medical attention following the assault fight between him and Lang and possibly Rhodes.

Victim at Hearing

Lang, who admitted under questioning by police Monday, that he served 18 months in an Ohio penitentiary recently for highway robbery, was picked up near Adamson's home with Rhodes Sunday afternoon. Both of the men, who are "gentlemen of the road," admit spending the night at the Camino Real address and indulging in liquor.

Physicians at the hospital have told police Olsen will be able to attend the preliminary hearing of the felony charge against Lang tomorrow in Judge C. T. Rippey's court. Olsen has been described to police as a very quiet man, it is reported, but that he indulged in some liquor at Adamson's home. Olsen also took other men, Rhodes is being held in jail with Lang as a material witness.

It is also claimed that two girls and a young man were at Adamson's home Sunday night and that they saw the three men present. They are expected to testify. A deputy district attorney will be present at the hearing to prosecute the case against Lang.

Ray Young Gets Ideco Promotion

Returns as Plant and Office Manager Here

Raymond C. Young was promoted this week to the position of plant and office manager of the International Derrick and Equipment Company in Torrance. For the past few months he has had charge of the Los Angeles sales office of the company. Previous to coming to Torrance five years ago, Young was associated with the same company at its general office in Columbus, Ohio.

Young took over his new duties at the Torrance plant this week, and his many Torrance friends are rejoicing in his return to active participation in the business and social life of this community.

BILL THE BARBER SAYS

There are men who are so impatient they can hardly wait until tomorrow, except in a speakeasy

VISITS BROTHER

S. J. Schmid of Tacoma is visiting his brother, Rev. G. G. Schmid, of this city for a few days.

"Fortune Telling" Said Unprofitable

Acting on the belief that a woman "reader of fortunes" would not earn \$50 a year here, the amount of the license for such a profession, the City Council Tuesday night disallowed a request by a Mrs. S. M. Payne to operate in the city.

Mrs. Payne stated in her letter of application for a permit that she "expected to be a resident of Torrance."

NEW WOMEN'S CLUB TO HOLD INSTALLATION

Business and Professional Women Plan Initial Event for January 12

Officers of the National Business and Professional Women of Torrance who are to be installed January 12 at a meeting at Earl's cafe are: Miss Margaret Gensler, office manager for the Torrance Water, Light and Power Company, president; Mrs. Faye V. Howard, buyer and saleslady at Rappaport's department store, vice president; Miss Lute Fraser, secretary Lomita-Torrance Publishing Company, recording secretary; Miss Margaret G. Shell, technician for Dr. N. A. Leske, corresponding secretary; and Esther Z. Maxwell, superintendent, Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital, treasurer.

Invitations have been sent to the Los Angeles, South Bay district, Culver City, and Riverside clubs, which are expected to be well represented. Dr. Florence Mae Morris, president of the California State League, and Mrs. Anne Leidendecker, president of the Los Angeles club, who helped materially to launch the new Torrance club, will be present. Special invitations have been extended to Mrs. Caroline Collins, president of the Torrance Women's club; Sam Levy, president of Rotary; Sam Rappaport, president of Elswans; Mayor John Dennis; W. Rufus Page and Carl L. Hyde, president and secretary of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce; Grover E. Whyte, editor of the Torrance Herald; and Earl Connor, commander of the Bert L. (Continued on Page 6-A)

NEW KIWANIS LEADERS ARE GIVEN PARTY

Sam Rappaport, President, Announces Committee Chairmen Friday

Sam Rappaport will preside for the first time at a regular noon meeting tomorrow, Friday, at 12 o'clock, when the Torrance Kiwanis club will start a new year under brand new officers. Rappaport and the other incoming leaders of the club were inducted into office at a dinner-dance held last Friday evening at Earl's cafe.

The other officers for 1931 are: Henry F. Ulbright, vice president; C. T. Rippey, district trustee; Paul Vonderhabe, treasurer, and James W. Leach resumes his duties as secretary.

Committee chairmen announced by President Rappaport at the evening meeting last week, are: Charles Schulz, program; Earl Conner, public affairs; C. T. Rippey, inter-club relations; Michael Strasser, publicity; Ed Tansey, sports; Frank Steinhilber, Boy Scouts; Rev. E. A. Young, education; Dr. O. E. Fossum, music; Frank Steinhilber, underprivileged children; Guy L. Mowry, vocational guidance; Dr. R. F. Bishop, reception; Paul Vonderhabe, attendance; Ben Rappaport, house; A. D. Hayes, business standards; William Gascoigne, agriculture; Bert Avere, finance; J. R. Jensen, law and regulations; and Douglas Collins, classification and membership.

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COUNTY AND CITY CHIEFS BID TO MEET

Supervisors, L. A. Councilmen and Mayors Are Invited Here January 15

Activities of the Harbor-District Chambers of Commerce will be formally presented to leaders in this territory Thursday, January 15, when the city of Torrance will play host to members of the organization, the County Board of Supervisors, the Los Angeles City Council and the mayors of eight cities.

Torrance's opportunity to greet the county and city officials was made possible through the courtesy of the local Chamber of Commerce and Mayor John Dennis. The Chamber has invited the Supervisors, Mayor John C. Porter, Wynn Sanborn, president of the Los Angeles council, and the 14 members of that body.

Mayor Dennis has personally sent invitations to the mayors of Long Beach, Redondo, Hermosa, Manhattan Beach, Gardena, Compton and Signal Hill to attend the general dinner meeting to be held at the Torrance Women's club house beginning at 6:30 p. m., January 15. The honored officials will be guests of the city at the dinner session.

The speaker of the evening will be Frederick J. Koster, president of the California Development Association, and well known state industrial executive. Koster is coming from San Francisco especially to address the Harbor-District association of civic bodies. Arrangements are being made to present a fine entertainment program with the evening's meeting. Installation of officers for 1931 will also be held. A late afternoon session (Continued on Page 3-A)

OFFICIAL CITY COUNCIL NEWS IS PUBLISHED

Full Report of Work Done at Meetings Ordered Printed in Herald

Beginning next week, the city will publish a full report of all council meetings in the Torrance Herald. The first report will be printed in next week's issue. The official proceedings will be published hereafter in the issues of each week following each meeting.

Councilman Ed Nelson, in proposing the publication of the council's activities in detail, declared that such a report should prove to be of great interest to non-resident property owners and citizens who do not attend the council meetings. He also stated that industrialists may obtain valuable information on the city's business in this manner.

Included in the report is the statement of all bills allowed and (Continued on Page 4-A)

Co-Ordination of All Relief Work In City Planned

A plan to co-ordinate all charity work in the city is expected to be formed by a committee headed by R. R. Smith, which was authorized by the directors of the Chamber of Commerce Monday following a plea made by officers and members of the Good Cheer club for assistance in securing funds for relief work from the city of Los Angeles or the Los Angeles Community Chest.

Mrs. Harry Kent, Mrs. Beth Paige and Mrs. Maude Cowan, of the club which has been doing splendid consistent charity work among residents of the Shoestring strip as well as Torrance, asked the directors of the Chamber to help them secure funds from Los Angeles for relief work in the city territory adjoining Torrance.

Smith and his committee will try to work out a plan whereby all relief measures will be under one supervising body in the city and thus avoid costly duplications and oversight of needy cases. The directors expressed their appreciation of the Good Cheer club's fine charitable endeavors and promised their whole-hearted assistance.

UNEMPLOYED Men and Women Should Register at Chamber

Five-Day Census of Those Out of Work Starts Tomorrow, Friday, Morning at 8:30 o'Clock Here

For five days, beginning tomorrow, Friday, morning at 8:30 o'clock, all men and women of Torrance who are out of work and who need employment, will be registered at the Chamber of Commerce offices by Carol Ashley, formerly of the Union Tool.

Ashley will be on duty to assist those out of work to fill out the registration blanks provided from 8:30 a. m. until 5 p. m., during the five-day period in which, it is hoped, all unemployed will make a special effort to register.

Data Will Aid Allocation Fight

Such a complete census of the jobless situation in Torrance will enable the city to present a formidable plea to the county for an allocation of funds for work here, it was pointed out by the directors of the Chamber who voted Monday to hold such a registration.

Early Registration is Urged

If the city of Torrance can show a substantial amount of unemployment, county aid cannot be denied. It is pointed out that no jobs are offered at the present time to those who will register, but that every effort will be made following the close of the registration period to secure employment for those who fill out the cards provided at the Chamber.

Register early at the Chamber's offices if you want work—don't wait until the last day—help speed up the taking of this vital information so that unemployment in Torrance may be kept down to a minimum through county assistance—REGISTER TOMORROW!

"IDECO" PLANNING FURTHER EXPANSION OF LOCAL PLANT

Growth Compels Widely-Known Industry to Build a New Machine Shop Here for Pacific Coast Business

"We are looking forward to a good year in 1931." This was the smiling answer given by Charles C. Runkle, vice president of the International Derrick and Equipment Company of California, this week as to his views on general business conditions, particularly in regard to his own industry here.

He backed up his statement by declaring that his company is preparing plans and going ahead with the purchase of machinery for further additions to the Torrance works.

New Machine Shop Here

While the manufacture of machinery and tools is carried on at the present time in the company's eastern plants, the Torrance factory on the completion of the new machine shop, now under construction, will have facilities for manufacturing the entire "Ideco" line of products in Southern California.

The growth of the International Derrick and Equipment Company since its organization a little over 10 years ago, has been one of the most outstanding industrial developments in the oil-well equipment manufacturing industry. The company was organized by Harry M. Runkle and the late Gordon Battelle, who introduced the first structural steel derrick to the oil industry, and it is largely through the efforts of the late organization that the producing end of the oil industry has turned almost entirely from the use of wood to steel.

There is no one in Torrance who is not familiar with the development of the oil industry in California, and it is interesting to know that the originators of the towering structural steel derricks that dominate Signal Hill, Huntington Beach, Venice and the many other California oil fields were engineers of the International Derrick and Equipment Company.

Has Many Products

An eastern plant at Columbus, Ohio, specializes in the manufacture of derricks, drilling and pumping rigs, wheels, crown blocks and other oil field equipment in addition to standardized steel buildings, electrical transmission towers, substations and pole line hardware; airport and airway towers and buildings; railway signal towers, masts, floodlight towers and other railway equipment; poster panels, fabricated structural steel and commercial galvanizing.

Another plant located at Marietta, Ohio, is devoted to the manu- (Continued on Page 6-A)

Motorists Must Get Plates Soon Or Take Penalty of Double Cost

California motorists were advised this week by the Division of Motor Vehicles that it will be illegal to operate motor vehicles in the state any time after Thursday, January 15, unless application has been made for 1931 license plates. A penalty equal to the amount of the registration fee will be required shortly thereafter. In the case of the ordinary passenger car this will mean that the tardy motorist must pay \$4, instead of \$2 for his plates. Persons stopped by highway patrolmen will be required to submit evidence that they have filed applications. New plates may be secured by

WATER BOND CONTROVERSY MOVE READY

Write to "Compel" Dolley to Issue Bonds to Be Filed Soon

City Attorney Perry G. Briney and the firm of O'Melveny, Taylor and Myer, special counsel retained by the city for the settlement of legal matters pertaining to the issuance of \$400,000 water bonds, will enter the Appellate Court the first of next week to effect an early adjudication of the issues surrounding the construction of the publicly-owned water system for the city.

The city's counsel will file a petition for a writ of mandamus to ask the court for City Treasurer Harry H. Dolley's appearance to show cause why he should not issue the bonds for the system.

Early Decision Expected

Dolley "technically" refused to honor the bonds at a meeting of the council held last week. His action was pre-arranged in order that the city might enter the Appellate Court at once instead of in the Superior Court, where considerable delay might result.

The Appellate Court is expected to order Dolley into its presence for his explanation of why he should not issue the bonds. Then the matter will be threshed out between the city's attorneys and counsel for the Torrance Water, Light and Power Company, who will, for the purpose of opposing the bond issue, defend Dolley's actions. All of the arguments will be printed and submitted to the court for a decision, which is expected sometime the latter part of February or the early part of March.

REGISTRATION OF JOBLESS UNDER WAY

Captain Laski at County Fire Station is in Charge at Lomita

A supply of the registration blanks to be filled out by residents in county territory who are unemployed, have been received by Captain Frank Laski, in charge of County Fire Station, Engine No. 6, at Lomita. Laski urges all county residents who are out of work to call at the station house, located at 2931 Weston street, and fill out the forms provided at once.

"My instructions are to send in the completed cards as fast as they are filled out," Laski said this week. "I will do that and in addition will keep a list of the unemployed at the station so that anyone desiring to help the unemployed may have access to the information obtained from the registration plan."

Early Registration Urged

Both men and women are to be registered, with different forms for each. According to the County Regional Director of Unemployment (Continued on 4-A)

McDonald Tract In Line for Free Garbage Service

McDonald Tract property owners are in line for free garbage removal and better fire protection. These two matters were taken up by the City Council Tuesday night and thoroughly discussed, with the result that they may become a possibility in the near future. A local transfer man who is thought to be equipped to collect garbage, will be interviewed, as to his price on the work. The city may take steps to effect an agreement with the city of Los Angeles for similar work by the same man in the Shoestring Strip.

The applicant is required to present his certificate of registration showing his present address and his fee. If the fee is remitted by mail, money orders, bank drafts or certified checks are acceptable. If the applicant has completed the payments on his car during 1930 and assumed legal ownership, an additional \$1 is required as a transfer fee.

Season's Rainfall Totals 3.17 Inches

Did it rain. Just ask the official weather recorder at the high school! He reported that Torrance received .85 of an inch of moisture from the start of yesterday's storm until 7 a. m. this morning, when the last reading of the rain gauge was made.

This brings the total rainfall to date this season to 3.17, the high school observer declared. Last year Torrance had soaked in about 150 inches of "million dollar" dampness. Let it rain!

OFFICER OLSON IS ACCUSED OF MANHANDLING

Father of 17-Year-Old Boy Claims Misconduct; Hear- ing to Be Held Friday

Charges of "manhandling" Worthington Howe, 17-year-old boy, by Officer Ben Olson, on three occasions, were aired by the boy's father, Ralph B. Howe, of 1508 Amador street, in a letter to the mayor and City Council read Tuesday night.

As result of Howe's accusations, the Police Commission, composed of Councilmen H. R. Smith, G. A. R. Steiner and E. C. Nelson, will hold a hearing on the matter probably tomorrow, Friday, evening, at which time all parties concerned are expected to be present to testify.

Howe's letter detailed the alleged offenses committed against the boy by the local officer and claimed that Officer Olson mistreated the boy "for reasons of his own but not for breaking the law."

Indicates Possible Suit

The latest instance cited by the boy's father occurred on the night of December 20, 1930, when the boy, in company with Charles Steiner, son of Councilman Steiner, and John Wilson, of 1504 Madrid avenue, was allegedly "choked" by the police officer at the Wynns Service Station, corner of Marcellina and Cravena avenues.

Howe's statement purported to give a full account of the circumstances leading up to the officer's actions. The three boys were pumping up a flat tire at (Continued on 4-A)

RAINS QUIT AS COLUMBIA STEEL CHIEF

Will Take Presidency of Eastern Company on February 2

L. F. Rains, vice president of the Columbia Steel Corporation, a subsidiary of the United States Steel Corporation, announced his resignation Tuesday to become president of the A. M. Byers Company.

Rains was one of the founders of the Columbia Steel in 1923, and was vice president and general manager until the company was acquired by the United States Steel last year. It was through his direction that the sale of the Columbia to the larger corporation was effected. He is credited with being one of the leading promotional executives in the steel industry.

Wet Pavement Causes Accident

Although Lewis G. Danford's car turned over twice after skidding off Western avenue highway between El Prado and the northern city boundary, he and his daughter were only slightly cut and waived Monday night in the accident.

Danford, who resides at 2317 Sonoma avenue, is reported to have lost control of the car when it skidded on the wet pavement. The glass in the machine was almost totally demolished.

JUDGE DENNIS TAKES BENCH AMID FLOWERS

New Chambers Are Filled With Tributes From His Many Well-Wishers

Mayor John Dennis became Judge John Dennis, justice of the peace of Lomita Township on Monday morning and promptly swung into his judicial duties like a veteran occupant of the bench. He presided for the first time in former Judge S. D. Patterson's court because his own court room and office were still being prepared next to Wilson's Drug store on Narbonne avenue.

However, when he entered his new court chamber for the first time Tuesday, he was greeted with a number of beautiful floral and fern tributes from his many friends in Lomita and Torrance. This week the new office resembles a florist's shop because the displays are attractively arranged in the large show windows and on the floor of the office ante-chamber.

Judge Dennis' first case was the arising of the charge of disturbing the peace against Dave Adamson, 52, a retired sea captain, of 2930-C Camino Real. Adamson was alleged to have annoyed a Lomita woman while in an intoxicated condition. He was fined \$100 and 90 days in jail, but Judge Dennis tempered justice with mercy and suspended all but \$25 of the sentence on condition that Adamson conduct himself properly and within the law for the next two years. Adamson paid the fine.

Mrs. Wilcox is Clerk

Mrs. Bertha W. Wilcox, who has large office at the Lomita township court since July 1, 1931, is again serving in that capacity under Judge Dennis. Mrs. Wilcox has assisted the two former justices, Judge L. J. Hunter and Judge S. D. Patterson during their terms in office.

A large office room in the front of the quarters occupied by the justice near the corner of Weston and Narbonne avenues, is equipped with desks and files for the justice and his clerk. The court room is set off from the front office by a half partition. The court chamber seats 50 people and has ample desk accommodations for the justice and attorneys.

Floral tributes received at the new court quarters were from Constable Taber and his deputies, George Towne, W. A. Graham, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Laski, Pearl's Restaurant, Ted Wertz and family, Torrance Chamber of Commerce, V. L. Maxfield, L. J. Hunter, Captain Laski and crew of Engine No. 6, and Mr. and Mrs. Martin Smith.

Judge Dennis will serve until the first Monday in January, 1932. His court tries minor civil cases, small claims and misdemeanors and holds preliminary hearings on felonies. It serves the entire township consisting of Torrance, Lomita, Welteria, Keystone and Palos Verdes Estates.

Rotarians Honor Visiting Officer

Hold Dinner - Dance Tonight at Legion Club House

In honor of the official visit of District Governor Arthur S. Crites, who is making his annual inspection of Rotary clubs in this California-Nevada-Hawaii district, the Torrance Rotary club is holding a dinner-dance this evening at the American Legion club house. The district governor will meet with the directors and chairman of all committees at 5 o'clock this afternoon at the Chamber of Commerce. All members are expected to bring their wives or sweethearts as well as guests to the evening party, which will begin at 6:30 o'clock. Crites is a vice president of the Bank of America and National Trust and Savings Association.

Citizenship Class At Evening High Soon

A citizenship class will be started soon at the Torrance evening high school if everyone who wants such a class will register at once. C. C. Kelso, head of the Citizenship department, recently visited here and pays his consent if 20 people registered for it.