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Torrance Herald
and Lomita News

The Torrance Herald

and LOMITA NEWS

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BANKS TO DISTRIBUTE YULE SAVINGS OF \$21,500 HERE

Christmas Club Checks Will Be Mailed To Local Members Nov. 25 and Dec. 1 For Holiday Shopping

Approximately \$21,500 will be distributed in Torrance November 25 and December 1 to members of the First National and Bank of America Christmas Clubs, according to reports from the two banking institutions yesterday.

This flow of cash, representing savings deposited from December 1, last, to the date of the issuance of Christmas fund checks, will undoubtedly stimulate Yuletide buying to a great extent in the Torrance trading area.

Swells Yawning Pocketbooks

Month by month, members of the Christmas savings clubs in the First National and Torrance branch of the Bank of America have been depositing small sums for the express purpose of obtaining it back, with interest, at a time when the community pocket-book yawns to the limit to meet the holiday expenses.

True, a considerable amount of this \$21,500 will be used for the payment of taxes, insurance and fixed expenses, but a greater proportion, it is believed, will go toward gift buying and general Yuletide cheer.

The First National bank will mail out Christmas Club checks to members next Wednesday, November 25. The Bank of America branch will release the funds on December 1.

Merchants Are Ready

Banking executives assert that their collective funds are larger this year than ever before although the individual deposits are relatively less. They say that more people took advantage of the Christmas Club idea last December than previous years and they are looking forward to enrolling a larger number of members next month. The clubs start December 1 in both banks, it is announced.

\$20,000 Damage Suit Is Answered By City

An answer, disclaiming all responsibility, has been filed by the city in Superior Court to the \$20,000 damage suit brought by relatives of Frederick Venema, who died in July, 1930, as result of injuries received when his car plunged off Torrance boulevard at the Maple street intersection. The relatives are holding the city responsible for Venema's death, claiming that the fatal accident was caused by a "dangerous depression in the roadway." City Attorney Findley said the issues were now drawn in the case, and that it will be set for trial in the near future. He could advance no definite date for the court proceedings, he said.

Senior Class Press Agent Writes Glowingly of Comedy, "Jonesy"

The Senior class at the High school, which has such dramatic successes as "The Ghost Bird" and "Troublesome Wives" to its credit, is out to repeat those outstanding student hits with "Jonesy," a four-act comedy which will be given at the auditorium, Friday evening, November 20.

According to Van Barteckho, the class's publicity agent, "this class is well known for its skill in dramas and every member of the class 'Jonesy' will be in plays previously produced at the High school. With all of them combined, they will be a riot, as there are enough laughs in 'Jonesy' to keep you busy laughing for a week."

Wants Us To Imagine Things

A new stage set has been made especially for the play, it is reported, and this should be an added attraction for those who know the real pleasure in watching a High school performance.

Edward Hartwell, who has just entered Torrance High from Catalina, is a graduate of the Pasadena Community playhouse. Van writes, Hartwell takes the name part of the comedy. But let Press Agent Van tell his own story:

"Hartwell is an experienced actor and has had parts in plays as a professional. Can you imagine him bounding across the stage in a pretty pair of silk pajamas and being teased about it by his pretty leading lady, Melvin Lockhart, every time he tries to explain? Well, not know Thespian Hartwell, we can't.

"Can you imagine," continues the High school publicist, "George

Two Issues of Herald Next Week

Early Morning Papers To Be Distributed Tuesday and Friday

Bright and early next Tuesday and Friday mornings your Herald will greet you with the Tuesday issue crammed full of Thanksgiving Day suggestions and pre-holiday bargains in all local and suburban markets.

Arrangements have been made to have the carrier boys report at the Herald office at 6 a. m. each of these mornings to get the Herald for distribution before 7:30 o'clock. Your next Tuesday's Herald will contain all the local news as well as Thanksgiving Day menu suggestions and an array of market attractions. The Friday issue will present the offerings of local merchants for the week-end as well as current news articles.

WATCH FOR THE HERALD EARLY NEXT TUESDAY AND FRIDAY MORNINGS AND DO YOUR SHOPPING FROM THE ADVERTISEMENTS!

Public Bid To Exhibit At School

Book lovers of Torrance have a treat in store tonight and tomorrow evening if they take advantage of the High school library's "open house." One of the most interesting displays of books about all nations together with an exhibition of art objects, utensils and clothing of the various countries will be open to the public this evening and Friday night.

The exhibition is the local school's participation in National Book Week and Miss Florence Behr, librarian, has arranged a very fine display that should be seen by every reader in the community. Tonight the library will be open to the public from 7 until 8:30 o'clock. Friday night's showing of the all-nations exhibit will open at 8 o'clock and close at 8—In time for the presentation of the Junior class play, "Jonesy," in the auditorium.

Residents are cordially invited to make lists of the many fine books—on travel, fiction and exploration—and use it for consultation when obtaining books from the local branch of the county library. Miss Behr will gladly explain the various displays. During the week, all English classes have visited the school library to enjoy the exhibition and note books to be read. The school library consists of over 4000 volumes, one-quarter of which is fiction.

WANT GLIDER EVENTS PUT ON OLYMPICS

Three Chambers Unite To Promote Sport On World Program

Glider flying should be an Olympic sport and entered in the Tenth Olympiad to be held in and around Los Angeles, July 30 to August 14, inclusive, 1932, declare the Chambers of Commerce of Torrance, Redondo and Hermosa Beach.

So those three organizations and officers of the Los Angeles Glider club which has been operating in Torrance at Hollywood Riviera, will interview Olympic officials in the near future to see if gliding can be placed on the Olympics program. All three chambers are backing the idea and point out that no extra financing will be necessary to have this thrilling sport entered in the world contests.

Hermosa has donated a hangar to the gliding enthusiasts and M. F. Marlow, vice president of Clifford F. Reid, Inc., subdividers and developers of Hollywood Riviera, where the gliding events are being staged each Sunday afternoon, is a strong supporter of the Olympic plan.

REGISTRATION CONTINUES

Registration of men who desire employment with the Metropolitan Water District when the giant Metropolitan aqueduct gets under way within the next few months will continue at the city hall here next Saturday, all day. Only Torrance citizens for one year prior to October 13, 1931, are eligible to register here.

EAST ASSURED OF PERFECT LETTUCE FROM PLANT HERE

At 1 o'clock Monday afternoon the Torrance plant of the California Produce Company started a lettuce packing schedule which will proceed uninterruptedly until May 1. This week 22 employees, all but four of whom have lived in Torrance some time, are at work. In a few weeks 36 workers will be employed at the plant which was formerly known as the Frank Sammons' warehouse located on 21st street off Border avenue.

CELERY PACK STARTS HERE IN NEW SHED

Chula Vista Shipper Plans Packing Local Lettuce Within Few Weeks

Twenty-two men started work yesterday morning packing "Chula Vista" brand celery at Walter M. Sharp's new packing shed on Oak street south of Carson street. Sharp, who came here from Chula Vista, said that the plant will operate continuously until at least July 1. A larger crew will be employed when the lettuce packing equipment is set up; a matter of about two or three weeks, according to the owner.

One of Six Plants

The California Produce Company is headed by George Nakatani, well known and highly respected Japanese business man who has won a high standing in Los Angeles, San Diego, and Colorado cities during his 15 years in the produce business. The Torrance plant is one of six packing locations for Nakatani's company, the others being located in the Imperial Valley, San Diego, Roseda (in the San Fernando Valley), Grandy and Divide, Colorado.

Wrists Will "Creak"

Men were trucking these field-loaded crates to a battery of trimmers and packers near the door leading to the spur track where a freshly loaded freight car was standing.

Turner first called attention to the 12 trimmers, half of whom were local women.

"They are inexperienced now—and tonight after they have finished their wrists will be sore where they bend 'em," Turner, who knows what he is talking about when it comes to vegetable or fruit packing, said with a grin.

"But they'll get used to it and will be as good as any trimmer in a week. That's one thing we've got to hand to Torrance—we've certainly found a fine bunch of people to work with here."

Average 400 Crates a Day

The trimmers were removing scraggly leaves, watching for "soft" heads and lining up the lettuce for the packers. These (Continued on Page 8-A)

SANTA CLAUS INVITED TO MUNICIPAL YULE PROGRAM

An invitation of great importance to all boys and girls of Torrance was dispatched Monday night to the North Pole. The message read:

"Mr. Santa Claus: We hereby invite you to visit Torrance before you start on your annual visit around the world. We are a very good little boy and girl on hand to meet you and in case you have not completed your stock of toys, apples and nuts, we will see that you are supplied right here in Torrance. Let us know when Chamber of Commerce Directors."

Confident that Santa will accept this invitation, the chamber leaders went ahead Monday afternoon with their plans for a city-wide Christmas celebration for all youngsters—old and young—that will eclipse former municipal Yuletide programs. The date of the holiday event awaits Santa's decision and will be announced later.

Presents For Every Child

A fund of \$350 was set aside for the purchase of candy, nuts, apples and toys which will be distributed to every child by the jovial Christmas saint in person. Arrangements were made so that not one single boy or girl will go away from the celebration without his or her quota of presents. In past years the distribution of gifts was on the order of first-come-first-served and sometimes the presents gave out before all boys and girls had been supplied.

There will be the usual great Christmas tree with the 100 lights in the park in front of the Torrance Theatre and a fine program of Yule songs and music, dramatizations and entertainment will usher in Santa's first appearance in 1931 in Torrance.

May Be President



W. Rufus Page

As yet unopposed for the presidency of the Harbor District Chambers of Commerce, W. Rufus Page, well known local civic leader, is regarded as virtually assured of that honor, according to his friends here who attended a nomination meeting of the Harbor District organization at Redondo last Thursday night.

A. E. "Chic" Henning, president of the chambers for the past two years and the only other nominee for the post, withdrew his name from the nominated list, leaving Page the only candidate. Loren Howe, Hawthorne, was assured of election as secretary when Dan Holland withdrew.

Page, who was president of the Torrance chamber last year, has contributed a great deal toward the advancement of Torrance and other communities in this territory. At the present time he is a member of the Harbor District Industrial Survey committee which is now working on an elaborate compilation of facts concerning this area's advantages to potential industrialists.

Initial Steel Shipment Has Torrance Sign

Structural Bridge Units En Route to Hoover Dam Carry Banners

Two carloads of structural bridge units, a total of about 80,000 pounds, arrived at Hoover Dam yesterday after informing that the steel and its fabricators were "shot" by International Newstead for a talkie film to be exhibited in theatres all over the country.

The cars were equipped with a large sign by the Chamber of Commerce to carry the message of manufacture in Torrance. The shipment was the first of a series to complete a recently executed order from the Sims Companies, now in progress on what promises to be the greatest recent development in the local oil field—the Higgins Brothers Hamell deep-test well on Palm street in South Torrance. Each swab before the injury to the tube stopped all work brought up indications of higher gravity oil than has ever before been produced here.

Both Sides May Ask For Decision On City Water Suit In Week

If the court does not hand down a decision on the briefs filed by city attorneys and counsel for the Torrance Water, Light and Power company stockholder who is attempting to block the city from obtaining a publicly-owned and operated water system in a few days, counsel for both sides will jointly appear in court and ask when a verdict will be forthcoming.

This step was outlined by City Attorney Findley at council meeting Tuesday night after he had reported that no decision on the briefs had been made by the court as yet. The case was given to a Superior Court judge over a month ago.

O'Melveny, Tuller and Myers, special counsel for the city, reported that "the brief of the plaintiff has not caused us to change our opinion that the law under which the bonds (\$400,000) were voted and ordered sold was entirely constitutional."

JUSTICE COURT MOVES TO TORRANCE ON DECEMBER 15

County Takes Three-Year Lease On Second Floor of Levy Building On Cravens; Model Court Is Planned

It was authoritatively learned by the Herald yesterday that the Lomita Township Justice Court will move from its present location on Narbonne avenue in Lomita to the Sam Levy Building on Cravens avenue across from the city hall on or before December 15. The signed lease from the county supervisors for this new location was received by Sam Levy this morning.

The entire second floor of the building has been leased by the county for a period of three years to provide larger quarters for the justice court, offices and rooms for county workers.

REFINERY TO USE SECRET OIL PROCESS

Potential \$30,000.00 Plant Is Being Constructed Here This Week

Construction of what promises to be a \$30,000 experimental refinery for the operation of a new secret oil "cracking" process is going forward this week on Albee and Spencer streets. Building permits for the first units of the plant, amounting to \$6000, were issued last Saturday. The refinery has been located here by Cooper and Lockhart, formerly of Los Angeles, who are reported to have found a vastly improved method of refining whereby gasoline can be extracted from a low-grade oil. Neither of the owners would comment on any details connected with the enterprise beyond stating that they were "experimenting" in oil refining.

However, it was learned from other sources that Cooper and Lockhart have a process that will refine ordinary sump oil, the lowest grade produced and which commonly is used for road oil, and obtain a standard grade of gasoline at little cost.

The building permits issued the concern were for the erection of a tool building, cooling tower, boilers and tanks. The owners are said to have operated other refineries in adjacent oil territories in the past and by constant research, discovered their secret process.

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Preservation of Industrial Land Is Vital To County's Progress

Every agency in Los Angeles residential districts develop, threatens industries under the nuisance doctrine.

Torrance is in the very heart of industrial progress, Fox revealed. This city, holding as it does, vast acreage which is zoned for factories, is in a position to afford the best opportunity for expansion. Fox quoted his report, made about a year ago, which shows that the Harbor District should receive 75 per cent of potential industrial location.

Need 15,000 Big Factories

Planning, the engineer defined, is "doing the right thing at the right time and in the right place." Based on that definition, every group in the county interested in this section's development must give attention to the work of the Regional Planning Commission.

Fifteen million inhabitants in the Los Angeles metropolitan area need approximately 15,000 major industrial plants to support them, Fox declared. It was on this conclusion, a factual proposition entirely, that he based his argument for the reservation of enough land to accommodate coming factories.

Mayor John Dennis and DeKalb Spurlin, president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, greeted the delegates and visitors at the meeting. The Women's club served lunch before the business session began.