TORRANCE HERALD

TWENTY-FOURTH YEAR | TORRANCE, CALIF., THURSDAY, DEC. 8, 1938 | SECTION B

SOLONS PLEDGE HIGHWAYS ATTENTION

SHOP TALK

by RAY BROOKS

GIFT GIVING GUFF

This Christmas, particularly, much has been said about giving the "right" gift, the gift that is "wanted," the gift that emerges from a mass of scientific house-to-house surveys, that show, for example, that 39.41003 percent would like to find an airplane in their sock, whereas only .000049 really want the purple paisley cravat that Aunt Emma sends them from HoHokus. Of course, the 39.41003 percent, or better, get the neck piece, while .000049 percent or less, get the sky ride! But that's as it should be. Twisting a cravat about your scrawny neck is about as easy, but much healthier, than doing the same thing to a monoplane.

* * *

Getting back to gifts, Shop Talk thinks this scientific surveys stuff and all the talk about giving the "right" present is a lot of bunk. Heaven knows Christmas has been prostituted enough to commercial interests, and now the smart boys want to tell us WHAT to buy and WHAT to give. If Aunt Emma thinks that purple paisley tie is quite the nuts then let her think so. She gets a bang out of giving it... and isn't that Christmas after all? Let Cousin Otto suffer with that paisley. It's fate. And who is cousin Otto to defy fate. Much better to defy the smart boys and their survey.

* * *

From another viewpoint, what would we have to gossip and laugh about if Aunt Emma sat down with slide rule, calipers and a survey and figured out precisely what cousin Otto should have. No fun in that! Pure arithmetic! And again . . . what would the department store salespeople do between Christmas and New Year if there were no exchanges to make? Think of the unemployment problem!

* * *

So let us not stray from the accepted path of giving for giving's sake, and to hell with the surveys. Christmas has been doing pretty well for almost 2000 years. Certainly this is no time to smother it with geometric formula. Hooray for Aunt Emma!

* * *

MYSTERIOUS MADAME

Wandering into the Elementary School Carnival one night last week, Gene "Radio Wave" DeBra was beset by urchins who sold him several tickets to various events, among them a ticket to have his fortune told. Stepping into a dark & secluded alcove, Gene stuck out his paw, sat back for a bit of amusing prognostication.

After a few swipes at his past that hit mighty close to the truth, Gene sat up, took an interest in the affair, popped out his eyes as crack after crack hit home.

Suspecting finally that something was too uncanny about the Hindu Mystic, Gene investigated, found that behind the heavy veils was none other than his ex-wife!

Wow!

* * *

JACK'S HOUSE AND WESTINGHOUSE

Displayed for the first time this week on the floor of the Star Furniture Co. is the new Westinghouse washer, a marvelous bit of machinery, and as efficient and worthwhile as its maker is famous. As an opening special Jack Koch announces a $30 trade-in allowance for your old washer on this new one. A fine chance to trade in that wheezy old cement mixer for a nice modern washer.

* * *

HENRY'S BOY GERALD

Encroaching on the sport page this week Shop Talk herewith wants to mention a contest being carried on by a large L. A. daily in which southern California high school football players are being chosen by popular vote to play on a team that is to play an all-star high school team from Chicago.

Well up in the voting is Gerald Grubb, eldest son of Henry Grubb, amiable pork chop cutter-upper. Gerald was chosen by many experts and pseudo-experts as all-city guard after he has run thru the football season tearing large holes in the opposition's forward wall. (Doesn't Shop Talk sound like sports writer Braven Dyer?)

Anyhoo, Gerald wants to play in this game . . . to be held in the Coliseum . . . and needs votes, the which he is getting very few of in Torrance, his home town. Already second in the standings (for his position) Gerald has received most of his support from neighboring towns.

(Continued on Page 8-B)

Southwest Area Meet Draws 110

Pledges were freely given by Congressman-elect Leland M. Ford, State Senator Robert W. Kenny and five Assemblymen at the dinner-meeting of the Southwest District Highways association at the Potrero Country club last Thursday night that they would give their best efforts toward legislation that would give this part of the county the improved highway system it urgently needs.

With Oscar L. Willett of Palos Verdes Estates presiding, the Inglewood session "turned the heat" on the legislators present with the anticipated results being highly favorable to extension and widening of the major traffic arteries from the Baldwin Hills to Western avenue. Commitments of cooperation were given by Assemblymen Jack B. Tenney, Inglewood; Fred Reaves, San Pedro; Ben Rosenthal, Los Angeles; Augustus I. Hawkins, Los Angeles, and Paul Peek, Long Beach.

Emphasized by Representative-elect Ford as a vital need from the military and defense standpoint, as affording direct egress and ingress to a vital spot now practically defenseless — the Los Angeles Municipal Airport, the huge airplane factories and two vast oil company "tank farms," a super-highway from the Palos Verdes, skirting the east side of the airport along the general route of the Inglewood-Redondo boulevard and over the Baldwin Hills to La Cienaga boulevard and thence into the San Fernando valley, was sketched on a huge map for the enlightenment of the concourse of editors, publishers, city and chamber of commerce officials attending from every commuhity south of the Baldwin Hills and west of Western avenue. "Wide open spaces" on the road map showed not a single through road from the San Fernando valley to the sea, even Sepulveda boulevard having a missing link between Inglewood and Culver City.

Large Torrance Group

In addition to the talks given by the legislators, Roy Rosenburg, Inglewood publisher, outlined the increasing amount of airplane construction in his district and what it meant in the way of housing, highways and payroll distribution thruout the entire southwest part of the county. Secretary L. J. Gilmeister of this city's Chamber of Commerce, gave an interesting resume of the facilities for manufacturing, homes and recreation in the southwest and urged the association to support any concerted move toward launching a big-scale advertising campaign for the whole area.

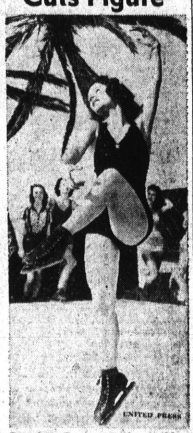
President W. A. Curl of Hawthorne introduced Chairman Willett, who, in turn, introduced a number of distinguished guests present. There were 110 men and women from Inglewood, Redondo Beach, Hawthorne, El Segundo, Gardena, Palos Verdes, Yorba Linda, Los Angeles and Lennox in attendance. The Torrance delegation was headed by Mayor William H. Tolson and included L. J. Gilmeister, Alden W. Smith, Leonard Young, John E. McCall, Dr. H. C. Smiley, George Isaacs, DeKalb Spurlin, John V. Murray, A. H. Bartlett, Glenn M. Jain and Micheal Straszer.

The association's road program includes improvement and extension of Crenshaw boulevard from Los Angeles to the ocean, improvement of La Brea avenue-Hawthorne boulevard and continuing it as a state highway to the San Fernando valley from Centinela boulevard in Inglewood.

City Attorney John E. McCall of Torrance lauded the enterprise and courage of Curl in launching the association and it was revealed that the then Supervisor Ford was the one who suggested its organization as a means of getting united support for the road program. McCall also lauded the scenic beauty of the Palos Verdes and deplored the lack of direct highways.

Proposal of raising a $20,000 regional advertising fund to publicize the industrial, commercial, recreational and residential advantages of the area was made by Secretary Gilmeister. This received unanimous support. Chairman Willett personally pledged five percent of any amount raised. President Curl, was empowered to appoint a committee to study this proposal.

Cuts Figure



Beverley Fayse, pretty bathing beauty skater, cuts a figure on the hyposulphite "ice" at an outdoor, semi-tropical rink at Venice, Cal.

Gas Tax Funds Portioned Out

Distribution of gasoline tax funds by the board of supervisors between the five supervisorial districts was set forth this week in a report to the board from George Jones, county road commissioner.

Total amount apportioned was $9,149,488, but only $3,420,691 of this amount was actually expended by the road department for construction and maintenance of roads, bridges and culverts. Repair of storm damage amounted to $229,497.

The first supervisorial district, which takes more than half of the other incorporated cities in the county, but none of Los Angeles, received $2,314,499. Of this total, $1,041,305 went to the various cities.

County Buyer Reports Huge Savings In Year

Savings on more than a thousand different items purchased by the County of Los Angeles, amounting in some instances to as much as $75,000 each, were reported by Wayne B. Allen, county purchasing agent and newly appointed business administrator, in his first annual report filed with the Board of Supervisors this week.

Elimination of monopolistic bidding and "tailor-made specifications" has resulted in doubling from 500 to 1,000 the number of county suppliers, while at the same time overhead expense for the department has been reduced one-twelfth and cash discounts have increased by $11,000.

Taking over of all school purchases has resulted in large economies for the various school districts of the county, according to the purchasing agent's report.

Among recommendations for the future are improvement in methods for the handling of items of salvage and the centralizing in the Merchandising department of the county of the sales of scrap metals and supplies. Allen pointed out in his report that additional legislation at Sacramento may be required for fulfillment of this plan. He also pointed out that school supplies for all elementary schools should be issued through the County General Stores.

MAJOR EXPENSE ITEMS FOR COUNTY LISTED

Automotive equipment and supplies cost Los Angeles county $333,337 during the past fiscal year, the report of the county purchasing agent this week revealed.

The purchasing agent's department spent $6,632,111 during the year, the report showed. The largest item was $1,626,335 for the buying of foodstuffs for persons on relief, in county institutions, forestry and road camps and in jail.

Tiniest Baby Gains Steadily in Incubator

A steady gain in weight during the past week enabled tiny Gary Otis Lambrigger, smallest baby ever to be born at Torrance Memorial hospital, to tip the scales at two pounds, 13½ ounces yesterday.

The infant weighed two pounds, four and three-quarter ounces two days after Caesarian birth, Nov. 30. His gain now is six and three-quarter ounces.

Mrs. Lambrigger was allowed to return to her home in Lomita last Sunday. The baby is still in the hospital incubator and is fed by tube.

To Card Games in Ambulance

CONCORD (U.P.) — Afflicted with arthritis for eight years and unable to walk for the past six years, Mrs. Louis Langlow, who lives at the Concord hospital, insists upon keeping up her bridge. She goes to bridge parties in an ambulance.

200 ON GRAND JURY PANEL

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19 Will Be Chosen Early in January

Men and women from virtually every community in the county are included in the list of 200 names being studied this week by all judges of the Superior court and from which the 19 members of the 1939 Los Angeles County grand jury will be selected.

These 200 names on the tentative list were submitted by 43 judges, with five making no nominations. Each Superior judge is entitled to five nominations and most of those participating turned in their full quota.

Judges Robert H. Scott, Emmet H. Wilson and Clarence L. Kincaid have been named a committee to hear objections which any judge may advance against any person nominated.

The objections are weighed and passed upon by this group of three and the remaining names then will be turned over to jury commissioner H. B. Blakely, who will place them in the jury wheel and draw forth the 19 names of those to serve during the coming year as Los Angeles County's inquisitorial body. This final action usually takes place during the first week in January.

No breathing spell is expected to be given the new grand jury, once it is chosen and sworn in by Presiding Criminal Judge Kincaid. It probably will plunge at once into further investigation of Los Angeles civic affairs, a work not expected to be completed by the present inquisitorial body.

Little Joe O'Toole Due Home From Hospital for Christmas

This will be the happiest Christmas the Family O'Toole of 1225 Madrid has ever had. The reason Mr. and Mrs. James J. O'Toole and their two older sons, Jimmy and Bobbie, will greet the coming Yuletide with joyous hearts is because little Joseph O'Toole, age six, is almost certain to be brought home from Torrance Memorial hospital before that great festival day.

Joe has amazed his physicians and nurses with his rapid recovery from grave injuries Nov. 25. He is resting comfortably and eating well and has decided what he wants Santa Claus to bring him.

The other day, sitting up in his hospital bed in the cheery room decorated with scores of playthings and Christmas cut-outs, he put together a pictograph letter to Santa Claus in which he asked for an electric train, books, a "real live dog," horn, football and — of all things — a sled!

For a little boy who hovered between life and death for 36 fateful hours after he fell from playground apparatus at the Fern Avenue school, he shows no outward signs of his courageous battle to live and enjoy the sturdy boyhood his strong body indicated. He is taking a keen interest in his hospital surroundings and likes to have visitors.

His room is decorated with cut-out Christmas emblems of his own manufacture and, standing guard day and night, is the Doc, one of the Seven Dwarfs, and a pop-eye Teddy bear.

Also on duty, is a nurse, but Doc and the bear are becoming more important than the white-clad smiling young woman in the eyes of little Joe. They are symbols of the Christmas joys to come in his own home.

School Head Says Apparatus Not at Fault

One of the most regular inquirers at Torrance Memorial hospital for reports on the progress little Joe O'Toole is making in his courageous fight for recovery from nearly-fatal injuries suffered Nov. 25 is Mrs. Oda Vans, principal of the Fern Avenue playground apparatus.

"We have naturally been deeply concerned over little Joe's injuries," Mrs. Vans said. "He is a bright youngster and everyone loves him. We are also concerned over the circumstances surrounding his accidental fall from our playground apparatus. It should be remembered that he was on the equipment which is reserved for much older children and had been 'dared' by some older boys to walk across the horizontal bars.

"Parents should not become alarmed over the safety of their children while using the playground apparatus. During school hours we have proper supervision and children have been asked to stay off the playground on days when there is no school—such as the Friday when little Joe was hurt. We hope to open the playground, with supervision, every holiday and week-ends when the new recreation program instituted by Superintendent Vierling Kersey is put into effect."

Hit-and-Run Reversed

BUTTE, Mont. (U.P.)—Joe Smith applied to police to learn if he was guilty of being a hit-and-run driver. He said he ran into a girl, but it was the girl who ran so fast afterwards he was unable to ascertain whether or not he had injured her or not.

Wooldridge Writes

Herald Circulation Mgr.

"If you've never time for kindness . . . Then you walk thru life in blindness."

Local Men on Geyer Committee

Two residents, Howard P. Raymond, president of the local Democratic club, and Harry B. Minor, have been named as members of Congressman-elect Lee E. Geyer's congressional committee. It is the duty of this group to keep the congressman "informed of the needs and desires of his constituents while he is in Washington."

Gorillas do not have tails.

SCHOOL FAIR NETS $115

The fair and festival held at the Torrance Elementary school by the P.T.A., last Friday was one of the most successful functions of its kind ever conducted at that institution. The net proceeds from the booths and entertainment features amounted to $115, it is reported.

Credit for the success of the event is being divided between Mrs. Almeda Smith, president of the P.T.A. unit; Mrs. Rose Gallimore, chairman of the festival; Mrs. T. E. Watson, dining and cafeteria chairman, and others who worked hard to make it an outstanding attraction.

The proceeds will be added to Tenth district P.T.A. funds to continue a grant of $50 a month toward the upkeep of the local Development center, furnishing codliver oil and milk to some 35 pupils every morning of the school week and free lunches to 20 underprivileged children.

Ohio Seasons Mixed

PORT CLINTON, O. (U.P.)—Violets, dandelions and strawberries were picked in Port Clinton during the unseasonably warm fall weather.

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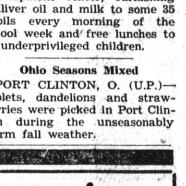

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