

We Wish Everyone a Happy and Prosperous New Year!

Near 25th Birthday!

Torrance Herald

TORRANCE HERALD

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TORRANCE, CALIF., THURSDAY, DEC. 29, 1938

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Advertisement for 'Torrance Herald' featuring 'SPECIAL ADVERTISING' and 'AMERICA'S FIRST GREAT INDUSTRIAL GARDEN CITY'.

Salaried Steel Employees to Get Pay Boost

Following the lead of the Carnegie-Illinois Steel Corporation, major subsidiary of the United States Steel Corporation, a change in working schedules for salaried employees of the Columbia Steel Company here will be made beginning Jan. 1, 1939.

The full-time work week of Columbia Steel's salaried employees, like those of the Carnegie-Illinois concern, will be on the basis of 5 1/2 days per week to which will apply the present base salary rates which are on a 5 1/2-day basis.

Barber said that the return to the 5 1/2-day base work for salaried employees and the payment of the applicable base salary will result in restoring full-time pay for those salaried employees whose work requires the full 5 1/2 days per week.

Inauguration of New Governor Jan. 2 Will be Only Part of Festivities; Ball, Barbecue and Carnival Jan. 5 Free to All

SACRAMENTO, Dec. 29 (U.P.)—Residents of Sacramento may be started by the 19-gun salute for Governor Elbert Olson on his inaugural day Jan. 2 but his barbecue and carnival the Saturday following should be even more exciting.

It isn't often that a governor or anyone else invites the general public to a free meal but that is the tremendous job Olson has invited upon himself.

Olson made no bones about his reason for staging the barbecue in conjunction with the California State Employees Association. He said the prominent persons and those with formal clothes could attend the formal inaugural ball and several handsomely chamber for the oathing ceremony.

Romero is Chef But for the thousands of ordinary citizens who elected him to California's highest office, Olson wanted to show his appreciation. So he invited the whole state to come to Sacramento and figuratively break bread with him.

OLSON'S LIFE STORY

Culbert L. Olson, first Democratic governor to administer California's affairs since the



Olson took an interest in politics early in life, after an active boyhood which included jobs as railroad brakeman, telegraph operator, farm hand, construction worker and newspaperman. In 1897, while at Washington in the role of newspaper correspondent and congressional secretary, Olson studied law at what is now George Washington University. He later broadened his legal training at the University of Michigan.

He served in the Utah state legislature, practiced law in that state and became connected with various mining, banking and building enterprises. In 1920 he moved to Los Angeles, where he has lived since. He was elected to the State Senate in 1924.

The new governor has three children, Richard, the oldest, who will serve as his father's private secretary, and twin sons Dean and John. Richard is 31, the twins are 21.

America at the age of 18, where he settled at Salt Lake City.

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But the free meal is not the only highlight of the day's program. Four "big name" bands will provide music for free dancing all day and a "jitterbug" contest, as well as a waltzing contest for those over 55 years

CITY ADOPTS 40-HOUR PAY PLAN JAN. 1

Beginning Jan. 1, 1939 all municipal employees except police and firemen will go on a 40-hour week pay schedule. Unanimous adoption of a resolution to that effect by the city council Tuesday night was the highlight of the last session of 1938. It was proposed by Councilman James Hitchcock and carried without discussion.

The prevailing pay rates will be retained for employees Hitchcock announced. The reason the police and fire departments will not be affected by the new schedule is that they are now under Civil Service regulations. About 50 city workers will be affected without reduction of pay.

Other councilman proceedings Tuesday night were: "DOUBLE NEGATIVE" . . . Application made by the city for PWA funds early in September to help construct recreational buildings, a swimming pool and tennis courts in the city park and at Walteria—and decisively voted down by 10 yeas to 20—has just been refused by the Federal Emergency Public Works administration. This decision was read to the council by City Clerk A. H. Bartlett while councilmen grinned.

"PROJECTS APPROVED" . . . Plans and specifications for the improvement of eight major streets here have been approved by the Department of Public Works. Division of Highways, Bartlett reported. The city was authorized to proceed with the work which will be paid out of the city's gasolin fund.

"STUDY LAND PURCHASE" . . . Because he said he had another prospect if the city does not desire to purchase the land for a recreation site, Frank J. Perry urged the council in a letter to make up its mind about buying some property in Walteria before the city accepts the PWA estate. Mayor William H. Tolson turned the matter over to the Finance committee for investigation. The committee reported \$25,890.

"ACCEPTS POST" . . . Stating he would be pleased to accept the appointment providing meeting of the commission for that office would not conflict with his business duties, John Salm was on record as the first newly-appointed member of the new city Planning Commission to accept the position. Mayor Tolson said he believed the other members have also agreed to serve but they are Tom McGuire, John E. McCall, Leonard Young, Scott R. Ludlow, R. J. Deinger, Charles Curtis, W. A. Felker and J. Carruthers—have not written Clerk Bartlett as requested as yet.

"SUGGESTS CLUB SIGN" . . . Stating that a bulletin board, listing the various clubs and organizations and when and where they meet, would be of value to the community, the National Business and Professional Women of Torrance urged the council in a letter to erect such a sign in the park across from the Torrance theatre. The discussion brought the council to a vote and a 5-4 vote was cast for the sign.

"NO MUSIC SUBSIDY" . . . Making a verbal report for the Finance committee, Councilman Tom McGuire refused to recommend a subsidy as requested two weeks ago by George N. Mershon, for the Torrance symphony orchestra. "At the present time we do not feel that to finance his or anybody's orchestra," McGuire said.

"IMPROVE LIGHTING" . . . An appropriation of \$300 to repair and improve the city park lighting system was allowed.

"AT M.W.D. EVENT" . . . Members of the council and other city officials intend to participate in the ceremonies Jan. 7 when Colorado River water will be turned into the first units of the Metropolitan Water District near Parker, Ariz.

"TO CONVENTION" . . . Director John Stroth of the Public Safety department was authorized to attend the annual convention of the American Legion post before the city was incorporated in May, 1921. No action was taken on the matter.

"BUILDING-LOAN VOTES DIVIDENDS" . . . At a meeting of the Torrance Building and Loan Association directors this morning two dividends were declared for 1938. A four percent return on all forms of certificates and a four percent dividend on all membership shares for the past year were voted.

This was the 16th annual "melon-cutting" by the Association, which was organized in September, 1922. During its history the Association has never paid less than four percent interest on accounts. All accounts up to \$5,000 are fully insured by the Federal Savings & Loan Insurance Corporation—an agency of the U. S. Government.

Directors present at the meeting included J. W. Post, Charles V. Jones, Henry C. March, Charles T. Rippey, Fay L. Parks and W. B. Bowen. They indicated that the outlook for the new year was exceptionally bright as they closed a "most satisfactory 1938."

The Association made quite a number of construction loans especially during the past six months and has several applications for building costs on file as of Dec. 29, according to Secretary Bowen.

Parents Serve Yule Dinner to Son in Jail

Only one Christmas dinner was served in the city jail—and the city did not pay for it.

Because his parents wanted to brighten his enforced confinement with some home-cooked food, William H. Butterworth, 38, of 4934 Hickman Drive, North Torrance, enjoyed a turkey dinner with all the customary fixings.

Butterworth was jailed Dec. 21 after being arrested on a felony charge of hit-and-run driving following an accident on an 18-year-old local schoolgirl on the night of Dec. 20 when she was struck and injured by a car assertedly driven by the prisoner. He was scheduled to have a hearing yesterday.

Local police made three arrests for intoxication Christmas Day and one on the following Monday. The officers reported that this was the greatest Yule-tide in history. They are not expecting any great number of arrests over New Year's.

High Court to Try Motorist

Circumstantial evidence, which in the opinion of the court, strongly indicated that the driver of the car was the defendant in the hit-and-run accident that resulted in serious injuries Dec. 20 to DeVona Boardman, 18, of 18505 Hawthorne boulevard, was heard at the defendant's preliminary hearing yesterday.

Despite the defense attorney's plea for dismissal of the charge, Butterworth was held to answer before Superior Court and will be arraigned Friday, Jan. 5, on the felony charge. His bail was reduced from \$1,500 to \$1,000.

Those testifying before City Judge Robert Lessing for the prosecution were Evelyn Coffey, 18, of Elido, Nino, who was walking home with Miss Boardman when the latter was struck by a motorist who failed to stop and render aid; Robert Boardman, father of the victim, and Director John Stroth. The defense did not present any witnesses.

Geyer Broadcasts From Capitol Dec. 31

Congressman Lee E. Geyer of the 17th Congressional District will speak over the Columbia Broadcasting System on a coast-to-coast hookup Saturday, Dec. 31, from 7:30 to 8:30 p. m., from Washington, D. C. There will be several other Congressmen on this program.

7 HURT IN CAR CRASH

Seven persons, one of them a six-year-old boy, all occupants of a Packard sedan were injured—two of them seriously—after a Christmas afternoon when their car smashed head-on into a large eucalyptus tree at the northwest corner of Hawthorne boulevard and Huntington streets.

The impact spilled the victims out into the roadway and the car immediately caught fire. The Packard, registered to and driven by Garland A. Gregory, 24, of Buena Park, was totally demolished, according to police who gave first aid treatment to the injured before they were rushed to Torrance Memorial hospital.

Gregory, police reported, was traveling north on Hawthorne and in descending a slight grade at a high rate of speed he attempted to pass another northbound car driven by Donald Stanton, 27, of Redondo Beach.

But he was going too fast and he lost control of his large sedan. It crashed into the tree, flinging the seven passengers out like so many pieces of wood. The occupants of the machine were:

Herman Derbeque, 25, of Los Angeles; Lester Hardin, 31; Josephine Hardin, 25, and Bobby Hardin, 16, of 1617 Amapala; Allen Muir, 39, of Hermosa, and Gregory.

The two women were the most seriously injured. The men were allowed to go to their homes after brief hospitalization and the boy Bobby Hardin is said to be making a good recovery.

Ambulances from this city and Redondo took the injured to the hospital where three doctors were summoned to care for them.

Auto Plate Office Opens On Jan. 3

Promptly at 9 o'clock Tuesday morning, Jan. 3, at 1601 Grandway corner of Cabrillo, the branch office of the Department of Motor Vehicles will open and start handing out 1939 license plates to all motorists calling with their postcard notices and the required cash.

Notices of the 1939 license and tax fees were distributed this week to all car owners. The local office, in charge of Leonard Tristram, will be open every day including Saturdays (except Sundays) from 9 a. m. to 6 p. m.

SCHOOLS RE-OPEN JAN. 3

All schools in Torrance, Walteria and Lomita will re-open Tuesday, Jan. 3, following a week's Christmas vacation.

JITTERBUG IS STRENUOUS

As the above photo, taken at 7:05 a. m., Dec. 24, during the first early morning jitterbug contest ever held in the Civic Auditorium, graphically reveals. The two couples in the foreground (especially the pair directly in front of the camera) were "cutting rugs" in such an acrobatic manner that it is difficult to figure out just whose leg is whose.

More than 250 youngsters "swingerooed" until 8 o'clock last Saturday morning. The pre-breakfast hop was sponsored by the Torrance Coordinating Council.

Young "Jitterbugs" Amaze Writer

By MICHAEL STRASZER

I've "covered" some strange assignments in the two decades I've spent earning my bread and keep by the death rattle of a typewriter but the strangest of all was the one I kept for Herald readers on the morning of Christmas Eve.

Until then I had treasured the memory of reporting a liquor still raid in the San Fernando Valley a scant hour before I was due to appear before an altar and claim a bride.

But that experience paled when I wrenched myself from a warm bed last Saturday morning at the unearthly hour of 6 o'clock to attend a dance!

Sun Spottlights Swingers It was the first "swingeroo" sponsored by the Torrance Coordinating Council for those indefatigable youngsters smitten by the jitterbug.

I was still yawning as I entered the door to the Auditorium. But after one look at the gyrations, gallops, flashing feet and lithesome forms gamboing to hot music from Don Briggs' 12-piece band I lost my yawning for more sleep.

Record Building Year Nears End

Saturday noon the record book of the biggest construction year in Torrance history will be closed at the city engineer's office. The building total today stands at \$3,134,523 for the year to date, as compared with \$1,056,937 for the entire 12 months of 1937.

So far this month \$58,890 in building permits have been taken out here. Last December's construction total was \$25,890.

Among the recent permits issued were: A. & T. Oil company for a 2 1/2-foot drain and 1,000-gallon storage tank, costing \$810, at 2039 23th; Tiger Oil company for a wooden oil derrick at 1925 23rd, \$5,000; Maludum Petroleum corporation for two wooden derricks at 1919 and 1957 23th, \$10,000, and the Cuba Oil company for a derrick at 1968 23th, \$5,000.

An increase of 2703.2 percent in Torrance building permits last November over the same month in 1937 was given due publicity this week in the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce Bulletin. The local increase was the greatest on record, the Bulletin's story showed.

Building-Loan Votes Dividends

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With today's edition, The Torrance Herald completes 24 years of community service to this city and its residents. Next Thursday's issue will be No. 1 of Volume 25 of this newspaper under its present name.

The Herald's birth date is Jan. 1 altho the first newspaper published in this city, The Torrance News, issued its Vol. 1, No. 1 edition three months before The Herald was born. A facsimile reproduction of the front page of the first Herald is printed above.

E. M. McClure founded the News on Oct. 11, 1913 and the first edition of The Herald was brought out by B. M. Knutson who now publishes several weeklies in the San Fernando Valley. The Herald's first home was located in a small room on Cravens avenue in the Brighton hotel building.

Modern Printing Plant The intervening quarter-century has wrought great changes in the city's voice and historian. From a four-page newspaper it has advanced to as many as 26 pages for a regular weekly edition and last September the present staff issued a 72-page "Torrance-On-the-Air" special edition that won wide acclaim.

From a staff of three persons, this newspaper's family has grown to 32 workers; it has extended its news coverage as the city increased in size and population; it is a member of the United Press, California Newspaper Publishers' Association and has adjudicated a legal newspaper of Los Angeles county in March, 1927. The Herald has been this city's official newspaper almost since its inception.

Editor-Publisher Grover C. Whyte became associated with The Herald in June, 1929 and sole owner on July 1, 1929. In its modern publishing plant, The Herald produces a wide variety of printed matter in addition to the newspaper and the Tri-City Shopping News. It is completely equipped for any kind of commercial printing, magazines, booklets, programs, business forms, engraved and printed social printing.

Members of Staff Publisher Whyte heads The Herald's staff which consists of Miss Late Fraser, who has been secretary since August, 1929; Robert Lawless, mechanical superintendent since October, 1924; Ray Brooks, who became advertising manager Nov. 1, 1935; Michael Straszer, city editor 1930 to 1932; and John E. McCall, who has been editor since April, 1933; Cliff Johnson, Los Angeles correspondent for the past two years; and W. B. Woodridge, circulation manager for the past three months.

In the mechanical department are: La Vern Jones, printer; L. L. Cleveland, linotype operator; Carl Gilbert, stereotyper and pressman.

The Herald and its auxiliary Tri-City Shopping News, which is delivered free throughout the Torrance trading area, is carried to homes here by 20 carrier boys.

APPENDICITIS DEATHS UP Deaths from appendicitis in the United States have increased 32 percent since 1900.