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Local Student Wins Radio Quiz Contest

What is the largest waterway in the U. S.? That's right—it is the Mississippi River. Eleven-year-old Bernard Smith of Torrance "just guessed at that one" and so he won the Kids' Quiz contest program presented over KECA last Thursday night and is now awaiting delivery of a World Book Encyclopedia valued at \$96.



—Torrance Herald Photo
BERNARD SMITH
... has a lot of reading to do

Harold P. Smith of 2014 Torrance boulevard, quizzed down five other boys and two girls on the program. It was his first radio appearance but "it didn't bother me much—I just spoke up when it was my turn." The young contestants represented various schools and Bernard was on the program as a student from Torrance Elementary school where he is in the A6 grade.

Has Decided Career
His dad kept score in the audience and several other Torrance boys and girls were in the studio to cheer Bernard's victory. A girl won second place in the "do you know?" contest, Bernard's mother, Alma Smith, a former president of the Elementary P.T.A., kept tab on her husband as he checked the score of the young contestants.

Bernard, who was born in Denver, Colorado, wants to be a chemical or architectural engineer when he grows up. He likes to read and play ball and Principal Leonard Dykes of the Elementary school says he is a fine student.

"I'm going to read that Encyclopedia from cover to cover when it arrives," he said. "You've got to know things to get along in this world."

N. S. Worker Fatally Hurt; Rites Today

Leaning over some equipment he was checking for the National Supply Company, Joseph Raymond Howarth, 26, of Los Angeles, was caught in moving parts of a pump rig on the Lee-Madison lease on Opp street in Wilmington and suffered a fractured skull last Friday afternoon. He succumbed a few hours later at a hospital.

Mr. Howarth was working in the field as a sales engineer for the National Supply. He had been with that firm since July 1934 and was recently transferred to the sales engineering department in addition to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph R. Howarth, who he survived by two brothers and a sister.

The funeral service will be held at 11 o'clock this morning (Tuesday) at Brosser Brothers and Gillette, 960 West Washington boulevard, Los Angeles.

M.W.D. Reservoir Is Dedicated As Lake Mathews

Southern California's newest and one of its largest lakes, containing 30 billion gallons of Colorado River Aqueduct water was officially dedicated last Saturday afternoon.

It was Lake Mathews, main storage reservoir on the giant aqueduct of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California located on the western end of the main aqueduct about ten miles southwest of Riverside.

SHORT SCHOOL WEEK
Tomorrow (Wednesday) will be the last day of school this week because of the usual Thanksgiving holidays Thursday and Friday.

MARCH OF RIMES

A FISH TALE — By H. F. NOAKE

Horatio Potts could shout for joy, for that great day was near at hand, on which he'd planned to steal away, with rod and reel and once more sit upon the bank, and cast a line in some small stream, where wily trout match wits with all who come, to make a haul. In preparation for the trip he bought the most expensive things; a twenty dollar rod, and thirteen more for just a reel. And flies, of finest make, the kind, it's claimed, a trout would swim a mile to take. Next day by noon, he'd found a spot which seemed ideal, and soon, the reel began to sing with every cast; but, sad to say the trout were not about. The hours flew swiftly past, likewise the fish; so Potts, at last packed up to start for home. Walking down the stream he came upon a boy, a ragged lad who only had a pole he'd made, to which was tied a piece of string; and for a hook, he'd used a pin. But, by his side were heaps of fish, which Potts, poor fellow, sighed. "Nice mess of trout," said Potts, to which the boy replied, "Trout nothin'; them is perch. This creek ain't seen a trout since Casey Jones struck out."

Assessor Wants More Help to Prepare Report

Services of six additional clerks will be required if the county assessor is to supply the board of supervisors with a list of all properties assessed at \$25,000 or over which show a reduction for 1940 under 1939, the supervisors were advised today.

County Assessor John R. Quinn said this would entail work which his office was not prepared to perform under its limited budget. It will require six more clerks not less than three weeks, he estimated, and said he would be happy to furnish the information if he had the money, or if it is supplied by the supervisors.

"The map book records of this office are open to the public and show a continuous valuation record of more than 20 years," Quinn added. "Practically every structure in Los Angeles county received a reduction this year, which included more than 400,000 dwellings with an average depreciation of about 10 percent."

"In addition, land values were reduced over a wide base to bring the values in line with present day levels," Quinn said. The supervisors are expected to decide next Tuesday whether they will allow the employment of the six additional clerks necessary for them to have the information about cuts in valuations.

To Build Chlorination Station Near Reservoir

Work is scheduled to begin before the end of the month on a chlorination station for the distribution system of the Metropolitan water system in the Palos Verdes area, one mile southeast of Torrance. Contracting Engineers Company of Los Angeles submitted the low bid at \$13,757.

Sunday Rain Amounts to .34 of Inch Here

Sunday's rainstorm here amounted to .34 of an inch, according to firemen who checked the rain gauge atop the fire department garage.

The total for the season to date now stands at 1.64 inches as compared with 6.10 inches at this date last year.

White Christmas Motif of Street Decorations Here

It's going to be a White Christmas in Torrance this year. Directors of the Torrance Business Men's Association decided on the all-white color scheme for the downtown street decorations late last week and now a crew of painters and carpenters are at work getting the displays ready under the direction of Mrs. Cora Bohrer of the city recreation department and Chairman Robert McCallum of the Association.

The huge candles that adorned the ornamental light standards thruout the business section of the city last Yuletide are being re-decorated to conform to the White Christmas motif. They will carry sprays of palm leaves, whitened and glistening with "snow" and in the center of the streets there will be large white bells.

Plan Window Contest
All business and professional firms having show windows are urged to enter the contest sponsored by the Business Men's Association for the best-decorated windows having a winter motif. First, second and third place trophies are to be awarded by the Association after a committee of judges selects the best windows during the holiday week.

It is planned to have the street decorations up by Nov. 29 when the strings of colored lights will be turned on for the first time. Efforts are being made to turn the entire business district into a gala Yuletide "open house" for this beginning of the Christmas shopping season in Torrance.

Mrs. John Tolson Succumbs Sunday

Mrs. Allie E. Tolson, wife of John S. Tolson and mother of former Mayor William H. Tolson, passed away at 9:15 o'clock Sunday evening at her home, 1421 Madrid avenue, after a short illness. She was 66 years of age and had a great many friends who knew her as a woman of rare character. Mrs. Tolson had made her home in Torrance for the past 21 years.

A native of Erath county, Texas, Mrs. Tolson came to California 31 years ago. She was a life-long member of the Baptist church. In addition to her husband and son William, Mrs. Tolson is survived by three other sons, Curtis C., of 2224 West 220th street; H. M., of Gardena, and Claude E., of Los Angeles; two sisters, Mrs. Lave Johnson of Gardena and Mrs. May Driver of Waco, Texas, and a brother, Press Goen.

The funeral will be held Wednesday afternoon, Nov. 20, at 2 o'clock at Stone and Myers' chapel with Rev. C. Miles Northrup, pastor of the First Baptist church, officiating. Interment will be at Roosevelt Memorial park.

NEXT ISSUE OUT FRIDAY

The office of this newspaper will be closed all day Thursday — Thanksgiving Day — but the staff will report bright and early Friday, Nov. 22, to issue the next edition at 1 p.m. that day.

Today's issue contains many suggestions for your Thanksgiving dinner menu and the entire staff hopes that you'll enjoy a pleasant time with your relatives and friends around the festive board!

Normandie Owners Meet Here Tonight

All property owners in the Normandie Avenue special assessment district are urged to attend a final meeting on removal of the Mattoon Act encumbrances tonight (Tuesday) at 7:30 o'clock in the Levy Hall, 1528 Cravens avenue, across from the Torrance fire station. Property owners who paid their last year's taxes in full are entitled to a refund and a representative of the Torrance National Bank will be at the meeting to distribute these checks to those present.

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29th YEAR — No. 47.

SECTION A

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1940

PER COPY 5c



Thanks for the land of America,
For reasons a little child knows,
Its springtimes, its warm summer sunshine,
The peace of its white winter snows.

Thanks for the wealth of America,
Its forests and prairies and hills,
For the challenge to build and to conquer,
For its farms and its mines and its mills.

Thanks for the spirit of America,
That shines out far over the sea,
A proof to the world and all nations
That a land can grow great and be free.

Thanks for the strength of America,
A giant that has slumbered so long,
And now stirs in its might and its vigor,
A nation awakened and strong.

Thanks for the love of America,
Love of family, of home and of land,
While we cherish and guard and defend these
The American Dream shall yet stand.

—Stanton M. Meyer.

\$40,000 In Yule Funds Due Here

One of Torrance's greatest Christmas shopping seasons lies just ahead, judging from the outpouring of Christmas funds scheduled to go to members of Club of America's Christmas Bank in a few weeks. In this city alone, an estimated \$40,000 will be paid out to approximately 875 club members, according to figures just released by Dean L. Sears, manager of the bank.

Throughout the state some 260,000 club members will receive a grand total of about \$18,000,000, which is more than 14 per cent higher than last year and is also an all-time high mark for the nation. Bank of (Continued on Page 2)

Sons of Legion Area Assembly on '41 Calendar

One of the big events for 1941 was placed on the calendar last Saturday as result of a vote in Hollywood which gave the third annual Fourth Area meeting of the Sons of the American Legion to Torrance for the first Saturday next June.

This will be an all-day affair with competition for drum and bugle corps, bands, drill teams and color guards in the morning, a huge parade and business meeting in the afternoon and a dance in the evening. Robert Lewellen of this city was named general chairman of the program.

Legion Host to Business Men

All heads of business firms who cooperated with the Torrance American Legion Post in observing Armistice Day by closing their shops and stores will be guests of the ex-service men at a dinner program tonight at 8:30 o'clock.

Other guests will be Legion members who have paid their 1941 dues and Don Hitchcock and Clifford Totten, Torrance representatives at the California Boys' State gathering in Sacramento last summer. A program of uncensored World War II movies will be screened following the dinner, according to Commander Edwin A. Bird.

Pro and Con of Registration of Firearms Make National Defense Part of Argument

FOR REGISTRATION
By EDWIN A. BIRD,
Commander, Torrance Post, American Legion

In regard to your recent letter addressed to Chief of Police John Stroh of the city of Torrance in which you oppose, on behalf of the National Rifle Association, the passage of an ordinance requiring the registration of all firearms within this city: Because the Torrance American Legion Post sponsored this ordinance, I have requested the privilege of replying to your letter on behalf of the Post. For your information the ordinance was designed to assist the police department in tracing stolen firearms and in a measure prevent the distribution of firearms to persons who might use them to commit unlawful acts. I fail to understand where any restriction of personal liberties is involved or might become involved.

Certainly no restriction as to the possession of firearms is offered or intended. In fact, in my humble opinion, the only persons who could have objection to the passage of the ordinance are those who might have reason to conceal the fact of such possession.

Fears Said Ill-Founded
It is recognized that criminals and subversive elements will not readily present their firearms for registration and therein lies the strength of the ordinance. Recovery of stolen firearms will enable the police to hold the individual found in possession on additional charges, as well as returning the firearms to rightful owners.

Your fears concerning the possible passage of further restriction laws are ill-founded. If ever the time comes that it shall be unlawful for any American to possess firearms for sport, recreation, competitive shoots or

the protection of his home, then we shall truly have lost our democracy.

By the same token, it is our opinion that the indiscriminate, unlawful possession of firearms constitutes an equal threat to the undermining of our forces of law and order and our national defense.

Resents Intrusion
Every other country in the world requires the registration of firearms as a matter of national policy. In many of them, mere possession of firearms is a crime.

Every other country in the world requires the registration of firearms as a matter of national policy. In many of them, mere possession of firearms is a crime. (Continued on Page 2)

AGAINST REGISTRATION
By F. M. HAKENJOS,
Administrative Officer, National Rifle Association

I want to thank you (Police Chief John Stroh) for giving me an opportunity to read the firearms ordinance which has been proposed for your city. I am sorry that we are not able to agree with your belief that this is a good ordinance, but for many years we have been consistently voicing our opposition to any proposal

gun registration or gun restriction law in effect.

The outstanding exceptions were Switzerland and Finland in Switzerland it is mandatory for every male citizen to possess a rifle in his home and to engage in target practice at least once a year. Switzerland still retains independence! Everybody is familiar with the stand made by Finland against the Russian invasion.

Law Hampered British
The experience of the citizens of these two small nations contrasts sharply with the experience of the Germans who found that the registration of their firearms was later followed by confiscation of their firearms and later by the domination of the nation by a small group of armed Nazi Storm Troopers. The story in Italy was the same as in Germany. The registration of firearms was required in France and the resultant lack of knowledge of the use of firearms was one contributing factor in the downfall of that nation.

England has required the registration of firearms since 1920 and the British law is the model for gun registration laws in this country. At the present time the British government is asking American sportsmen to donate their sporting arms for the de-

Union Service in Auditorium On Thursday

All residents of Torrance and vicinity are cordially invited to participate in the Union Thanksgiving Service to be held in the Civic Auditorium Thursday morning, Nov. 21, beginning at 10 o'clock.

The service will be sponsored by the Torrance Ministerial Association and Rev. H. W. Roloff, pastor of the Central Evangelical church, will preside.

Rev. Thomas E. Marshall, vicar of St. Andrew's Episcopal church, will give the Scripture reading appropriate to the day and Rev. Harry G. Branton, pastor of the Methodist church, will offer the Thanksgiving prayer.

The President's Thanksgiving Day proclamation will be read by Rev. Frank T. Porter, pastor of the First Christian church, and Rev. C. Miles Northrup, First Baptist church pastor, will deliver the sermon. Interspersed in the service will be congregational singing.

Series of Town Hall Meetings Begins Dec. 3

Hear ye! Hear ye! Hear ye! All good residents of Torrance interested in their community's welfare and progress are invited to attend the first of a series of Town Hall meetings in the Civic Auditorium Tuesday night, Dec. 3, at 8 o'clock.

The initial open-forum session will primarily be devoted to a discussion of the proposed Boys' Club for this city and after this is explained and time given for questions from the audience, the meeting will be opened for general comments on other civic matters.

Sponsored by the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, in cooperation with the Junior Chamber and the Coordinating Council, the Town Hall meetings are to be held at regular intervals following the holiday season. The Boys' Club proposal gets the first spot because the city must make a decision on whether or not it should be undertaken in order to secure National Youth Administration and WPA assistance, according to City Judge Robert Lessing.

Draft Volunteers Get Send-Off Friday Morning

Next Friday morning, Nov. 22, at 9 o'clock four young men will report at Selective Service Board No. 280 headquarters at 1337 El Prado in Torrance. From there they will be escorted by members of the board and other residents of the community to the Torrance city hall steps where Chairman Carl D. Steele will hand them their induction papers and orders.

Those four men—Alan Aurlin, 22, and Robert Edward Dittner, 23, both of 14800 South Western avenue, Gardena; Damon Oscar Shields, 24, of 619 Avenue C, Redondo Beach, and Fred Jansen, Jr., 22, of 17232 Dutton avenue, Gardena—compose the first unit to go from this Selective Service district into Army training for one year.

Following a brief ceremony, details of which are still being arranged, the volunteer draftees will be taken to the induction center at 406 South Main street, Los Angeles, in a Torrance police car. Together with 485 other young men who will make up Los Angeles county's first draft quota, Board No. 280's volunteers will probably be sent to the Army reception center at Fort MacArthur in San Pedro to start their training at once.

Next Quota in January
Chairman Steele, A. E. Cameron and O. C. Fields, members of the Selective Service board for Torrance, Lomita, Palos Verdes, El Nido and portions of Redondo Beach and Gardena, have invited leading citizens of those communities to attend the patriotic ceremonies in Torrance Friday morning.

Because the December draft quota has been postponed on account of the holidays—Uncle Sam is going to let his prospective trainees enjoy Christmas and New Year's at home—there will not be another selection of draftees in this area until mid-January.

Twenty-two year old Alan A. Aurlin, the district's No. 1 trainee, is a carpenter. His friend, Robert E. Dittner, is also a carpenter. Damon O. Shields of Redondo is unemployed and Fred Jansen, Jr., is a service station salesman in Gardena.

Carl Marsteller, chief clerk at Board No. 280, and his staff is continuing to send out draft questionnaires at the rate of 25 per day. The local district has 3,009 young men between 21 and 35 registered at the present time.

Two Hurt in Skid Crashes Here Sunday

Wet streets Sunday caused two accidents in Torrance which resulted in injuries to two men, according to reports to police reports.

Frank Sidbotham, 69, was severely hurt in mid-morning when his car skidded and struck a power pole at Sepulveda avenue while he was driving south on Narbonne avenue. He was taken to his home at 2173 237th street where he was treated for contusions of the right side of his chest and a possible spinal injury.

A few hours later, Chester Codd, 1413 West 220th street, was slightly hurt on Carson street. He was driving west and between Border and Abalone streets a car ahead of him slowed to stop. Codd turned out to pass the machine, skidded and lost control of his car which struck a tree. He went to the hospital for treatment of head cuts.

1 KILLED and 58 Injured in Auto Collisions here to date 1940.

only 36 DAYS

