

VETERAN CYCLIST... Al L. Cone, owner of a bicycle repair shop at 1913 Carson street, offers advice to bicyclists and says his ambition is to have a Torrance entry in the national championships in Los Angeles next year.

In just 13 more days the number of cyclists will be greatly increased in Torrance. Local stores dealing in bicycles report a large number of sales which will be turned over to their youthful owners on Christmas morning.

Here's some good advice to both new and old bike riders from a man who has churned wheels—even one of the old-fashioned high wheelers of grandpa's day—for more than a half-century. He is Al L. Cone who came to Torrance three years ago and has operated a bicycle repair shop at 1913 Carson street for the past few months.

He says: "First of all cyclists should understand and observe all traffic laws if they want to avoid personal injury and damage to their wheels. Learn traffic regulations and arm signals and don't try to be smart by dodging in and out on the streets."

"Don't Punch Up and Down" "Bicycling is the best means to good health I know. It gives you splendid exercise if you ride correctly. Be sure your wheels are in good condition—take care of it as you would a good horse. Oil it once a week, wipe it off and clean it frequently."

"Faulty bikes cause many accidents because riders can never tell what will happen. Then learn to ride correctly. Sit straight with your spine curved slightly forward. Keep the balls of your feet on the pedals with the foot horizontal when it reaches the lowest position. The entire driving power is from your knee downward with most of the drive coming from the ankle."

"Don't punch your legs up and down." Cone says, "but use the full two-thirds of the crank throw to provide your impetus."

Will Help Train Racers So much for advice to aspiring, perspiring and expiring cyclists—let's talk about Mr. Cone himself: A native of Pennsylvania, he entered many road and track races in that state and New York when he was a lad. He rode in the 100-mile road race at Buffalo several times and also appeared in the big races at Ferdonia, N. Y., where the cycling gentry of the 80's and 90's gathered in huge numbers.

He also pedaled in Willow (Continued on Page 4-A)

MARCH OF RIMES - MESSENGERS OF TIME - By H. F. NOAKE

How busy are the tiny hands that journey round and round a clock; they move with each melodic tick, then move some more, with every tick. Deterred by neither quake nor flood, ignoring wars and plague and drought; just keep on going, night and day, no, nothing ever tires them out. Nor do they pay the slightest heed to glib entreaties, heard so oft, that someone's lotion gives allure, and makes hands kissable, and soft. Wise little hands, that never grasp for something, way off in the blue; vague thoughts, forever out of reach, they leave to folks, like me, and you. What service they perform for man, on land and sea, in every clime; by their eternal forward march, we keep in tune with Father Time.

Yule Mail Rush Begins; P. O. Open Saturdays

Today marked the start of the annual Christmas rush at the Torrance postoffice. An extra window was placed in service for general delivery and C.O.D. mail in order to leave the regular receiving points open for Yuletide packages. Postmaster Earl Conner announced that the postoffice would be open Saturday, Dec. 14 and 21, until 6 o'clock to accommodate patrons and afternoon deliveries will be made on those days. He intends to follow the policy of delivering all mail received on the same day throughout the Yuletide season.

"I am confident that our postal business this quarter will shatter all previous records. Last year the gross receipts during the December quarter totaled \$11,584.38. To date we have total receipts this quarter of \$8,500.22," the postmaster reported.

Redecoration of the postoffice is proceeding on a plan that does not allow any interference with the normal and abnormal Christmas business, Conner said. The painting job is expected to be completed by Christmas.

Indict Four In This Area for Draft Evasion

Four of 65 Southern California men—all under 35—who were indicted by the Federal jury yesterday in what government officials said was the greatest "mopping up" of alleged draft evaders ever attempted in the west are four men residing in the area covered by Selective Service Board No. 280, it was learned today.

Local board officials said Norman Sinaian, William August Risse, Gail Ezel Faught and John Shochi Atsumi, who were indicted for violation of various provisions of the Selective Service Act, were residents in this district.

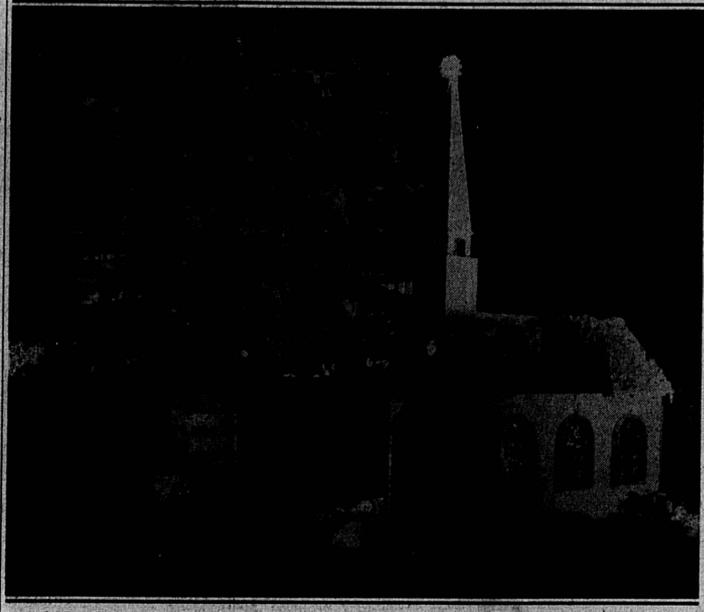
Federal Prosecutor William F. Palmer, who presented the cases before the Federal grand jury, said that unless "highly adequate excuses could be offered," the government would demand—as a lesson to others and as a general deterrent—that the maximum penalty would be invoked. The top penalty for failing to register, or for giving false addresses to draft board officials is five years' imprisonment or a \$10,000 fine or both.

It was learned here that the local men failed to either return their draft questionnaires or notify the local board of a change of address.

Kresse Assistant at Steel Mill Is Desmond McCall

Appointment of Desmond McCall to the position of assistant general superintendent of the Torrance plant of Columbia Steel Company, subsidiary of United States Steel Corporation, was announced late last week by Otto A. Kresse, general superintendent.

Where Yule Music Will Be Broadcast



This miniature church, built by City Recreation department workers under direction of Mrs. Cora Bohrer, and the nearby tiny house that serves as Santa's own mailbox are integral parts of the Torrance Christmas decorations. In the background of this night picture is the snow-covered Christmas tree. Beginning Friday evening, Dec. 20,

Percy Thompson Warned Again; to Join CCCs

For the theft of one gallon of gasoline, Percy LeRoy Thompson, 18, of 2624 Carson street, was sentenced to serve six months in the county jail this week by City Judge Robert Lessing. Several days later, however, the judge changed his mind about the penalty and allowed Thompson to go free on condition that he joins the Civilian Conservation Corps.

"Young Thompson has had his last chance in my court," Judge Lessing said. "If he as much as steals a look in the wrong direction, he'll go to the county jail again and then for six months."

Attached to the youth's latest "sentence" was a 180-day suspended jail term and other conditions, the CCC enrollment being paramount. He has made application to join the Corps.

Thompson, who recently completed a 15-day county jail term for violation of two probations, was charged with theft of 30 gallons of gasoline from a dragline excavator on the night of Nov. 27. He maintained he only took one gallon and plead guilty to that.

City Judge Robert Lessing handed the youth the half-year jail term because Thompson's latest offense constituted a felony. (Continued on Page 4-A)

Police Nab Youth for Car-Stripping

Parts of Vern Lovelady's car which had been stolen from the machine while it was parked at the high school shop for repairs were recovered by local police Saturday following the arrest of a 17-year-old Torrance youth. The boy, a first offender, was certified to the Juvenile Court.

City Comes of Age Today

The city of Torrance officially became of age today. Although the community was incorporated May 12, 1921, City Clerk A. H. Bartlett has a large gold-sealed document to prove that Torrance was not officially recognized as a full-fledged city of the sixth class of the state of California until 21 years ago today.

That document bears the signature of the late Frank C. Jordan, long-time secretary of state, and it is the official certificate of the city's incorporation.

Three days after pioneer citizens of Torrance voted to incorporate, the first city council assembled and chose the late George A. Proctor as president. Members were R. R. Smith, Wallace H. Gilbert, Joseph Stone and J. M. Fitzhugh.

The title of "president" was dropped and "mayor" substituted in August, 1927, when the late John M. Dennis was heading the municipal board.

City Clerk Bartlett also resurrected another bit of Torrance history this week when he announced that the first child to be born in the new city was James Edward Torrance Gull, who arrived Feb. 22, 1918.

Another Torrance Boy to Appear on Radio Quiz Show

Next Thursday night, Dec. 19, Bobby Lee Suttle will face a barrage of questions and give what he believes are the correct answers over the radio in an effort to uphold the honor of his Fifth grade at Torrance Elementary school. He will also be trying to win the "Kids' Quiz" at the studios of radio station KECA and thereby win an encyclopedia set like that Bernard Smith of the sixth grade received Nov. 14 when he topped the radio show.

Steel Workers Form Hospital Association

Following nearly eight months spent in investigation, consultation and negotiation with company officials, the Columbia Steel Employees' Hospitalization Plan will go into effect Jan. 2, 1941. It was learned this week from J. H. Hanks, chairman of the 17-man directorate—all Columbia Steel workers.

Believed to be the first "all-employee" hospital insurance plan in the steel industry, the local organization intends to offer coverage of all surgical and hospital bills up to \$175 for an operation and 90 days in a hospital for all subscribers.

Chairman Hanks, who works in the 22-inch mill, said that the Columbia Steel Company has authorized the plan after exhaustive investigation which included retention of insurance actuaries and legal counsel. The company, Hanks said, is assured that the plan is feasible but will not participate in it in any way because it is for the employees themselves.

Retain Relief Unit The cost to subscribers, who must be Columbia Steel employees, is \$1.40 per month for a single man, \$1.90 for a man and wife, \$2.20 for a man, wife and one child, \$2.50 for a man, wife and two or three children and \$3 per month for any family up to 10.

A campaign to enroll subscribers will begin Thursday, Jan. 2, 1941, Hanks reported. The 17 directors in control of the plan were selected from all departments of the company. When a reserve fund for the plan is built up, the board intends to enlarge its scope to take in home sickness. The plan, according to Hanks, will operate with no overhead expense other than the cost of a part-time accountant.

Columbia workers have had the benefit of an employees' relief association for the past four years. This pays benefits of \$15 per week for work time lost members due to sickness or accident. The cost of membership in this association has been 50 cents per month. At the present time the association is said to have a reserve operating fund of \$13,000. It is controlled by a five-man board of directors headed by Neil McConlogue as chairman. The hospitalization plan will not supersede the relief association.

Sunday dinner guests of Mrs. Mina Shidder were Mr. and Mrs. George Shidder and daughter of Hollywood and Mr. and Mrs. James Shidder and daughter of Whittier.

Three Firms Having Formal Opening Here This Coming Weekend

If Santa Claus ever left such big gifts on Torrance's doorstep before, the city's annals of business life fail to show it. . . . Anyway, the Torrance business district is presented with three formal grand openings this weekend. Only one is a new-comer to the community but even he, R. H. Wilcox of Wilmington, is having his debut in a familiar location and is dealing in a familiar product—at the former Ed. Thompson agency, 1600 Cabrillo, dealing in Chevrolets and auto service.

The other two are well-known local business men who have changed their locations for new and larger accommodations. J. M. Christensen is opening his new Christy's Cafe on Marcelina directly across from the postoffice and George H. Moore is celebrating his moving into epic-and-span modern hardware store at 1515 Cabrillo avenue.

The Herald joins other business firms of the community in congratulating all three on their progressive enterprise and wishing them much success in the future.

Masons Elect Ruppel Master

Clifford Ruppel was elected Worshipful Master of Torrance Masonic lodge, No. 447, at the meeting last Friday evening. He will be assisted by E. A. Day as senior warden; W. H. Bremner, junior warden; J. H. Fess, past master; treasurer; Jesse H. Sprout, past master, secretary; William E. Ruppel, chaplain; Homer B. Morgan, senior deacon; Carl Gunnar Holmes, junior deacon; Lee G. Nelson, marshal; Delbert J. Thomson, senior steward; Ellsworth (Bud) Phillips, junior steward; and Harry C. Almsworth, Sr., Tyler.

Samuel Egerton Burke, 33rd past grand master of the grand lodge of California, will serve as installing officer for the open installation ceremony to be held Monday, Dec. 23, at 8 p. m., at Masonic Temple. Keith Slegie, inspector for the 99th district, will preside as master of ceremonies.

Madrid Ave. Clean-up Asked of Santa Fe by City Council

A motion made by Councilman James Hitchcock at Tuesday night's council session should bring hosannas from residents along Madrid avenue from Torrance boulevard to Carson street and their earnest prayers that it will produce action. Hitchcock recommended that Glenn Jain, acting city engineer, write the superintendent of the Santa Fe railroad at San Bernardino asking that the S. F. right-of-way along Madrid be cleaned up and improved. "We should try and get something done on that street because the railroad right-of-way is in very bad condition," he said. "Several months ago the Santa Fe was asked to take action but nothing ever came of it. Now residents of Madrid want to see some improvement."

BUS STUDY LEADING TO OWNERSHIP

Determined to stop incurring a deficit that is now costing the city between \$500 and \$600 a month, according to Councilman James Hitchcock, members of the city council are concluding studies of the local bus situation. They are agreed that the city will probably have to go into the bus business as a municipal enterprise if Torrance continues to enjoy passenger service to and from Los Angeles.

The matter of the route is receiving much attention. Patronage from Lomita and Welteria is very small and the service may have to be discontinued. Torrance officials state that the city cannot continue to offer bus service farther away than Lomita boulevard and Narbonne without continuing a serious deficit.

At the present time Torrance is leasing buses from the Asbury Rapid Transit Company on a mileage basis and the monthly deficit is proving greater than the city treasury can continue to bear, Councilman Hitchcock said this week. Asbury has definitely decided to halt all efforts to obtain a franchise from the State Railroad Commission for service to Torrance from its Los Angeles terminal. Opposition of Los Angeles carriers, the city of Gardena and others have prevented Asbury from supplying the service as a private bus company.

Use Asbury Terminal "We had a long conference with Don C. Campbell, general manager of the Asbury line, Tuesday. He informed us that his firm has given up the idea of a franchise and suggested that we purchase new buses of the "pusher" type with the motor in the rear and of sufficient size to accommodate 25 to 30 passengers.

"We asked him about the use of the Asbury property at 945 South Hill street if we substituted a municipal system and he said we can use the facilities. These are not much at the present time, that address merely being a parking lot with a few benches. But the Asbury firm is planning to erect a modern terminal there, and Crawford said we could rent that for our Los Angeles terminal at the rate of \$50 per month."

Hitchcock said that Asbury would sell the city one of its buses "at a very reasonable figure" which the city could use for a stand-by vehicle in case of an emergency. He reported the council was investigating the costs of 27-passenger buses but had not arrived at any decision as yet.

Problem Nearly Year Old Asked about the service outside of Torrance, the councilman, who has headed all bus negotiations, said that the city if it goes into the transportation business probably would not attempt to pick up passengers north of 64th street.

Torrance was confronted with a transportation problem on Jan. 15 when the Pacific Electric abandoned its passenger service here. Asbury immediately offered. (Continued on Page 4-A)

BEWARE OF CITY CROWDS IF YOU WOULD AVOID INFLUENZA

Avoid city crowds if you would avoid influenza. This was the advice from Dr. J. L. Pomeroy, county health officer, as authorities watched for what they believed would be the peak of the present epidemic. An adequate amount of rest and sleep, and adequate amounts of nutritious foods, with regular exercise in the open air, were other "musts" prescribed by the county health officer if the individual is to maintain good general bodily health and resistance. By far the greater part of the cases in the county are within the more congested areas of Los Angeles city, it was noted. City health officers in Los Angeles said they were making every effort to see that proper sterilization measures in the

large drug stores and other establishments were enforced. The death rate from pneumonia has declined about one-third since 1936, Dr. Pomeroy said.

