



Although Tokio has forbidden Japanese ships to carry any more German nationals from U. S. who are likely to provoke search and seizure by British warships, Japan's great merchant fleet is carrying many evacuees from Orient. Here one: Freya Kathryn Wade, who, with mother, was ordered out of Tientsin, China, on 10 days' notice by her father's British-American firm. She is shown in San Francisco aboard N. Y. K. liner Tatsu Maru.

TORRANCE HERALD

ESTABLISHED 1914 — TWO SECTIONS — 12 PAGES
74th YEAR — No. 2 SECTION A TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 1941 PER COPY 5c

Alondra Park Refunding Hits Another Snag

Proposal of the county supervisors to pay par and accrued interest for approximately \$300,000 of bonds outstanding in Acquisition and Improvement District 28, formed for the acquisition of Alondra Park drew a sharp protest this week from Marshall Stimson and caused the supervisors to delay action for another week.

Stimson said that too high a price was being paid for the bonds, as in all other cases the county has paid as low as 60 percent and not more than 90 percent for outstanding bonds in "sour" districts of the old Matton Act type.

In the Alondra Park deal, the county special assessment relief committee recommended that all of the county's contribution to aid in the refunding of the district be used to buy blocks of bonds of not less than \$50,000 par value, at par and accrued interest, which makes the bonds a gilt-edged investment.

"It seems entirely wrong to place the assembling of these bonds in any special bond house," Stimson told the board. "The county has the equipment and facilities to do this and I feel that it is the method that should be used." Stimson also said he did not believe that the refunding plan proposed for the Alondra Park district was a "complete settlement."

Previously Supervisor John Anson Ford balked on the matter, and since it requires the vote of all five members of the board, he has the power to withhold the entire refunding proceeding.

Housing Project Completion Date Extended to June

Completion date for the Harbor Hills Federal housing project at Western avenue and Palos Verdes Drive north has been extended from April to June at the request of the contractor, project officials announced this week.

The first units are not expected to be ready before early March.

Housing officials said that the \$1,000,000 project is now about 80 percent complete, with only clean-up work remaining, the bulk of which includes painting, installation of furnishings and plastering. Similar in appearance to the Carmelitos federal housing project in North Long Beach, the Harbor Hills project will have 52 buildings, the exterior brick of each will be painted a different pastel shade, light green, buff, egg shell, tan, apricot and other hues.

Opening of a demonstration unit at the project, first announced for October and later postponed to December, has been reset for late January.

The project will accommodate 300 families in units of three and five rooms. It is located on a 92-acre site, will be landscaped, have play areas and parking space. Construction has been under way approximately a year.

Sheriff's Officer Talks to Kiwanians Here

Members of the Torrance Kiwanis club heard an interesting talk on crime prevention and its problems by E. L. Greene, public relations officer in the Sheriff's office, at their Monday night dinner-meeting.

The club's annual installation party will be held Jan. 20 at the Palos Verdes Country club. Dean Sears is serving with L. J. Gilmeister on the program committee for the new term.

Pool Hall Raids Net 18 Gamblers Who Pay Total of \$400 in Fines

As a result of two raids on El Prado pool halls Saturday night by local police, Sheriff's vice detail and district attorney's officers, 18 men were fined a total of \$400 for gambling Monday morning.

The fines—\$25 each for 16 men and \$50 or 60 days in the county jail assessed on each of two operators of the pooler games—were the heaviest City Judge Robert Lessing has ever fixed on gambling defendants.

After all had entered pleas of guilty, including Aubrey Thomas, 31, 813 Portola avenue, and Mike Sowrie, 1913, Cabrillo, who admitted they were running the games and who took the jail sentences instead of paying the heavy fines, Judge Lessing said:

"The Police Commission of the city of Torrance has adopted a policy of strict enforcement of the law regarding gambling and has instructed the police department to break up the games wherever they are found running. This court intends to support the commission and the police in an effort to stop an act that is judged offensive to the public."

Altho none of the defendants had anything to say in court, once outside and minus their \$25 bail (for the 16 card-players) they had plenty of comment regarding the "steepness" of their fines. Usually gambling penalties here have ranged from \$5 to \$10.

"Fair warning" had been given Thomas and Sowrie's employer, Ed Torrance, regarding gambling, Police Chief John Stroth told the court. Sowrie volunteered the information that Torrance knew the games were running.

The local residents were: Trial of one defendant, Fred H. Curler, 26, 921 Sartori avenue, was held over until Tuesday at his request but when he appeared he received the same \$25 sentence. Thirteen of the 18 men were local residents, the others living in Lomita, Redondo Beach, Compton, Manhattan Beach, Lennox and Los Angeles.

Others were: Jack Anderson, 47, Redondo Beach; Forrest Pingel, 28, Compton; Charles Mifflin, Manhattan Beach; Gilbert R. Salmon, Lomita; Garnie G. Dobsen, 28, Lennox; and Lonnie B. Byars, 36, Los Angeles.

Court is Cooperating
"I am glad that there was evidence of surprise and annoyance as a result of what

700 Masons Will Convene Here Saturday

For the fourth successive year, Torrance will be host Saturday, Jan. 11, to more than 700 members of the Southern California Edison Company's Masonic club. Committee sessions will be held at the Council chamber in the city hall, according to Secretary L. J. Gilmeister of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce. The Torrance Masonic Temple and Legion Clubhouse will also be opened to the visitors.

An evening dinner program and entertainment will be held in the Civic Auditorium. Edison workers will come here from as far as the hydroelectric plants in the High Sierras and plants at Visalia, Oceanside and desert points.

Will H. Fischer will serve as toastmaster at the dinner and W. C. Mullendore, executive of the Southern California Edison company and former president of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, will be the principal speaker. The retiring officers of the club are S. E. Benton, president; L. E. Tarbox and J. K. Uhler, vice-presidents; Paul Queen, secretary; Ray Taylor, treasurer, and B. F. Fluno, executive advisor.

W. C. MULLENDORE
... principal speaker at dinner

'March of Dimes' in Progress

"Big business built on a dime" was the way Postmaster Earl Conner this week described the splendid efforts made by the National Foundation for Eradication of Infantile Paralysis with the assistance of millions who join the annual "March of Dimes" during January. Conner reviewed the accomplishments made nationally, in California and in Torrance toward the rehabilitation of infantile paralysis victims at his annual luncheon meeting of civic leaders to start the local campaign.

Fifteen men and women were Conner's guests at Daniels cafe Tuesday noon when the Torrance "March of Dimes" was officially begun. They showed keen interest in plans to fulfill this city's quota of selling 6,000 label buttons for a least \$600. Last year the Torrance quota of \$500 was exceeded by \$18.

Altho the chief means of raising infantile paralysis funds (half of which remains in Southern California, the remainder going to the National Foundation created by President Roosevelt for continued research into the dread disease) will be sale of the label buttons, the committee instructed Chairman Conner to investigate possibility of reviving the "President's Birthday Ball."

Doing Splendid Job
No dance has been held on the President's birthday, Jan. 30 when the "March of Dimes" campaign ends, for the past three years. They were held in 1936 and 1937.

"One case in Torrance," Conner said, "took more money for treatment and supplies, such as braces and special shoes, than we raised here last year. But that boy is continuing to show improvement. There are on an average 197 cases receiving treatment each month in the Los Angeles area. The National Foundation and our Southern California agencies are doing a splendid job—it is up to us to do the same in the 1941 'March of Dimes'."

Conner stressed the need of contacting workers in the smaller industrial plants of the city and an effort will be made to dispose of many buttons in this manner. Mrs. J. O. Bishop agreed to undertake a street sale campaign to be conducted by high school girls' groups and others present agreed to arouse their

(Continued on Page 6-A)

Billy Pickrell Retires as Head Roller at Steel Plant

(Contributed)
"Goodby, boys—it was swell working with you!"

So said Billy Pickrell, head roller of the 22 and 36-inch mills of the Columbia Steel plant after he had worked his last day for Columbia, Tuesday, Dec. 31. Billy, who is 65 years young, was forced to retire on account of the ruling of the U. S. Steel Corporation to retire all employees who reach that age regardless of position or experience. Billy thus, retired—much to the sorrow of his fellow workers and officers. He lives at 1342 West 54th street, Los Angeles.

Mr. Pickrell is one of an old line of iron and steel mill workers. His father was a heater in the old iron mills when he induced Billy and his three brothers to follow in his footsteps. Billy started in the old iron mills at the age of 14 and became so skillful that he received his first job as a roller at the tender age of 18. His brothers also became rollers.

Has Splendid Record
Billy's skill as a roller became known to the Republic Iron and Steel Mill of East Chicago, Ind., and he was hired to install a 14-9 Belgium iron mill which turned out to be one of the best in the country at that time. The Canadian Car and Foundry Company then called Billy to their plant where he was head roller until 1915 when Mr. Scott Cringle asked him to take over the mill in Seattle, Wash. He stayed there all thru the first World War.

Then Mr. William Booth of the old Columbia Steel Company asked him to come out to Torrance and take the rolling position on the 22-inch mill in 1923. At that time the mill was working 12-hour shifts and producing around 100 tons per 12 hours. After installing a 36-inch mill for break-down, Billy, with the help of his officers and fellow workers, brought up the production of the 22-inch mill to around 400 tons for an eight-hour turn.

Always First to Help
The name of Billy Pickrell is known thruout the steel industry of the country and he has the reputation of being one of the finest bar and guide mill rollers

(Continued on Page 6-A)

Student Pilot Ground Loops Plane Here in Forced Landing

Soaring over South Torrance at 2,300 feet, Frank Pitts' Taylor Cab trainer plane's engine stalled last Saturday morning. He glided down to earth and picked out what he thought was a fairly smooth field.

But the ground was soggy and a small water-filled ditch blocked it so Pitts ground-looped and badly damaged his craft in the field on the west side of Hawthorne avenue about a mile north of Highway 101.

Pitts, 20 year-old flying student of Los Angeles, squirmed out of the inverted cockpit unharmed. He had taken off from the Gardena airport on a routine training flight.

Drunk Driving Trial Postponed

At the request of the victim's attorney, the trial of Harry D. Shriner, 53, Gardena, for alleged driving while intoxicated New Year's night was postponed by Judge Robert Lessing Tuesday until 10 a. m., Jan. 21. He is at liberty on \$100 bail.

Shriner is accused of driving his car at a high speed on 190th street and causing injuries to three young people, the year's first accident victims in this city.

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Harbor Chambers Annual Meeting Here Tonight

About 175 are expected to attend the annual installation dinner-meeting of the Harbor District Chambers of Commerce tonight at the Woman's clubhouse when Fred Finkle of West Hollywood will succeed L. J. Gilmeister of Torrance as president of that organization.

A business meeting is being held this afternoon at the Episcopal Guild hall adjoining the Woman's clubhouse. Year-end reports are being drafted for presentation at the evening gathering which will be addressed by Carleton Tibbett, Los Angeles industrialist and civilian coordinator in Southern California for national defense.

Members of the Woman's club are scheduled to begin serving the dinner tonight at 6:30 o'clock. Tom Ulrich's trio will play during the meal and Lewis T. Guild, Jr. publisher of the Gardena Valley News, will install the new officers of the booster association. Other speakers will be President R. R. Smith, address of welcome, and Logan R. Cotton, Torrance city auditor and Redondo Beach accountant, response.

The gathering marks the 13th time in the 24 years of the Harbor District Chambers that the first session of the new year has been held in Torrance.

TAKE OVER COURT

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Phillips, formerly of Marlon, Ind., have taken over personal management of the property formerly known as Case Courts and now called Phillips Courts at 2125-31 1/2 Highway 101.

The use of mirrors was known to the ancients.

Motorists Lagging in Buying New Licenses

License plate distribution in Torrance during the past three years:

Year	1941	1940	1939
First day	444	370	410
First week	1,800	3,200	2,000
Total issued	14,809	10,949	
Total Collected	\$102,232	\$78,000	

Predicting a big jam toward the close of the registration period, Manager Leonard J. Tristram of the Torrance branch office of the Motor Vehicle department pointed out today that applications for 1941 license plates are 40 percent below last year's total at this time.

"Looks like most motorists spent all of their ready cash during the holidays," he said, "because, except for the first day, we have not been rushed at any time." The Torrance office for distribution of license plates is located at 1324 El Prado, next to the Safeway parking lot.

The office is open from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m. every day except Saturday when it will close at 12 o'clock noon.

Cost on White Slip
The new plates will be available until Feb. 4, after which there will be a penalty equal to the amount of the fee provided the vehicle has been operated since Jan. 1.

The ordinary pleasure car has a registration fee of \$3, the same as last year. In addition, "in lieu" tax depends upon the assessed value of the vehicle and changes from year to year. It is based upon an assessment of \$1.75 per \$100 assessed valuation. This fee takes the place of the personal property tax formerly levied on vehicles by cities and counties.

Applicants will find the total amount of license fees due in (Continued on Page 7-A)

City Still Plans Asking WPA for Boulevard Work

Despite reports that WPA projects may be limited in the future to national defense works, the city engineer is going right ahead preparing plans and specifications for major improvement of Torrance boulevard with the city engineer's office is going work to Federal authorities for an appropriation.

"We are still working on the estimates and hope to put in for a WPA project," Glenn Jain, acting city engineer, said this week. He said he could not state when the basic work will be completed because his office is hampered at the present time by lack of skilled technical help.

Altho Jain would not quote any estimate on the cost of the project, first proposed by former Mayor Tolson in 1938, the original estimate as revealed last September by the city council was \$81,392.20. At that time the council appropriated \$20,348.05 from the city's quarter-cent state gasoline tax fund to pay for the preliminary engineering work and as a start on the job.

No Cost Figures Yet
Jain said that he had learned from conferences with other city engineers and WPA officials that "the more work done by the city on a project, the quicker it is approved as a WPA project. That is why we are devoting so much attention to field notes and office work on the job.

"We are still working on preliminary estimates and no final plans have been drawn as yet (Continued on Page 7-A)

MARCH OF DIMES

SKIN DEEP — By H. F. NOAKE

Let's take a peek at Gertie's place, where daily scores of women race to squeeze inside a little booth and voice their plea, "Oh give us youth." Close by, an operator lurks, to give the customer the works with violet ray and facial packs, a bang up job, for fifteen smacks. There sits a chronic beauty slave preparing for a permanent wave, tonight, you'll find her in command at Jake and Tessie's hot dog stand. There's Mrs. Blimp, past sixty three, she's just received a agency; two thousand dollars! What a gift. So now, her face can get a lift. The beauty salon, to be sure, contributes to a girl's allure but, sad to say, the best of them don't look so hot, at six a. m.

14 Elections Slated In County In 1941

Fourteen city elections have been scheduled in Los Angeles county for 1941 thus far, according to the records of W. M. Kerr, registrar of voters, but Torrance will not share in the ballot business. There may be a few special elections rung in during the year, as there usually are, but Kerr doesn't know about them as yet.

Federal Income Tax Base Broadened

Many More Must File Returns by March 15th

Drastic changes in the federal income tax structure put into effect by the recent session of Congress to cover emergency defense costs, indicate an enormous increase in the number of Southern California residents who will file income tax returns for 1940. In this district, according to estimates released this week by F. F. Fichtenthal, chief of the income tax division of the local tax bureau of internal revenue, 1940 returns must be filed not later than March 15. Blank returns can be obtained at any internal revenue office in Southern California. The revenue service is not obliged to mail returns to anyone.

Previous to 1940 all single persons with a net income of \$1,000 or more, and all married persons with a net income of \$2,500 or more were required to file returns. For 1940 these exemptions have been lowered so that single persons with a GROSS income of \$800 and married persons with a GROSS income of \$2,000 are now required to file returns whether or not they have any tax to pay.

In addition to lowering the exemption brackets the recent Congress also voted increased surtaxes on personal incomes between \$6,000 and \$100,000. These increases together with increased corporation taxes will result, Fichtenthal estimated, in a raise of revenue of approximately 28 percent.

All taxable incomes will be subjected to a new tax, the first of its kind ever levied in the United States. This tax, known as the Defense Tax, is 10 percent of the taxpayer's regular tax. A taxpayer whose return indicates a tax, for example, of \$20 will also pay a defense tax of \$2, making the total \$22.

Owners of some 400 guns, according to Police Chief John Stroth, have indicated they favor registration of their fire arms with the police even the compulsory registration aroused considerable opposition when a proposed city ordinance to that effect was under fire here last November.

One gun owner has registered more than 20 weapons with Chief Stroth and several others have more than four or five. The proposed ordinance to make such registration mandatory was held up Nov. 12 pending receipt of an opinion from the California Municipalities League.

Stroth Reports Registering Over 400 Guns

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One gun owner has registered more than 20 weapons with Chief Stroth and several others have more than four or five. The proposed ordinance to make such registration mandatory was held up Nov. 12 pending receipt of an opinion from the California Municipalities League.

However, the measure has not been "killed" as Councilman Vern Babcock, who introduced it Oct. 22, still is of the opinion it should be adopted. The ordinance was approved at first reading and needs only one more airing to be passed.