

# City Business District Will Present New, Finer Appearance Soon

## RESOURCEFUL GUPPIES SAVE OWN LIVES IN QUAKE AS THEIR BOWL TOPPLES IN SINK

The world's most talented guppies are owned by Mr. and Mrs. Edward Rhone of 1019 Beech ave.

Resourceful, alert and calm, they emerged from the Nov. 14 quake with a record never equalled in Guppy-land.

Mrs. Rhone keeps the tiny fish in a bowl over the kitchen sink where the sunlight filters thru the water and keeps the guppies happy all day long.

Came the earthquake and the guppies' bowl went the way of a lot of other glass and china-ware in Torrance—BUT!

As the container toppled off

the shelf above the sink, it struck the water faucet and turned on the cold water. Fortunately for the guppies, the stopper had been left in the sink and so . . .

When Mr. and Mrs. Rhone flashlit their way into the kitchen after the tremor to survey the damage they found the guppies nonchalantly swimming about in the sink, enjoying life in far more water than they had ever known before!

The Rhones insist that the guppies did not, en masse, wrap their tails about the faucet handle and turn on the water as they toppled with the quake—but the water was running and they were safe and sound.

MISSOURIAN OFFERS PROPERTY TO CITY

Stating that she had learned the fire station was damaged by the Nov. 14 quake, Mrs. May Abramsky of St. Louis, Mo., informed the city council by letter Tuesday night that she would consider selling her lot adjoining the station to the city for a new fire headquarters. The letter was filed for future reference.

MOOSE LODGE OFFERS SYMPATHY

A letter of sympathy expressing trust that Torrance will enjoy "even greater prosperity in the future" was received by the city council Tuesday night from John W. Martin, secretary of the South Gate Loyal Order of Moose lodge. He said the South Central district of the order had instructed him to write the Torrance officials to convey the organization's regret over the quake damage here.

BRICKS TUMBLE CAUSE ALARM

What passersby thought was the result of another tremor and hurriedly cleared the sidewalk in front of the Masonic Temple on Sartori ave. late last Saturday afternoon proved only the result of a workman's impatience to get home. The worker had overloaded the scaffolding with bricks removed from the face of the building and the weight caused the scaffold to buckle and dribble a few bricks to the sidewalk.

The most dangerous person—the liar.

## Building Permits Total \$19,843 as Repairing Begins

Building permits issued during the past week from the city engineer's office totalled \$19,843 for both new and reconstruction jobs in Torrance. Of that amount \$3,868 was credited to repair of damage wrought by the Nov. 14 tremor. The following received permits:

Anthony Kikta, repairs to residence building at 2312 231st st., \$200;

S. J. Katz and J. H. Pine, six-room frame and stucco residence and two-car garage at 2443 Andree ave., \$4,000; six-room frame and stucco residence and two-car garage at 2444 Andree, \$4,000.

William Charles Coburn, frame garage at 1908 Arlington ave., \$250.

General Petroleum Corp. 34 by 112-foot wood frame shop building at Torrance refinery, \$3,500. Miller Transfer Co. 1617 Border ave., demolition of building at 1625 Cabrillo, \$1,000.

Masonic Temple, 1821 1/2 Sartori ave., demolition of top front of building, \$500.

Frank W. Russell, new foundation placed under residence at 1008 Cota, \$200.

Charles A. Stewart, new chimney and fireplace to residence at 1814 Madrid ave., \$200.

Robert Kemel, rebuilding the chimney and fireplace, repairs to plaster, three window glass and porch piers to residence at 1407 Cota ave., \$150.

Mrs. Alice A. McCarthy, Los Angeles, rebuilding front layer of brick in fireplace and rebuilding chimney at 1924 Gramercy ave., \$40.

Wanda Stachowicz, New York, N. Y., rebuilding and repairing chimney at 1437 Post ave., \$50.

Everett Grubb, rebuilding of chimney to residence at 1515 El Prado, \$150.

J. Byron Scotton, rebuilding fireplace and chimney at 1438 El Prado, \$100.

B. F. Dye, replace brick fireplace and chimney at 1609 Cota, \$50.

R. Jones, foundation to porch to chimney repairs on residence at 1747 Andree ave., \$375.

Phil Rupp, repair brick chimney and incinerator to two-family dwelling at 1517 Marcelina ave., \$28.

M. R. Beck, six-room frame and stucco residence and two-car garage at 620 Madrid ave., \$4,000.

Comet Brooks, rebuilding brick chimney at 1328 Portola ave., \$140.

Grover C. Whyte, rebuilding brick chimney at 1820 Post ave., \$150.

Roy Pruitt, frame garage at 2120 Andree ave., \$225.

Mrs. Florence H. Welch, repairing brick chimney at 1510 Engracia ave., \$35.

James Corbett, reconstruction of chimney and repairs to exterior walls at 1758 Arlington ave., \$500.

## FIREMEN IN NEW HEADQUARTERS

City firemen are now living in the council chamber of the city hall pending rehabilitation of their sleeping quarters on the second floor of the central fire station. They have installed a number of cots in the rear of the room and arranged their "turn-out" garb near the rear door.

Photo courtesy S. P. News-Pilot

Two of the five machines reported damaged in the "big shake" are shown at the left at the D & M Machine Shop plant. A falling wall showered down its brick on the tops of these cars and another at the Mullin's garage at Border and Torrance blvd.

**NO REDUCTION**  
Fined \$25 for peddling without a city license Nov. 8, Jack Maggolis appealed to the city council by letter Tuesday night for permission to obtain a permit

on the installment plan, paying \$3 per month instead of the required in advance for a year. City Clerk A. H. Bartlett was instructed to inform him that the license fee was payable in advance.

**TOPS IN DESSERT**  
Ice cream is the most popular dessert in the U. S. Navy. It is to the sailorman of today what rum used to be to the sailor of yesterday!

**GRANT TAXI PERMIT**  
Recommended by Police Chief John Stroh, a city license to operate a taxi here was ordered granted to Joseph Disalvo of Harbor City by the city council Tuesday night.



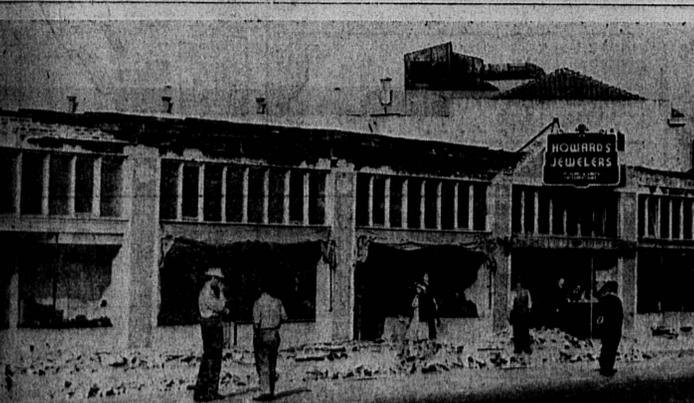
Here's B. J. Scott showing a photographer how debris came tumbling through the roof of his Torrance Electric Shop on Marcelina Ave. Nearby shop owners found similar results from fallen bricks and plaster and their window displays suffered from the collapsing plate glass.



Prompt attack on the rubble slithered into streets and sidewalks was made here following the temblor. Workmen at the D & M Machine Shop began hauling away the remains of a wall and roof which covered truck passageway November 14th. In the background are the cars, shown in another picture printed in this issue which were wrecked by the falling wall.



Photo courtesy S. P. News-Pilot



Typical of the damage wrought and also typical of the prompt cleanup program is this view of Cabrillo ave. stores, their big plate glass windows fallen or cracked and brick work knocked to the sidewalk. Most of the wreckage was caused by falling cornices and fire walls.



Photo courtesy L. A. Times

Typical of the damage wrought to merchandise and fixtures in local stores was this scene as clerks at the Western Auto Supply Co., and manager E. E. Murchison (wielding the broom at the right) cleared away the jumbled stock. Murchison estimated the damage to stock and fixtures at about \$300. He has no estimate on damage to the building itself.



Photo courtesy L. A. Herald-Express

This Christmas-gift filled window at the J. J. Newberry store on El Prado presented this shambles to spectators following the shocks. The windows, like hundreds of others thruout the business district, were smashed and the broken glass added to the damage by cutting merchandise to ribbons. Nevertheless, within 24 hours Newberry's—like all other firms—had glaziers on the job, the windows were replaced, stocks renewed and it was "business as usual." William Kempen, president of the Torrance Business Men's Association and himself a "quake victim" when his Verdi Dress Shop on Sartori ave., was damaged, declared "we'll be all fixed up here, ready for the biggest Christmas business in history within a week." He was right.