



A HOLLY CHRISTMAS TREE . . . consists of holly branches bound to a center pole so they form a pyramid-shaped tree. Twenty-four red carnations replace the hard-to-find Christmas decorations and are much more novel. The stem of each flower is held in a small glass tube filled with water so the tree will retain its fresh beauty for a longer time. Sprays of white twigs and red berries complete this gay wartime tree.

Dierker Gives Monoxide Gas Poison Warning

Hugh Dierker, M.D., county health department industrial hygiene chief, today warned against the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning which are greatest during the cold winter months. Dr. Dierker pointed out that the greatest number of deaths from carbon monoxide poisoning are caused by portable unvented heaters which are easily thrown out of adjustment thus permitting more gas to be admitted to the heaters they can accommodate. All gas heaters which can be carried from room to room should be serviced by the gas company before using.

A particular danger in California is caused by the wide use of hot air furnaces of the floor or unit heat type in which the combustion compartment is separated from the hot air compartment by sheet iron. Dr. Dierker advised, in the course of a few years this sheet iron may rust through, permitting combustion gases to escape into the house. An annual checkup of such furnaces by the local gas company will reveal possible hazards.

"A number of carbon monoxide deaths are annually chalked up against the automobile, either from starting cars in closed garages or riding in cars in which all doors and windows are closed," Dr. Dierker said. "There is always the danger of there being a leak in the exhaust pipe or of a feed-back from the exhaust pipe itself. Parents should always be on the alert for undue drowsiness of children riding in back seats of cars."

Carbon monoxide gas is colorless and odorless, thus making it all the more insidious. Health department physicians advise that in high concentrations the victim may collapse without warning after breathing the contaminated atmosphere for only a few minutes. In lower concentrations the first sign is headache and dizziness followed by collapse. Immediate removal of a carbon monoxide victim to fresh air is most important. If breathing has stopped or is shallow, do not wait for an oxygen pump but commence artificial respiration at once and continue until the patient breathes normally again.

Callihan Gets 'No Accident Safety Award'
H. C. Callihan, one of the veteran bus drivers employed on the Torrance Municipal Bus Lines, has received the "No Accident Driver's Award" presented annually to those who drive without an unavoidable accident. The award was given in recognition of this accomplishment during the year beginning July 1, 1942, and ending at midnight, June 30, 1943. The award cited that Callihan drove local buses 43,680 miles during the period stated.

Manager C. Z. Ward of the municipal bus system advises that Callihan's record for safe driving goes further back than that indicated by the award.

County Road Trucks Make Long Mileage
Trucks of the county road department traveled 1,708,748 miles during the last fiscal year ending June 30 at a per mile cost of \$0.5530, it is reported by Supervisor Oscar Hauge. During the same period passenger cars of the department traveled 760,344 miles at a running cost of \$0.1024 and a maintenance cost of \$0.1418, he stated.

During the year 12.84 miles of highway were completed and the department expended \$2,851,162.11 for construction maintenance of roads, bridges and culverts.

Labor Recruitment Canvass In L.A. County Held In Abeyance

The proposed house-to-house canvass for recruitment of war plant workers in the Torrance area and other parts of Los Angeles county which had been scheduled for early in December has been ordered held in abeyance, according to LeRoy M. Edwards, chairman of the Citizens' Manpower Committee.

Reason for this action, Edwards explained, was based on an improvement in the labor supply of the county registered in the last 60 days, reported at a recent meeting between members of the commission and representatives of the Army and Navy. It was pointed out, however, that the canvass may be urgently needed at a later date, pending clarification of needs for workers in this area.

Edwards stated facts must be assembled as to number, kind and location of workers then needed by critical war industries.

Edwards also urged the Citizens' War Service Corps of Los Angeles city and county, as well as of suburban incorporated areas, which had set up plans for the canvass, to continue prepared for the survey at whatever date the effort becomes necessary.

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