

**Blessing**

**1000 Attend Ceremony at Local Parish**

Witnessing the blessing of the new Nativity School and Convent last Sunday afternoon were more than 1000 persons including school children, parents and officials of the Catholic church.

Archbishop J. Francis A. McIntyre of the Catholic Archdiocese officiated at the colorful ceremonies conducted in the school yard.

Approximately 100 priests and more than 50 Sisters witnessed the blessing of the flag by Father Patric McGuinness and heard Rev. John B. Sheridan give the principal address. The ceremonies ended with the benediction, followed by a dinner in the parish hall for the archbishop and priests.

Rev. Michael Carville served as deacon and Rev. James F. Nash as sub-deacon.

Knights of Columbus furnished the color guard.

A portion of the ceremonies was broadcast over station KAGH of Pasadena, with Pedro de Cordova serving as moderator.

**All Christmas Fund Checks on Their Way**

Approximately 180,000 checks, aggregating more than \$19,000,000, were mailed Dec. 1 to members of Bank of America's Christmas Club throughout California.

In Torrance, checks will be mailed totalling \$10,000, according to Manager Dean L. Sears of the local Bank of America branch.

Sears commented that this money, so conveniently accumulated during the past 12 months, should prove very welcome to the club members who will find themselves in a better position to meet year-end financial obligations or make essential Christmas season purchases. He added that enrollments for the 1949 Christmas Club are now being accepted.

**AIRPORT MEETING**

Over one thousand invitations have gone out to airport managers and operators throughout California, Utah, Nevada and Arizona to attend the Southern California Aviation Planning Conference in Long Beach, Dec. 10-11.



**ANNIVERSARY**—On Aug. 13, 1923, Lute Fraser, the Herald's oldest employe in point of service, joined the staff. She has moved into three new homes with this newspaper.

**Deadline**

**First Half of Taxes Should Be in Dec. 6**

Taxes for 1948-49 are now due and payable, H. L. Byram, county tax collector, is warning local taxpayers and property owners.

Taxes, if not paid on or before next Monday, Dec. 6, will become delinquent. The first installment of the record-breaking \$262,153,000 levy to be collected by the county is due before 5 p.m. Monday.

If payments are not made by the deadline, the collector reminds the taxpayers, a penalty of 6 per cent will be added. There will be an additional penalty if the amount is not paid by next June 30.

The second installment, due January 20, 1949, will also be subject to a 6 per cent penalty if not paid by April 20. Additional penalty must be paid after June 30, 1949.

Taxpayers are not excused from the penalties for any reason, Byram warns. If a tax bill is not received, it is the taxpayers responsibility to obtain it or a duplicate.

If the tax bill bears a notice "Sold to the State," it means that some tax of a preceding year is unpaid. A redemption statement should be obtained to stop delinquency and also to avoid the possibility of a tax sale.

**25 Years ...**

**Lute Fraser Looks Back to the 20's**

My 25 years in Torrance—gone with the wind. In the words of the immortal Virgil they are as I look back at them "like smoke, or like some half-forgotten dream."

A quarter of a century, looked at from the far side is all squinched up like an accordion. Turn yourself around and look at it from the near side and the years stretch out into infinity.

When I sat down to a desk in the office of the Torrance Herald on Aug. 13, 1923, I wasn't looking ahead to a 25-year deal. Oh, four or five years, maybe, like all my other jobs, and then on to a new pasture. But this one turned out to be the old home pasture and here it is 19 hundred and forty eight.

Aug. 13, 1923. 1879 Carson street. Little old shop with little old equipment. The floor paved with old papers. Dust-decorated furniture. Ventilation was a one-way, dead-end street, flavored with the aroma of chef's masterpieces from the, shall we say, cafe next door, and nobody ever got hungry.

Lunches were inhaled and living was easy, till the maitre d' closed the joint and took off for greener gastronomic fields, the swankiest rindyoov in Santa Barbara right now, Mine Host Russell Smith of El Pasco. Rumor had it that Russ had fought and been routed in a furious battle against the slinkiest bane of a chef's life, Mr. Cook Roach.

After hours in the cafe the troop came over to the Herald office for midnight snacks of newsprint and to look over the looking ads to see what the menus would be for next day.

Nobody ever worked after dark at 1879 Carson street. Too dangerous. Not that I ever heard of anyone being carried off by a cockroach, but who knows how big a cockroach can get, and how many would it take to get you tired.

After I'd been run off the trail in downtown Torrance by a king size gopher, who came at me with eyes aglare and buck teeth snapping, I was ready to believe anything could happen among the wild fauna of the townsite. Right where the Torrance Herald's new building stands this happened, but I can't prove it because the old path is all covered up.

There's nothing like a fresh coat of paint, I say, so along in 1924 came a man by the name of Mosk who rescued the Herald from its somewhat sordid surroundings and moved into the building he erected for us at 1419 Marcelina avenue. Here we added some new names to the payroll and some bigger and better equipment to the plant.

This building lasted us till 1928 when Sam Levy fixed us up with another coat of fresh paint, a bigger and better building.

This called for bigger and better equipment, more people to use it, more people to get business to keep the other people busy, more of this and more of that. After 20 years the place got crowded, and we hopped along to the latest fresh coat of paint and our latest, biggest and best building.

Three times now I've leaned over the make-up table and watched the Torrance Herald wafle on a fresh coat of paint.



**NEWS DEPARTMENT**—The Herald's editorial department is at the front of the building, immediately to the left of the entrance. This is where all of the news copy is prepared by the staff shown in the photograph. They are, left to right, Mary Vonderahe, society editor; Jack Baldwin, sports editor; and Cliff Johnson, managing editor.

The news department can communicate with any other department by the telephone system. The specially-designed map cabinet is partly shown at the extreme right. The other half of the room contains map files and a recess for teletype machines.

**Navy Man on USS Compton**

John S. Jarasiewicz, machinist's mate, first class, USN, husband of Mrs. Lois Helen Jarasiewicz of 1230 Portola ave., Torrance, is serving aboard the destroyer USS Compton, now in the Mediterranean Sea as part of the Sixth Task Fleet.

Mediterranean duty will afford the ship's personnel an opportunity to visit many of the countries of Europe and Africa.

And each time it has been a thrill, a lift in spirit, a boost in personal pride, and an expansion of courage and anticipation. Each time it has been followed by substantial gains in newspaper stature, esprit de corps, and community service.

Not all the worthwhile gains in the newspaper business are counted in terms of money and property. The staff counts as their cherished accolade the respect and esteem which in 25 years the Torrance Herald has earned among other newspapermen all up and down the Pacific coast, and the interest it maintains among its readers in Torrance.

So now here we are, starting on another 25 years. The concrete has been a spreading and the cactus vanishing in Torrance, and the Herald is all set to go again in its fancy new frills and furbelows.

**Ranchos Get Action From City Council**

Developers of the Pacific Rillades rental homes project have agreed to start a planting program to retard erosion of the gouted hillsides adjoining Seaside Ranchos, as the result of meetings between the subdivision, city officials and Seaside Ranchos property owners.

It also was learned that some property owners have taken pictures of the present condition of their property and of the streets immediately below some of the heavy fills, and in event of erosion damage will offer the photographs in evidence in court if their own holdings are injured.

Councilman George Powell and City Attorney C. Douglass Smith made a special trip to the area this week, and City Engineer George Stevens has conferred with the developers.

A committee of Seaside Ranchos property owners — Byron Johnson, president; William Morris, Harvey Spelman, Bill Keller and Frank Hanover — met with Powell and Stevens last Friday afternoon. This meeting resulted from the protest petition filed with the Torrance City Council on Nov. 22 by the property owners who said they had grave fears for the health and safety of their homes and families in event of heavy rainfall that could cause the hillsides to slip.

Seaside Ranchos property owners also have had considerable discussion about their 1948-49 tax bills, because of a stiff hike in assessed valuations which have boosted their taxes considerably. Wide differences between the total bills for similar properties now are under investigation in the belief that errors may have crept into the county auditor's complicated machinery for the computation of the tax rates.

One of these committees is headed by Harvey B. Spelman and the other by Everett Rowan, the latter group seeking a new basis for the appraisal of property in the Ranchos.

**OK College's Drainage Line**

Board of Supervisors today authorized El Camino College to construct a ground drainage pipe and outlet works through the east bank of Dominguez channel, approximately 800 feet from Redondo Beach boulevard, in North Torrance area. Request for this action was made by H. E. Hedger, county flood control engineer.

**Decision on Harbor Free Zone Awaited**

Fate of Los Angeles harbor proposed free trade zone will be known within 60 days, Thomas E. Lyons, chairman of the Federal Foreign Trade Zone board announced yesterday.

The free zone would permit unloading of foreign goods for re-shipment without the usual tariff charge.

Lyons told William Jennings Bryan Jr., collector of customs at the harbor and Robert Chambers, chief counsel for the customs department, that the city's application would receive final action within two months in Washington.

**Put Christmas Trees in Sand, Officials Urge**

Mount your indoor Christmas tree in a bucket of damp sand and reduce a fire hazard, county fire authorities suggested here today in warning citizens that the dry weather makes Christmas trees into a fire hazard.

Damp sand tends to supply the tree with moisture, the officials pointed out. They also recommended the purchase of trees as fresh and new as possible and standing them in buckets of water until time for decoration.

**Harbor Junior College Ready in Six Months**

Drawings and specifications for special food preparation, serving and dishwashing equipment to be installed at the Harbor Junior College east of Lomita, were approved yesterday, by the Los Angeles City Board of Education.

The plans were drafted by James R. Friend and A. C. Zimmerman, architects, and the equipment will cost an estimated \$55,000.

Bids for the job are to be advertised in two weeks and six months have been allowed for completion.

**TORRANCE HERALD . . . . . 35-Years-Old**

**TORRANCE PHARMACY . . . . . 28-Years-Old**

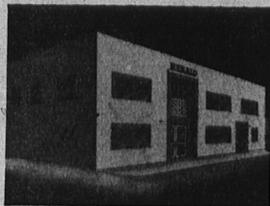
**A COMBINED TOTAL OF 63 YEARS SERVING THE CITY OF TORRANCE . . .**

**Congratulations**

To Grover Whyte and His Organization for Their Contribution to Our Town

**TORRANCE PHARMACY**

1411 Marcelina Avenue — Phone Torrance 3  
Torrance, California



We are happy that we were called on to take part in the work on the NEW TORRANCE HERALD BUILDING. When you enter the new plant notice the fine asphalt tile and installation.

When in need of floor coverings, consult us for details on materials and costs.

**McCLELLAND SHADE and LINOLEUM STORE**

930 Avalon Blvd.

TE 4-3112

Wilmington, Calif.

**CONGRATULATIONS . . .**

**AND BEST WISHES FOR CONTINUED SUCCESS**

**to The TORRANCE HERALD**

**FLOOR COVERING MATERIALS**

SUPPLIED BY

**CARROLL'S**

DRex. 2376

1719 W. 7th St., Los Angeles

**OK College's Drainage Line**

Board of Supervisors today authorized El Camino College to construct a ground drainage pipe and outlet works through the east bank of Dominguez channel, approximately 800 feet from Redondo Beach boulevard, in North Torrance area. Request for this action was made by H. E. Hedger, county flood control engineer.

**Congratulations**

and

**Best Wishes**

to the

**TORRANCE HERALD**

Upon Completion of Their

**New Publishing Plant**



**PACIFIC ELECTRIC**

**RAILWAY**