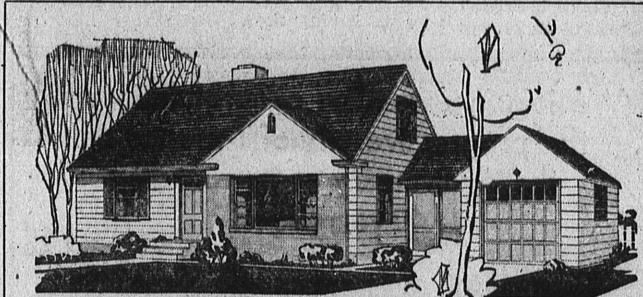


**SMOG EATER . . .** The 60-foot-high electrostatic precipitator which was the first installed at Columbia site alongside the 126-foot stack of the No. 2 open hearth at the Torrancia plant of Columbia. The precipitator gathers the film or solids out of the open hearth gases passing through a discharge flue from the open hearth furnace to a large boiler which cools the gases from 1300 degrees Fahrenheit down to 500 degrees. The gases are then passed on to the ducts of the precipitator where solids are collected.



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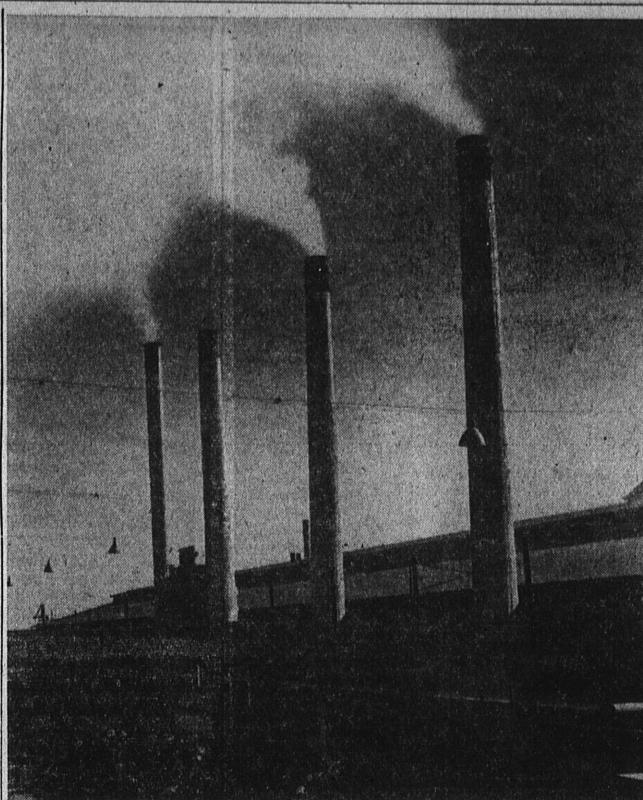
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**ONE DOWN . . .** One down and three to go was the score at Columbia Steel's Torrancia plant when this photo was taken a couple of years ago. By installing an electrostatic precipitator to the outlets of each of the open hearth furnaces, smog is being eliminated as evidenced in this picture. No smoke can be seen emanating from the third stack on the left. Since this photo was made, the precipitators have been installed on the other three stacks.

**Torrancia Paint Plant  
World's Most Modern**

The Torrancia Paint Division of the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co., one of the nation's top three manufacturers, is considered to be one of the most modern paint factories in the world.

Located on a 15-acre site, fronting on Crenshaw Blvd., the plant consists of a large production building, warehouse, office building and an outdoor tank farm for storage of liquid raw materials which are pumped to point of usage by a remote control system.

The plant has a total of 157,000 square feet of floor space, loading docks and covered walkways. An additional 93,000 square feet is utilized for roadways and parking lots.

**One-Story Structure**

Differing greatly from conventional paint manufacturing plants, which are of multiple story construction, the Torrancia plant is essentially a one-story, earthquake resistant structure, with a second-level center in the main production building designed for efficient loading of ball and pebble mills used in paint manufacture. Mixing of pigments for roller mills and raw material screening into filler hoppers is also done on the upper level.

In production of paint, both dry and liquid ingredients are used. The dry raw material consists of pigments, gums and chemical powders; the liquids include oils of various kinds, liquid chemicals and thinners.

Alkyd resins for quick-drying enamels and industrial finishes are made by cooking oils, chemical powders and other modifying agents in reflux kettles.

Varnishes used in paint manufacture are made by cooking gums on chemical powders with oils in kettles. Both varnishes and resins are then thinned, filtered and pumped to basement storage tanks. Dry raw materials such as pigments and chemicals are unloaded with power trucks and are stored in a special area.

Actual paint making starts with the mixing of ingredients.

**City Progress  
Is Measured  
Several Ways**

Like the mythical horseman who mounted his spirited steed and rode off in all directions, the progress of the City of Torrancia has taken its course in nearly every imaginable direction.

One example is pointed up by a headline in the issue of The Torrancia Herald for February 17, 1915 which reads:

**WHY PAY RENT?  
You Can Buy a Home in  
Torrancia  
on a Weekly Wage of Eighteen  
Dollars.**

Any editorial comment on that headline would be out of order.

nel and is headquarters for the sales, accounting, purchasing and advertising personnel of Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company's West Coast Division. This division services California, Washington, Oregon and parts of Idaho and Nevada.



Torrance 72

**American Standard Is  
Now In Its Fifth Year**

Approximately one year following ground-breaking ceremonies on Mar. 11, 1947, Torrancia American-Standard plant began producing high quality sanitary plumbing fixtures of vitreous china, and is now in its fifth year of operation.

Under management of H. W. Creger, local plant has produced hundreds of thousands of bathroom fixtures for home, school, and industrial installations in many areas.

Company recently completed delivery of all such fixtures now installed in the new Los Angeles Statler Hotel and points with pride to numerous local homes equipped with its fixtures.

Torrancia plant began production with the assistance of 13 supervisors transferred here from other American-Standard plants. These 13 supervisors now have accumulated a combined company service record of 268 years, an average of more than 20 years each. Employment is provided for approximately 300 residents in the local area.

Employees have displayed interest in civic affairs by active cooperation in Community Chest and YMCA activities, and fund drives. Creger, plant manager, is past president of the city Chamber of Commerce, and M. M. Schwab, departmental supervisor, now is city mayor. Plant has cooperated with civic groups and has opened its doors to teachers and students interested in the study of manufacturing operations and job opportunities.

During only 16 months of Credit Union operation, employees have developed their own banking institution into an organization with assets of 38 thousand dollars, making it possible for individual members to collect a higher than average return on savings and also to borrow money at a reasonable rate of interest when necessary.

American-Standard's Torrancia plant is but one of 46 plants owned and operated by the company.

Domestic subsidiary companies include Acme Metal Products Corp., American Blower Corp., C. F. Church Mfg. Co., Detroit Controls Corp., Kewanee-Ross Corp., and the Tonawanda

**D & M Machine  
Works Among  
Oldest in City**

D and M Machine Works, founded in 1924 and moved to this city from Lomita in 1928, is among Torrancia's oldest established industries.

Firm, under the leadership of Lester Frank Dalton, manufactures numerous products including Dalton-designed rollers for track laying caterpillars, which are shipped to India, South America, Alaska and other parts of the world. International Harvester and Caterpillar Co. are two important customers.

Pistons for high pressure pumps used in pumping oil, cement, and other heavy, thick substances are another important item produced by D and M.

Assisting in management of the business shop, covering four acres on Abalone Ave., are Shop Foreman Joe Townsend and Eddie Dalton, son of the owner. Mrs. Muri Jones is in charge of the office.

**It's Different Now**

"Hello Central," the story is headed. It goes on like this: "One always remains sweet and serene when calling up the central office of the Bell Telephone Co. in Torrancia, for either G. F. Christopher, manager, or his good wife are instantly and affably at your service. They don't give anybody any cause for becoming irreligious. Because of being a factory center the long-distance business of this office is very considerable." The story ran in the Feb. 17, 1915, Torrancia Herald.

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