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FOR HER

For Her and Him

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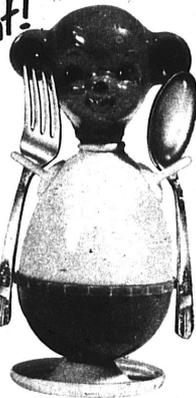
In 14K gold hand-carved perfectly matched rings that are priced surprisingly low. Make it a Double Ring ceremony.

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Cinderella Watch—Dainty pink and blue design in "glass" slipper gift box. Shock-resistant movement.

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WEDNESDAY
* * * * *
Published at 44,914

per Published AND PRINTED in Torrance. Established 1914.

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12

16 PAGES

Hero Who Died to Save City

Census Supped Persons

The official census was taken last week at 44,914 as the Bureau of Census reported. The official count of the city was 44,914, but the census takers missed 200 persons who were living in the city at the time. The census takers missed 200 persons who were living in the city at the time. The census takers missed 200 persons who were living in the city at the time.

Battle over Mine To End This Week

Backers and opponents of the proposal to mine diatomaceous earth in the Palos Verdes hills were regrouping forces this week preparing for a final showdown before the County Board of Supervisors next Wednesday, Dec. 9. At an all-day meeting last Wednesday, lengthy, conflicting testimony was given before the supervisors as hundreds of peninsula residents showed up to protest the plan of the Great Lakes Carbon Corp. to open a new borrow pit mine in the hills above the firm's Welteria processing plant. Specifically, the supervisors are considering an appeal of the Rolling Hills Community Association on a Regional Planning Commission permit for the company to mine on a 164-acre site on Radar Hill, second highest hill in the area. In order to halt the mining operation, opponents of the plan must prove to the board that granting of the permit would be a menace to, or would endanger the public health, safety or general welfare. The supervisors were told by Deputy County Counsel George Wakefield that if the opponents were unable to prove these contentions, the board would have no choice but to allow the permit.

Hero's Widow Dedicates New School on Base

Dedication of an elementary school in memory of Capt. William E. Blair, who lost his life by piloting his flaming Mitchell bomber away from Chattanooga, Tenn., in 1948, was announced this week by the Air Force. Unveiling of a plaque in the air hero's honor was Mrs. Blair, who traveled from her home here with the couple's two children, Randy 9, and Trudy 4, to the Fairchild Air Force Base in Washington where the school was opened. Captain Blair, who at the time of his death was commanding officer of the 92nd Food Service Squadron at Fairchild, "exhibited an act of courage and sacrifice above and beyond that normally expected of service personnel," a citation of his act reads. "While flying a B-25 over Chattanooga, Tenn., a fire developed in the left engine. Because they were directly over the city at the time, he gave the ball out order to the crew and passengers," the citation continued. Cleared City "Captain Blair then maneuvered the aircraft away from the heavily congested area of the city and had cleared the city limits when the left engine fell off. He then bailed out—but was too low in altitude for his parachute to function." While ranking officers of the Air Force looked on, Mrs. Blair unveiled the plaque in the school entrance hall which commemorated the bravery of her husband. Captain Blair also was awarded the Cheney Award for heroic posthumous action. Mrs. Blair, who is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Barnard, of 2558 Sonoma Ave., attended Torrance High School. She now lives at 2521 Sonoma Ave. with her two children and is employed at the Midland Rubber Co. plant here.

first president of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, Lodge 1414, which became Local 1414 of the CIO Steelworkers. He also served at one time as vice-president of the California CIO, and was chairman of the Selective Service Board here during its existence in World War II.

Services were conducted yesterday by Rev. Cecil J. England, former pastor of the First Christian Church here. Burial followed in Green Hills Memorial Park overlooking the San Pedro harbor. Stone and Myers Agency handled the arrangements.

Survivors Listed
Mr. Steele leaves his widow Verda, of 1320 Cota Ave.; a daughter, Mrs. Maxine Jensen, of a son, Duane, of Torrance; a brother, J. G. Steele of Torrance, and another brother, Lee, of Oklahoma City. Also surviving are two sisters, Mrs. E. B. Cravette of Gardena, and Mrs. Cita Anderson of Grove, Okla. The vacancy on the Torrance Board of Education created by Mr. Steele's death will be filled by appointment by the other four members of the board, according to Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools. The successor by appointment

An Open Letter To Santa Claus

Torrance, Calif., December 6, 1953
Dear Santa,
Don't wait 'til Christmas Eve to do your shopping. The shops in Torrance are displaying beautiful gifts of all kinds for him—for her—for the children—for the family, and for the home.
Turn to the Classified Christmas Gift Guide and see what our local merchants has to offer to make your Christmas a pleasant surprise for all.
Sincerely,
Your Classified Department of the Torrance Herald

Building Permit Valuation Nears \$1 Million Mark

A \$28,000 wing on the Catholic Nativity Church, and a \$42,000 convent at the St. Catherine Labouré Catholic Church led individual building permits issued during the first week of December.

Also issued during the week, to bring the December total near the million-dollar mark, were permits for 64 new homes to be constructed by the Milton Kauffman Co. near Sepuveda Blvd. in South Torrance. Total value of the new Kauffman tract is \$540,000. Other large permits included one for \$27,088 to the California Water Service Co. for new water storage tanks in Hollywood Riviera which were approved by the City Council at its last meeting.

Hold Rites for Mrs. C. Moehring

Funeral services were held yesterday at Stone and Myers Mortuary for Catherine Minnie Moehring, 84, a resident of Torrance for 15 years, who died Wednesday at her home, 911 Arlington Ave. Services were conducted by the Rev. Paul Wenske of the Lutheran Church, and interment was to follow at Mt. Hope Cemetery in Independence, Kans. Mrs. Moehring was a native of St. Mary's, Ohio. Survivors include a daughter, Mrs. Gretchen M. Earle, and son, Walter, both of the Arlington Ave. address; another son, Earl, of Los Angeles, and a granddaughter, Marcia, also of Torrance.

to be home for Christmas have been expressed by his mother, who said yesterday that the doctors at Rancho Los Amigos reported that Freddy was now able to be out of his respirator for periods as long as 12 minutes and was able to get along with a small chest respirator at other times.

Wade charging him with grand theft. Glenn, who gave his address as 151 W. 6th St., Escondido, was released by Torrance police after booking and fingerprinting at the local jail. He was ordered to appear for preliminary hearing at the South Bay Municipal Court on Jan. 13.

The family left their home Tuesday morning on a vacation trip and were 40 miles from Rhineland when the accident occurred. The driver of the other car was injured slightly. Lyons died in the crash, and his wife and children were removed to the hospital where the young boy died.

WEATHER
Increased cloudiness today that may culminate in showers tonight is the Weather Bureau's prediction for the local area. There should be little change in temperature today with a high of around 68 degrees.



MEMORIAL UNVEILED... Mrs. William E. Blair, of 2521 Sonoma Ave., unveils a bronze plaque in memory of her husband, Captain William E. Blair, during dedication of a new grade school recently at the Fairchild Air Force Base, Washington. Behind her are Lt. Col. Earle I. Osbourne, Brig. Gen. David Wade, 57th Air Division Commander, and Col. Jack J. Catton, Fairchild Air Force Base Commander.