

HALL SLATED FOR CITY ATTORNEY JOB

Bus Deal Shunned By City

A new means of increasing patronage of Torrance and revenue of Torrance Municipal Bus Lines is going unheeded by management of the Torrance buses, it was learned by the Press this week.

A. L. Owens, of the Greyhound Travel Bureau, San Pedro, said that on November 3, 1950, he had asked the management of the Torrance Municipal Bus Lines to make an arrangement for selling of tickets in San Pedro for the Torrance buses.

"We have numerous inquiries for transportation from San Pedro to Los Angeles which now are referred to the Pacific Electric," Owens said. "It has occurred to me that we may be of mutual assistance to each other if we sell tickets reading from Torrance to Los Angeles together with Greyhound tickets reading 'San Pedro to Torrance' thereby producing revenue for the Torrance lines and revenue for my agency."

Owens declared that he sells (Continued on Page Two)

Former Local Athlete Hurt In Korea

A former Torrance High School football star was reported wounded in Korean fighting.

He is Pfc. Franklin E. Miller, of 1021 Cravens ave., Torrance. His mother, Mrs. Hazel I. Pitts, said that her son, whose left arm was shattered during Korean battle on November 11, is now at a San Francisco emergency hospital. He arrived there last Sunday from Osaka Hospital in Japan.

With the 7th Regiment of the 1st Cavalry Division at the time of his injury, Miller has served in the army since July 14, 1949. He graduated from Torrance High School with the class of June, 1948, after which he was employed at a local drug company.

DEPARTMENT HEADS GET WAGE HIKE

Changed to allow better wages was the five-step pay range for department heads of the Fire, Bus, Police, and Street and Park departments by Council action at the November 28 meeting.

All other department heads received a \$10 cost-of-living bonus for the remainder of the fiscal year.

The salary change was effective December 1, said City Manager George Stevens. The new minimum for heads of the Bus, Fire, Police and Street and Park departments is \$365 per month, as compared with the former minimum of \$349. The new maximum for these department heads is \$439. The former maximum was \$419.

The pay raise was passed with the provision that the present salary of the Bus Superintendent not be changed.

The Council also appointed Laverne Geri to serve her probationary period as Typist clerk, effective November 1, 1950, at a compensation of \$176 per month.



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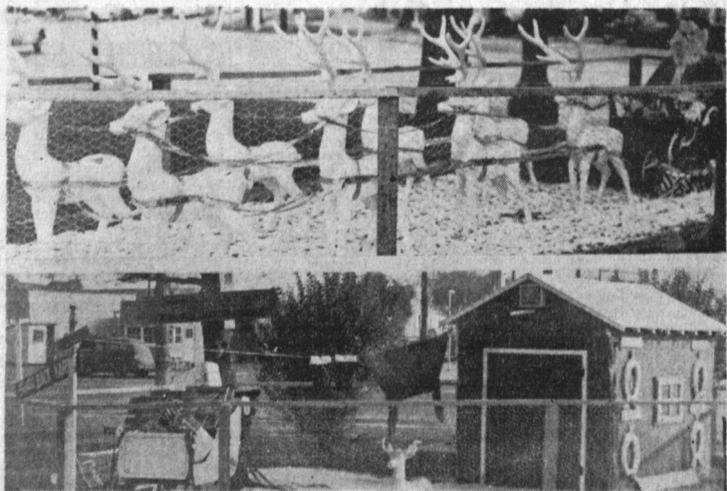
SECOND YEAR

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1950

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SANTA CLAUS—Yep, Santa Claus is there, all fenced in with his reindeer behind that chicken wire. The beautiful scenes in triangles at Sartori and Marcelina, and Sartori and Post were sponsored by the Junior Chamber of Commerce. Street decorations, paid for by the merchants, also were installed this week to give Torrance a holiday atmosphere. —Press Photos.

\$100 Gold Rush Prize Won by Torrance Man

Walking away with the \$100 Gold Rush Prize at last Friday night's event in front of Roth's Market was Oris Henry of 2142 238th St., Torrance. Five baskets full of groceries, donated to the \$1000 Gold Rush by Roth's Market, were also given away.

This Friday night's Gold Rush Event will be held 7 p.m. in front of Baker's Furniture, 1512 Cravens avenue. Bakers will donate a pictured mirror as an additional prize to the \$1000 Gold Rush. With three more weeks remaining of the \$1000 Gold Rush Event, sponsored by Torrance merchants, \$100 will be given away each Friday night of the remaining Gold Rush weeks. Numbers will be called until that of some lucky winner, present at the event, claims the booty.

Paul Diamond, chairman for Gold Rush Days, announced that tickets are available at leading merchants in Torrance, free of charge.

Board Names School, Hires Educator

Greenwood Elementary is the official name given to the school planned on the site of Fern ave. park, Greenwood and Sonoma ave., by the School Board at its meeting Tuesday night.

The Board also employed Dr. Howard A. Lane, Professor of Education, New York University for three meetings, and for counseling purposes at \$135.

A portion of this amount will be refunded through Adult Education A.D.A. for his appearance at the evening meeting.



PORTRAIT OF ABBY—Final touches are being put on the oil painting of "Abby," which is central to the El Camino College presentation of Sidney Howard's "The Late Christopher Bean." Dawne Bernhardt, who plays "Abby," posed for the portrait painted by Art Instructor Miss Mildred Walker. The comedy-drama will be presented the evenings of December 8 and 9 in the Torrance high school auditorium.

Flower Grower Sues General Petroleum

Filed last week against the Torrance General Petroleum Corporation was a \$183,987 smog damage suit by a wholesale flower grower.

The suit was brought by Fred C. and Elsie King, who grow gladioli and iris on 100 acres near General Petroleum's Torrance refinery. The Kings charged in their complaint yesterday that large amounts of their crops have been damaged or destroyed by fumes from the refinery. King also added that he has had experts investigating the cause of his crop damage. After eliminating everything else, smog was discovered to be the cause of his ruined crops, King said.

P. S. Magruder, executive vice president of General Petroleum, said "We are naturally sorry to see flowers or any crops harmed in any way, but we are firmly convinced that we are in no way to blame." In their action, first of its kind filed here, the Kings also asked a court injunction to halt operation of the refinery.

In filing the suit, Attorney Stephen Monteleone disclosed that Kings' operations which gross \$500,000 a year, are being moved to Oxnard from Los Angeles because of smog. The complaint contained a demand for \$183,987. (Continued on Page Two)



FILES SUIT . . . Fred C. King.

"Christopher Bean", Friday, Saturday Performance Here

Friday night, December 8, and again on Saturday night, December 9, El Camino College's production of "The Late Christopher Bean" will be staged in the Torrance high school auditorium. Curtain time is 8:30 p.m.

All seats for the production are reserved. Tickets may still be purchased at the college, which is located at Redondo Beach and Crenshaw boulevards. The price of admission is one dollar. Reservations may be made by calling Menlo 4-6631 or Plymouth 6-1421. The cast of the comedy is led (Continued on Page Two)

2 Temporary Post Offices For Yule Rush

Preparing for the coming onrush of Christmas mailings, the Torrance Post Office announced that two temporary stations will be opened.

One will be located in the Alter Realty Building on Marcelina ave., directly across the street from the Post Office. Stamps and parcel post mailings will be handled at this station (Continued on Page Two)

NOTICE

This week, used car dealers throughout the entire area, including Torrance, Gardena, Redondo Beach, Hermosa Beach, and San Pedro, are offering special prices to the Christmas shoppers. Included among the many wonderful buys listed will be cars ranging from 1937 models to 1950 models.

Check the classified pages in this issue and find that car you've been thinking about.

11,190
GUARANTEED
CIRCULATION

EDISON SERVICE HIT IN COMPLAINT

Complaints that the Southern California Edison Company is charging higher rates and giving inferior service in comparison with the Los Angeles Bureau of Power and Light were being prepared this week for submission to the Bureau of Public Utilities, the Press learned this week.

Residents on one side of Western avenue (in Torrance) were comparing notes with those on the other side (in the Los Angeles Shoestring area) and the Torrance residents found that they were being penalized because of the Edison company charges, it was said.

In addition to the difference in rates, it was pointed out by those preparing the complaints, it is charged, that Edison company has failed to keep up with the rapid growth of Torrance to the point where owners of many new homes have been forced to occupy them without the benefit of power and light service.

Contractors and inspectors queried on the subject said that their work is finished when the "blue tag" is pinned on the meter locations of new homes, and that from then on, it is up to the Edison Company and the owner.

Owners of new homes have found it necessary to complain in many instances of the slow service of the private utility company. Use of ordinary candles and lanterns frequently is found necessary in new homes, especially those located in tracts, according to the complaints.

Residents on the east side of Western avenue (in Los Angeles and under municipal electric and power) in talking with those on the west side, (in Torrance and under the private utility company) have agreed that in view of the rates and service, the Shoestring strip residents with their municipal service have the edge.

The complaints of the residents are being readied for an early meeting, it was said.

Stores to Be Open Eves for Yule Shoppers

Beginning this week, Torrance merchants will stay open evenings for the two week period before Christmas, an announced James Squires, head of the Better Retail Merchants Division of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce. Expecting the usual onrush of Christmas shoppers, doors of Torrance merchants will remain open from 9:30 a.m. until 9:00 p.m.

City to Help Pay Auxiliary Police Outfits

Half of the uniform cost of the Auxiliary Police is to be paid for by the city. The Council, at its November 28 meeting appropriated \$400 from the Unappropriated Reserve for this purpose.

Councilman Nick Dralle moved that \$1000 be appropriated for full payment of auxiliary police uniforms to encourage volunteers. His motion, however, was defeated by a three to two vote. Councilmen Dralle and George Powell supported the motion and the nays of Councilmen W. Blount, Harvey Spelman and Bob Haggard defeated the motion.

LEVY ASKS PARKING IN ALLEYS

The suggestion that alleys of Torrance be opened to parking on one side to relieve congestion in the central shopping district has been handed to local authorities by Sam Levy, pioneer Torrance merchant.

Levy said that if parking is allowed in alleys (on one side only) facilities for more than 100 cars in the downtown area can be provided.

Levy declared that his suggestion is based on the need for finding more space in the central business district of Torrance, and that no better plan had yet been advanced.

The idea is being studied by city officials, it was reported.

Local Schools Honor Bill of Rights Week

Torrance schools will observe the week of December 9 through 15 as Bill of Rights Week for the purpose of focusing attention on the first ten amendments to the United States Constitution.

In a bulletin received from the Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools, it was brought out that this observance is "to help children attain a fuller realization of the great privileges and responsibilities of citizenship in our American Democracy."

"With our two hemispheres in the state of uncertainty as to the future of civilized man, it is more important than ever that we establish in the plastic minds of those growing up," according to Walter Rehewoldt, Director of Instruction, Torrance (Continued on Page Two)

Vice-Principal Being Sought For School

Now investigating the field for a Vice-Principal for the Fern Avenue Elementary school to be appointed in January is Superintendent J. H. Hull, according to School Board action last Tuesday night.

Hull informed the Board that enrollment at Fern Avenue School is now approaching 700. He added that when enrollment exceeds 550 in an elementary school, it is advisable to use a Vice-Principal.

Hull also said that the position of Vice-Principal is good training ground for principals, which will eventually be needed in the expanding Torrance school district.

\$92,000 Low Bid

William A. McClure of Culver City was awarded the contract for construction of the Emergency Unit at Harbor General Hospital (Continued on Page Two)

People Mourn Loss of Smith

James M. Hall, attorney residing in Seaside Ranchos, is slated for the job of City Attorney of Torrance, it was revealed in the City Hall Tuesday night.

Hall is one of three on the eligible list of the Civil Service Board, and his appointment is expected at the Council meeting Tuesday. He will succeed the late C. Douglass Smith.

The other candidates on the approved list are W. E. Kalbfleisch and Tom McNary, a deputy district attorney also residing in Southwest Torrance.

It is understood that McNary is high man, and Hall and Kalbfleisch are tied for second place. However, the Council can select any of the three high men, under Civil Service rules.

Attorney Expires In Home Here After Illness

Torrance lost its City Attorney with the quiet passing of Charles Douglass Smith, last Tuesday, at the age of 71 years. Smith had just reached his third year as City Attorney of Torrance.

Having been ill for about 10 days, Smith died at about 1:55 p.m. Tuesday afternoon at his home, 911 Sartori ave., Torrance. He had been suffering with heart disease for quite a while, his widow said.

Mrs. Smith said that the City Attorney had had the need of oxygen for the few days before his passing. Near the end, however, feeling that the oxygen was insufficient, she had called the Fire Department for the use of the inhalator. Dr. Eugene Cook, his physician, was called in and administered an injection of adrenalin, but Smith had already expired.

His last words to his widow, Ellen, was, "I'm very tired. I want to rest."

A veteran of World War I, Smith was born in the year 1879 in Date County, Missouri. Before coming to California, Smith had been District Attorney for two terms in Bannock, Idaho. Coming to California in 1922, he had practiced law in the Southland for 18 years, before becoming City Attorney of Torrance. During his three years of service here, it was said that he was in- (Continued on Page Two)

C. of C. to Promote City For \$5000

An agreement has once more been made between the City and the Chamber of Commerce to advertise and promote the City of Torrance.

The Council adopted a resolution at its last meeting to pay the Chamber of Commerce \$5,000 to advertise the City.

Recently elected to the Board of Directors of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce for the next year were W. T. Tillotson, incumbent, and R. I. Flomert, who narrowly Grover Whyte, incumbent, and W. E. Bowen out of the race.

A third Director will be appointed by the new Board at their first meeting in January, according to Russell Lund, chairman of the 1950 election committee.

Tinkertown Rides at Jaycee Kids Yule Party

A Children's Christmas Party to be held in downtown Torrance December 18, 19 and 20 will be sponsored by the Junior Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with Torrance merchants, according to Charles Skultz Jr., chairman. This is the first time such an undertaking has been attempted in Torrance.

Four kiddie rides furnished by Tinkertown, a kiddie circus and Santa Claus will all be part of the fun for the kids. Tickets for the rides for children up to 12 years old will be available, free of charge, to the parents at the stores of most Torrance merchants.

The four kiddie rides will include: Ferris wheel, airplane ride, auto car ride, and train ride. The Strong's will furnish in addition a seven act kiddie circus. Half price will be charged for the Circus on the presentation of an advertising poster, available at Torrance merchants and schools.

Other chairmen are C. J. Meadoway, publicity; Bob Owens, merchant ticket sales; and Dick Tuttle, party activities.

Month Postal Receipts Show Big Increase

A measure stick of Torrance growth, the postal receipts, showed an increase of \$4,217.69 for November, 1950, over November of last year, according to figures released by Clara Conner, Postmaster.

The postal receipts for November, 1950, was \$15,573.89, as compared with \$11,356.20, the postal receipts for November, 1949.



ANXIOUS and waiting to board the bus that took them to last Sunday's L. A. Rams football game at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum are these Torrance youngsters. Pictured above are some of the 120 boys and girls who attended the game as guests of the Torrance Loyal Order of the Moose. —Press photo.

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