

Citizens Told to Watch for Xmas Rackets

The Better Business Bureau of Torrance Chamber of Commerce cautions residents that the spirit of Saint Nick has a tendency to result in lowered sales resistance, making citizens a perfect target for petty racketeers and non-legitimate solicitors.

Caution Urged
Torrance merchants, the Bureau points out, can meet and beat the values offered elsewhere, and it is wise to use at least ordinary caution in making Christmas purchases out of town or from unknown sales organizations.

Armstrong Only New Chamber Director Named

Only one new face will appear on the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors next year. While three incumbent members were re-elected, local attorney Don Armstrong was elected to replace C. Rippy.

Re-elected were Dean Sears, manager of the Torrance Bank of America; Darwin Parrish, owner of Parrish Stationery store; and William Zoeller, CPA.

A fifth director will be named by the board in the near future, it was reported.

Holdover members of the 15-man board are Otto A. Kresse, Robert I. Plomert Jr., Reed H. Parkin, George C. Whyte, J. H. Paget, Henry W. Creeger, Dr. Gerald M. Eastham, Paul Loranger, Bob L. Haggard, and Fay L. Parks.

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Better Business officials have listed a few of the common Christmas schemes that citizens are warned to watch for. They include: fur peddlers, wholesale Christmas tree deals, special seasonal merchandise, radio and television pitches, free ornament deals, courtesy cards for wholesale purchasing, non-scheduled airline holiday trips, itinerant merchants, and salesmen who lead you to believe that you are getting something for nothing.

Itinerant Sellers
The Chamber has received many queries regarding propositions put forth by itinerant merchants, according to Dale Isenberg, Chamber secretary. These fly-by-night operators, he said, flourish during Christmas season. The principal objection to doing business with people of this character is that if the merchandise you buy should turn out to be unsatisfactory, your merchant is gone, and you have no hope for adjustment, Isenberg stated.

LA County Park Reorganization Plan Revealed

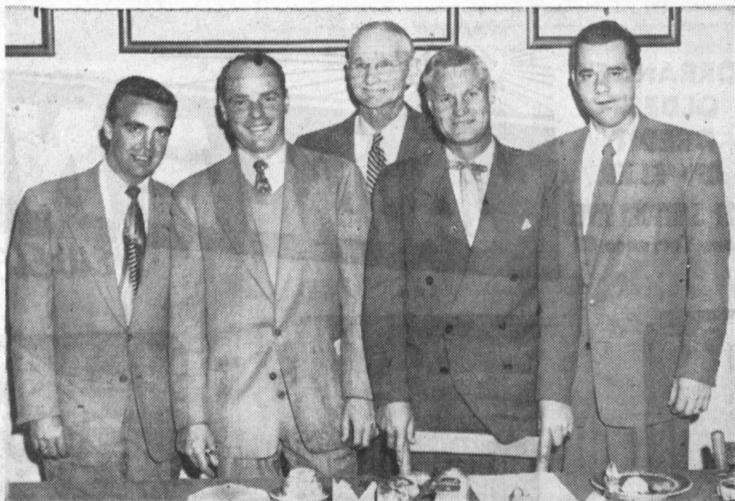
Under a park re-organization plan instituted recently, Avalon-Sepulveda Park and Lomita Park join to become Western District 1 of the Los Angeles Parks, according to Mrs. Dorothy Kemper, district administrator.

Two classes of personnel have been set up in the plan. Functional personnel will handle sports, crafts, dancing, and other activities. Jurisdictional personnel will be in charge of supervision of parks and equipment.

Special events personnel will be employed to handle such activities as parties, bazaars, and fairs.

Full time playground direction will continue at Avalon-Sepulveda Park, Lomita Park will be open from 3 p.m. each day.

Christmas parties for the parks have been set for Dec. 20, at Avalon-Sepulveda, and Dec. 23 at Lomita.



LUNCHTIME ORATORS—Officers of the newly-organized Noon Toastmasters Club were installed at last Monday's meeting. Bill Evans (rear center), Toastmaster deputy governor, served as installing officer. Talking office were (left to right) Walt Inman, secretary; Walt Schaefer, president; Roy Peterson, treasurer; and Bob Owens, vice-president.

Danger of City Buses Pointed Out in Letter

The city council last week heard an appeal by bus drivers of the Torrance Municipal Bus Lines for new and adequate buses to replace what the drivers call "antiquated and dilapidated equipment now being used."

In a letter addressed to the council, Sherman Miller, chairman of the driver's committee, claimed that the equipment now in use is harmful to both the mental and physical well-being of the drivers.

He stated also that the noxious effects of carbon monoxide in the exhaust is harmful to passengers.

We reprint below a portion of Miller's letter:

"The continual interruption of service, due to breakdowns, is detrimental to revenue of the line. Passengers refuse to ride and use transportation that cannot be depended upon. With good equipment adequate to maintain proper service more passenger would be assured.

"The purchase of two 45 passenger buses for the Los Angeles Line, three 37 passenger buses of the Long Beach line and one 29 passenger bus for the local line would effect an economy of approximately \$80 per day.

"The figures above are based upon a comparison with the operational cost of the two diesel buses with the other equipment in use. The figures for this were computed and published by the management of the bus department.

"Torrance is a growing and progressive city, and as such is progressing in the Educational and Water Systems, but we have retrogressed in the bus system. The equipment now being used is

hardly a credit to such a progressive community.

"We ask the Council to take action to accomplish the purchase of adequate equipment either through an appropriation, or a bond issue.

"We sincerely hope the Council will take cognizance of the necessity and importance of this request, and are able to realize the importance of such a move, to the riding public, the drivers, and the community as a whole."

The letter was held over to the council's next agenda meeting for further study and consideration.

Make Plans for NTCIA Party

The Christmas committee of the North Torrance Civic Improvement Association headed by Clint Beedin, chairman, is busily compiling ideas for the annual Christmas party which is sponsored by the NTCIA.

The party will be held at El Camino College on Dec. 22. Further information will be furnished at a later date, Beedin states.

Humanity is never so beautiful as when praying for forgiveness, or else forgiving another.

—Richter

Girl Scouts to Benefit from Breakfast Fete

The Gardena Kiwanis Club in conjunction with Clark Supermarkets will sponsor a community breakfast on Saturday, December

6, at the Clark Market in Gardena, corner of Crenshaw and Compton. This breakfast to which the general public is cordially invited is for the benefit of the

Gardena Girl Scout Mariner Ship, and all proceeds will be turned over to the Girl Scouts. Breakfast will be served from 8 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.

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