

Covers the Torrance District Like a Blanket.

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HOME GASOLINE BLAST BURNS TWO

TORRANCE RENTALS DOWN

Survey Made for C. of C. Reveals 20 to 40 Percent Cuts

MANY SMALL DWELLINGS 85 Percent of Vacant Dwellings of 2 and 3 Room Variety

A survey of present housing conditions prepared by Torrance realtors at the request of the directors of the Chamber of Commerce revealed the following facts:

- 1—There are approximately 125 vacant houses, apartments and flats in Torrance today.
- 2—This constitutes only about 10 percent of the available dwellings in the city.
- 3—There is a persistent demand for four-room and five-room dwellings.
- 4—Of the 125 vacant dwellings 85 percent are two-room and three-room houses, flats and apartments.
- 5—Rents have been lowered from 20 to 40 percent during the past year.

The survey was made to ascertain housing facilities for employees of the Torrance Glass Factory, which will start production in a few weeks. It reveals the fact that Torrance needs no more apartment houses, courts, flats, and no more two-room and three-room houses, but that four-room and five-room dwellings to be rented reasonably are in great demand. Local realtors report numerous requests every day for larger houses.

Only White House "Child" Freshman



There's only one "White House child" now. Mr. and Mrs. Coolidge have one living son, John. He is 18, and a freshman at Amherst College.

Mrs. R. F. Crimmins, district assistant marshal, with several officers and members of the local camp of the Royal Neighbors of America, will attend the all-day and evening district meeting of the order at Santa Ana on Tuesday, April 21. The session will include a program and a school of instruction.

What Do You Know About This?

WE take pleasure in commending to our readers the article on "The History of the Rancho San Pedro" by C. C. Baker, which appears on another page of this issue. The article deals entertainingly with the interesting history of the great rancho on part of which this city is now situated—from the date of the landing of the first white man to the parceling out of the great rancho by court decision.

Mr. Baker, a resident of Torrance and author of the article, is a member of the American Historical Association, a fellow of the American Geographical Society and the Royal Geographical Society, and a director of the Historical Society of Southern California.

We believe that all residents of this district will enjoy the article by Mr. Baker.—Editor.

Legion Seeks Five Millions For Orphans of Veterans

Local Members Hear Details of Plan from County Commander

QUOTA HERE IS \$1,000

California Ready to Do Her Share Says State Chief

Legionnaires and members of the Legion Auxiliary Tuesday night heard County Commander W. A. Knoast of Los Angeles explain the details of the \$5,000,000 fund which the Legion is raising as an endowment fund for orphans of former service men.

Several states have already pledged their quotas, and the campaign has just started in California.

The quota for this district, which includes Torrance and Lomita, is approximately \$1000.

CALIFORNIA READY

SAN FRANCISCO, April 17.—"California is ready to hear the appeal of the American Legion for two classes of sufferers of the World War—the disabled men and the orphans of fallen veterans," declared Nathan F. Coombs, commander of the California department of the Legion.

The American Legion campaign for a \$5,000,000 endowment fund for rehabilitation and child welfare, which has been going on in several states, is now under way in California. It will culminate in an intensive drive probably about the last of May.

"The American Legion wants the American public to have the opportunity of helping the Legion help the disabled veterans and the children of men who gave up their lives as a result of their service to the country," Commander Coombs said. "Rehabilitation and child welfare are the two greatest post-war problems. They are so closely related that they are almost one. What disabled father has not looked down upon the faces of dependent children with terror lest they suffer the pangs of privation which his restoration to health alone can prevent? Does not his mental anguish over the fate of little children erect a material bar to his own reconstruction?"

35,000 War Orphans "There are 35,000 war orphans, and many times more sick, ailing and disabled ex-service men whose lives the war blighted. The American Legion has assumed the obligation of seeing that these two consequences of the war receive a full measure of justice, but we need the public's assistance to the limit.

"Everywhere the endowment movement has spread it has met with a hearty reception. I know it will meet with the same response in California."

President Coolidge is chairman of the national honorary committee for the endowment fund and all members of his cabinet have endorsed it. Leading men and women of the country in all lines of endeavor are members of the national endowment fund committee.

Already the work of organizing state and local endowment fund committees has been begun. These committees will contain the names of prominent citizens and members of the Legion and Legion Auxiliary. Commander Coombs said.

ATTEND STATE MEETING

Mrs. Hurum Reeve, Mrs. George Watson and Mrs. Fay Parks represented the Torrance Women's Club at the convention at Santa Barbara.

Miss Helen Reeve drove the Torrance delegates, leaving on Tuesday morning and returning Thursday night.

LEGION AUXILIARY

The American Legion Auxiliary will meet at the home of Mrs. Forrest J. Young at 1007 Cota avenue on Tuesday night, April 21.

NEW DRESS

Choker Reaches to Hem in This New Creation of White Satin



This dinner dress of white crepe satin is beaded in green, rose pink, crystal and pearl. The narrow choker has long ends which touch the hem in back. The skirt is finished by a fringe of green beads.

Oilers to Meet Bluebird Nine Here on Sunday

Eddie Copeland's Crew Is in For a Warm Tussle

Eddie Copeland and his C.-C. M. O. outfit have never had a white-washing administered to them since the organization of the club, but they stand a chance of getting a good cleaning next Sunday when they tackle Bill Goodman's Blue Bird Laundry on the local diamond.

Goodman is an old professional ball player and has gathered around him a bunch of semiprofessionals that make a combination hard to beat and will undoubtedly give the Oilers a hard run for their money in Sunday's game.

Copeland's pastimers have emerged on the long end of the score in their past two encounters and will go in determined to make it three straight, so the fans, as usual, are assured of seeing a first-class exhibition.

The game will start promptly at 2:30.

TORRANCE NOTES

Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Zeller and baby, of Redondo, were Sunday dinner guests of Rev. and Mrs. E. A. Zeller.

Mrs. Mary Peer has returned to her home, after spending two weeks with Rev. and Mrs. George Strait at Fresno.

Mrs. N. A. Leake and son Raymond have returned to their home on Marcelina avenue, after a three-weeks stay with relatives in Fresno.

Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Woodington attended the silver wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. George Lake of Seventh street, Long Beach, on Wednesday evening.

Observations

Shavetails—How They Were Regarded During the War—Wherein an Ex-Sergeant Evens Up an Old Score—Old Hats and Pants By W. HAROLD KINGSLEY

A CHARMING woman reader of this column asked me today to explain the meaning of the term "shavetail" used in this department last Tuesday.

I detailed to her as best I could the general significance of the word, but now that she has gone I think of many other things that I should have told her.

So, for fear that there may be others who are unacquainted with this particular sample of army nomenclature, I hasten to enlighten them.

A SHAVETAIL, ladies and gentlemen, was the lowest form of commissioned officer in Uncle Sam's army. He was higher in rank than a sergeant or even a regimental sergeant major, but much lower in the eyes of the balance of the army. He was a second lieutenant.

A shavetail was the butt of all the jokes of barrack-room and trench. His superior officers respected him little and the enlisted men less.

All shavetails were not bad fellows—but then, they were shavetails. After all a shavetail is a shavetail, you know.

HUNDREDS of shavetails were turned out of Uncle Sam's officer-factories in 90 days and then turned loose to fend for themselves in the unsympathetic ranks of the army. They wore Sam Brown belts just like regular officers and had little gold bars on their shoulders, one bar for each shoulder.

Enlisted men were supposed to salute shavetails—and did, whenever they couldn't pretend that they didn't see them. But every time an enlisted man gave a shavetail a highball with his right arm, the fingers on his left hand were crossed.

It was against the unwritten law of enlisted men for anyone to salute a shavetail without mental reservations.

SHAVETALES in the infantry were in command of a platoon. That meant that they had to lead the platoon in action—and get killed. When a shavetail was killed or wounded a sergeant used to take command of the platoon, so that proves how relatively unimportant a shavetail was to the platoon or the army.

There were lots of shavetails. They were abundant, plentiful. Everywhere you went you'd see droves of them. Maybe it was the alarmingly large numbers of shavetails that prompted the general staff to place them at the heads of platoons where they would be rapidly exterminated, one by one.

SHAVETALES in the army were sometimes men who had been ribbon counter clerks during the piping days of peace. Others, even more masculine, had been floor-walkers. Sometimes, perhaps, they were personally excellent chaps, but even their individual worthiness was blighted by the fact that they were just—shavetails.

Nobody loved shavetails. And only a few of us felt sorry for them. Many who were shavetails during the war deny it now. A shavetail was two degrees less important than a lance-jack, who was a corporal pro tem.

A shavetail was deep below the buck private, in the eyes of all the army. Nobody ever made fun of a private. Everybody—even generals—envied them.

You see, a shavetail was a second lieutenant. I HAVE to laugh every time I think about shavetails. I have to laugh because when I was sergeant I used to have to salute shavetails, and I always swore I would get even after the war.

I never minded saluting first lieutenants or captains and really enjoyed saluting a hard-boiled old colonel, but I always felt awkward bringing my right arm up for a shavetail. It didn't seem right.

NEVER in the world will I forget that day in early November when our division received a new batch of shavetails to replace those that had, in army parlance, been bumped off.

Our division had been in the lines most of the time for almost a year—Verdun, Belleau Woods, Vaux, Soissons and Villers-Cotterets, St. Mihiel, Blanc Mont and the Argonne. The men, day after day and night after night in the lines, were unkempt, covered with mud and unshaven.

THE shavetails had been in the training camps back in the states and had the training camp idea of what a soldier's appearance should be. Three new tailor-made shavetails were assigned to our outfit. One of them looked over his section and called the men together, whereupon he delivered them a nice little, albeit stern, lecture on the necessity of trig personal appearance of a soldier.

Somebody a few feet away from this dapper little shavetail then shouted "All together, boys!"

And the chorus echoed over against the hills that flank the dark, cold Meuse: "Razberry!"

Only it wasn't "razberry" that we shouted. It was worse. THIS shavetail didn't last very long, because one night when the outfit was up near the front an old cavalry sergeant called him aside and told him in no uncertain terms to "beat it over the hill." This sergeant had a way of making a listener, even a shavetail, understand what he meant when he said something, and that shavetail went off into the night. Our outfit never saw him again.

SOME of the boys knew that I was a newspaper man before the war and had hopes of being one after the war. They implored me to write something after the war about shavetails. It is done. And may the thanks of the entire A. E. F. with the exception of the shavetails, descend upon me.

And those of you who read this and were shavetails during the war—keep it dark.

Wives of Cops Reduce Size of Torrance Police Force

BOW-WOWS Hindenburg (With Cane) and Dog; Hindy's Running For Presidency



Little chance of being elected is conceded to Field Marshal von Hindenburg, who is being backed by the national conservative bourgeoisie bloc (monarchist) in the second German presidential campaign. This is the latest photo of the general, showing him with his favorite dog.

Local Singers in Eisteddfod at Inglewood

High School Glee Clubs Entered in District Contests

The Boys' and Girls' Glee Clubs of the Torrance high school will enter the Bay Cities District Eisteddfod, to be held at Inglewood April 30 and May 1 and 2. Their entrance fee of \$6 was appropriated Tuesday by the Torrance Chamber of Commerce directors.

Mrs. Mary Lingenfelter Thompson is chairman in charge of entrants from Torrance.

A bulletin signed by Emma M. Bartlett, chairman of the Bay Cities Eisteddfod, reads in part as follows:

"An Eisteddfod is a 'sitting in.' The name had its origin among the Welsh years ago, when the people assembled for the annual contests which furnished their education and were the only medium for preserving the country's traditions. In 1925, following the lead of Ventura county in 1924, we have revived this well-loved custom, believing that it can be made as strong a force in California cities as among the hills of Wales."

"This is our first organization. We have introduced many new divisions, with room for our church choirs, our orchestras, our service clubs and their 'stunts,' school groups, dancing, and all manner of individual competitions. Many revisions will be effected as the movement grows year by year."

Prizes will be awarded winners of the various contests.

C. of C. Finances Mothers' Centers

Directors of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce Tuesday appropriated \$10 a month for the continuance of the Mothers' Educational Center here.

Old Traditions Upset and Mrs. Stroh and Mrs. Phillips Diet

BILL AND JOHN HUNGRY

Ladies Lose Weight as Desired But So Do Their Hubbies

One of the accepted standards of police policy is that cops must be large and husky. Wherefore it follows that policemen, being generous of proportion, possess hearty appetites.

Taken by and large policemen as a class may be said to constitute the most ravenous set of chow-hounds in modern times. They eat plenty.

The eternal jokes about Bridget the cook entertaining cops in the kitchen are based on the scientific fact that the way to a man's, especially a policeman's, heart is via his stomach.

It stands to reason that cops marry good cooks—women who can attack a stack of raw food and by the alchemy of their culinary science transform it into a succulent dinner of ample servings.

And it also stands to reason that when wives of cops prepare generous dinners for their hubbies, they themselves follow the example of their spouses and consume a lot of food. And that is why wives of policemen are usually sizable.

Then along comes Dame Fashion and disrupts the whole arrangement. Dame Fashion issues her command that ample proportions may be all to the mustard for cops, but that large waistlines for women, including policemen's wives, are the bunk.

So policemen's wives upset tradition and begin to reduce. And it is to record and establish the definite conclusion of a long-standing tradition of buxom wives and big meals for cops that this screed is written.

On the Torrance police force are Officers Bill Phillips and John Stroh. And dedicated to the task of being their respective wives are Mrs. Lottie Phillips and Mrs. Mollie Stroh. Bill and John, in accordance with the generally accepted tradition of cops, are heavy food consumers. And Mrs. Phillips and Mrs. Stroh, in accordance with time-honored custom, are good cooks and fairly good eaters themselves.

Everything was lovely, according to Bill and John, until this Dame Fashion person stepped in and said that women of generous proportions should reduce.

Hence the formation of the Torrance Reduction Club, founded by Mrs. Phillips, weight 220, and Mrs. Stroh, weight 245.

It is a rule of the club that members hike morning and evening, jump the rope, and diet. Which is what Mrs. Phillips and Mrs. Stroh are doing.

Results as announced by Bill and John:

- 1—Wives have lost ten pounds each.
- 2—The meals at home, they ain't what they used to be.
- 3—Bill and John, also losing weight through lack of their usual amount of sustaining victuals.

Statement by Bill and John:

- 1—Reducing, unlike charity, should not begin at home.
- 2—It ain't right.
- 3—When do we eat?

Special Meeting of Women's Club Wednesday at 2

Club House Matters Will Be Decided at Gathering Tomorrow

All members of the Women's Club are requested to attend a special meeting at 2 p. m. Wednesday at the Episcopal parish hall, Engracia avenue, opposite the hospital. Important matters concerning the clubhouse are to be decided.

Mrs. Annie Wheeler has returned to Torrance, after several months' stay at Dinuba. Mrs. Wheeler will be in charge of the kitchen of the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital.

STEADMAN HOME IS SHAKEN

Man and Wife Severely Hurt While Wringing Gas-Cleaned Drapes

TWO CHILDREN UNHURT Spark in Washing Machine Motor Ignites Petrol from Curtains

Mr. and Mrs. George K. Steadman were severely burned Wednesday morning by a gasoline explosion in the screen porch of their home at 819 Cota avenue.

Spring cleaning was in progress at the Steadman home, and Mr. Steadman was helping Mrs. Steadman put through the washing machine wringer a silk comfort and drapes which he had cleaned in gasoline, when a spark from the motor of the washer exploded the gasoline.

Two-Year-Old Unhurt Virginia, the 2-year-old daughter, had just gone from the porch out into the back yard, thereby escaping injury.

Glady's, an older daughter, was in the living room when the explosion occurred.

The flame leaped through the kitchen, reaching the dining room. The blast shook the whole house.

Mrs. Steadman was burned on both lower limbs and on the face, arms, neck and head, when the blaze ignited her clothes.

Mr. Steadman was burned on the face, arms, neck and head. The burns were of the second and third degree.

Mr. Steadman was badly cut on the hand by glass blown from the window.

Firemen Save Home The fire was extinguished by the Torrance volunteer department before much damage was done to the house.

Several of the firemen sustained slight burns.

Mr. Steadman is an employe at the Pacific Electric shops.

Miss Irma Avery Is Taken by Death

Miss Irma Avery, sister of Morris and Dallas Avery, all well known in Torrance, passed away at the home of her brother Morris in Imperial Valley on Tuesday.

Miss Avery will be buried from the Baptist church at Pasadena today, and interment will be made in Pasadena cemetery.

Mrs. Sarah McDonald of Los Angeles, and cousin of Mrs. W. J. Neelands of 1752 Gramercy avenue.

Coming Events

FRIDAY, APRIL 17 8 p. m.—Meeting Torrance Lodge No. 447, F. and A. M., Masonic temple.

SATURDAY, APRIL 18 Eastern Star dance, Moose hall. SUNDAY, APRIL 19 Services in all churches.

MONDAY, APRIL 20 8 p. m.—Meeting board of city trustees.

TUESDAY, APRIL 21 4:30 p. m.—Meeting board of directors, Chamber of Commerce. Public invited. 7:30 p. m.—American Legion Auxiliary, home of Mrs. Forrest J. Young.

All-day district meeting R. W. of A., Santa Ana. WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22 2 p. m.—Special meeting Torrance Women's Club, Episcopal Guild hall. 8 p. m.—Masonic Building Association stockholders' meeting. Masonic temple. THURSDAY, APRIL 23 Noon—Torrance Club meeting. 2 p. m.—Women's Club meeting, Episcopal Guild hall. FRIDAY, APRIL 24 7:30 p. m.—High school play, high school auditorium.