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THE HERALD'S PLATFORM FOR TORRANCE

- 1—Ornamental Lighting System. 2—Interchange of Freight Between P. E. and Santa Fe. 3—Western Avenue Bus Line. 4—Hollywood-Palos Verdes Parkway. 5—New School North of Carson St. 6—Aviation Field. 7—Co-operation of All Torrance People, Firms, Industries and Other Agencies, to Induce Torrance Workmen to Live in Torrance. 8—Adoption and carrying out of a well-conceived city plan to guide the growth and development of Torrance. 9—The conduct of All Local Affairs in a spirit of Neighborly Friendliness and Constructive Co-operation to the End That the Peace and Prosperity of All May Be Encouraged by an Alert Civic Consciousness and Patriotism.

THE LURE OF CATALINA

By JOHN TWEEDDALE OF TORRANCE

Along a broad Neptunian highway, on a far western ocean, sped a majestic ship, bound for the golden shores of Catalina Island. Athwart its course, wreathed in a bridal veil of silver gray mist, a shadowy outline of the island appeared, clear above the shimmering crest of the distant horizon.

A warm, bright mid-summer sun cast his crimson glow over the fast receding mainland peaks, and reflected back from the vast expanse of cerulean waters, an inverted panorama of earth and sky; infinitely calm in its changing light; infinitely beautiful in its mysterious depth.

Out from the fabled regions of boundless space, a gentle southern breeze passed with a spring-like caress; kindling within our weary souls an irresistible desire to draw closer to the things of nature and of nature's God. Overhead a veritable cloud of snowy gulls circled lazily back and forth; watching with eager unerring eyes for the tiny surface ripples that would indicate the presence of a shoal of delectable sardines, from which a morning meal might be procured.

From our point of vantage on the prow of the ship, Catalina, our dreamland destination, seemed but a stone's throw away, and as we approached the harbor of Avalon, a wonderful crescent like shore line, bright with the variegated colors of countless sunshades, came into full view, and which at a distance, resembled nothing so much as a huge patchwork quilt, arranged with artistic effect, and beneath whose welcome shade lounged throngs of carefree visitors to this alluring playground of the Pacific. Here children of all ages, garbed in abbreviated bathing costumes, basked in the life-giving rays of a noon-day sun, and paddled to their hearts' content, in the quiet clear waters of the rippling bay.

Towering like a scene from out the flower-strewn realms of fancy; tier on tier of purple hills reared their lofty peaks above the enchanting vista; fleecy clouds hung; sardines of ever changing shadows over canyon and mesa, creating a setting worthy of the hand and brush of the Master Painter, for verily no human mind could conceive, nor artist paint its like.

A faint tintinnabulation deep in the bowels of the ship indicated "that speed ahead," and as the great propellers flew quickly into reverse, a series of iridescent waves rose in a whirl of creamy spray that left a long foam flecked highway far in its wake. As the heavy mass of steel and iron gilded silently to its berth, with clock-like precision and remarkable dexterity, the heavy bow and stern lines were dragged ashore and made fast; the gang planks lowered and passengers disembarked. Passing quickly through the gates we emerged on the main street of Avalon, nestling in a sun-kissed cove against a lower of everlasting bloom, fragrant with incense laden breezes, this picturesque little city carries an appeal to the artist, an inspiration to the author, and a charm to the soul of the tired business man, unsurpassed even in this favored clime of countless attractions.

Here in truth is a new and different world; an environment in which immeasurable tranquility of mind reposes; a magic setting where one may rest or play as conscience dictates, unhampered by conventionalities, or the hectic turmoil of a great city.

Here the faithful followers of Isaac Walton may indulge in their favorite pastime without fear that a recital of their prowess will be contradicted, for no Catalina "fish story" can be sufficiently exaggerated to surpass the actual realization. In its waters are found some of the greatest game fish in the seven seas, and exciting beyond description is the occasion when, as the launch speeds through the surging billows, a sudden whirl of the reel indicates a "strike," and far out on the shimmering surface, a lustrous gray green body leaps its full length from a churning whirlpool of

white spray, and a mighty broadbill swordfish flings his challenge to the tense angler in a battle for life; down to the depths, and back through the circling maelstrom he raced with incredible velocity; hour after hour, they struggle; the man, and this great unvanquished dweller of the deep. Skill and cunning and a long thin line, versus 450 pounds of dynamic life; finally skill gains control, and a triumphant but well exhausted sportsman brings his prize to "gaff."

Another of Catalina's enticing recreations is the "flying fish trip." This novel spectacle is witnessed after nightfall from the deck of a fast power launch, equipped with powerful searchlights. As the boat passes rapidly through a trackless expanse of inky ocean, this strange species of fish, equipped with luminous pectoral fins, darts from its watery home with the dexterity of a creature of the air and flies long distances with surprising alacrity, only to dive beneath the surface in a flurry of phosphorescent spray.

Growing on the bed of the ocean adjacent to Catalina Island are the far-famed marine gardens, a natural phenomena which present to the eye and the imagination, a picture of surpassing interest, for here, in the subterranean rocks and sands, the Master Gardener has planted a magnificent array of strangely beautiful plants and flowers, a vivid picture of which may be obtained, with perfect comfort, from one of the large glass-bottom boats operated by the Santa Catalina Island Company.

Should the call of the mountain appeal to the visitor, easily accessible trails lead to a veritable fairyland of primitive beauty; cool, deep canyons invite closer inspection, and high peaks beckon the more venturesome to view from their pinnacles some of the most inspiring scenery in all of Southern California.

Thus may each hour be filled with wholesome fruition, and when the Great Householder draws down the shades of night upon the luminous windows of day and the founts glide silently, one by one, from behind the azure canopy of boundless space, the darkness creeps gently from across the purple hills and spreads his cloak of sombre hue over island, bay and ocean, and the multi-colored lights of the little city flash on; then it is that a picture of infinite charm stands revealed, and within its gilded frame the rainbow shades of countless artificial lights reflect back from the placid surface of the bay, a gorgeous spectacle, embracing shoreline, wharfs, buildings, and the pleasure craft at anchor within the circle.

Many dazzlingly beautiful women and handsome men throng the sidewalks and overflow into the streets, their musical laughter and gay sallies indicating full appreciation of their rapturous surroundings as they pass leisurely from dance hall to "pleasure pier," and along the brilliantly lighted promenade to the Hotel St. Catherine, to which many are attracted because of the very excellent cuisine and artistic appointments.

These and many other attractions contribute to "The Lure of Catalina."

Touring California

Travel Notes of Interest and Western Highway Information Furnished by the National Automobile Club

One-Day Trip

One of the most interesting one-day motor trips in Southern California is the one from Los Angeles to Pala Mission, according to the Touring Department of the National Automobile Club. Lying 111 miles distant, a splendid route thereto is via East Ninth Street, Telegraph Road, Anaheim, Olive and thence through scenic Santa Ana Canyon, with its beautiful sycamores, willows and wild walnuts which provide excellent camping spots. Added to the natural beauty of this canyon are the nearby orchards, rolling hills with waving crops and brown squares denoting recently harvested areas, and mountain vistas of unusual beauty. Pavement continues through this canyon to Corona, Elsinore, Murietta and to a short distance south of Temecula where a splendid gravel road branches to the left and leads 9 miles to Pala, through rolling hills and occasional meadows, many of which are covered with field crops cultivated by the Indians. The Mission at Pala consists of one low, rambling building, with whitewashed walls and a red-tiled roof, containing side by side the Chapel, priest's rooms, storerooms and trader's tienda. The chapel itself is well worth inspection, being a simple rectangle, roofed with unheven beams brought down from Palomar Mountain, and with rough adobe walls on which have been restored the crude Indian decorations. The floor is still paved with the original square ladrillos and the present altar was brought here by the Indians when they were exiled from Warner's Ranch in 1761. The statue of the patron Saint Anthony, unmistakably Aztec in feature, is attributed by tradition to Mexican-Indian workmanship. Immediately adjoining the chapel is the Campo Santo, or Indian burial ground, containing many unmarked graves decorated with colored pieces of glass, broken cups, glasses and lamps, while the California poppy blooms among them all, not heeding the former rank or dignity of the occupants of the lonely graves. This burial ground contains the one distinctive architectural feature which remains possessions—a campanile built in 1816, modeled after the one at Juarez, Mexico and destroyed by flood water in 1916, just 100 years later. In the same year it was restored, the original material being used. It has a cobblestone base which supports a superstructure of cement and adobe, containing an arched opening in which is swung an old bell. This arch is surmounted by a cross and also by a growing cactus, the seed of which found lodging in the crevices. Roughly hewn steps lead upward to the old bell and one can easily imagine the hundreds of steps made by sandalled feet of padres in calling to worship and conversion the Agua Caliente Indians of the surrounding reservation.

Orange County Park

Orange County Park, located approximately forty miles from Los Angeles and reached by splendid paved roads through either Downey, Norwalk, Fullerton and Anaheim to Orange or via Whittier, La Habra, Anaheim and Olive, makes a splendid objective for a one-day motor trip, according to the Touring Department of the National Automobile Club. This is an ideal picnic spot, being thickly wooded with immense oaks, sycamores and wild walnut trees which are now at their liveliest. The green vines which cling to the branches of these trees form a ladder here—a trellis there, and on the whole give the appearance of an Amazon wilderness. So well has the natural beauty of this spot been preserved that it much more resembles a wild woodland than a modern, well equipped park. Innumerable outdoor fireplaces, tables and benches have been provided for picnic groups, and a special section has been set aside for a children's playground. Here are to be found slides, teeter-totters, swings and sand piles. Pony rides may also be had for a nominal charge.

Scenic Picnic Grounds

One of the most delightful as well as most accessible picnic spots in the Santa Monica Mountains is located at Brent's Mountain Camp, according to the Touring Department of the National Automobile Club, and a day's outing to this scenic spot located on Malibu Creek will prove a very enjoyable one. It is reached by following Ventura Boulevard to a point 4 miles west of Calabasas, then by turning left at a large yellow sign, and following a fair to good dirt road, five miles in length. The trip is especially beautiful at this time as the mountain laurel, sycamores and cottonwood trees are at their best, while wild rose bushes and blooming blackberry bushes are to be seen. In numerous spots watercross is to be found in the eddies of Malibu creek. This is a heavily wooded district yet cooled by ocean breezes. There are many beautiful hiking trails and for the ardent hiker, one may be taken which leads to the beach. Every facility for camping and picnics has been provided—outdoor fireplaces, tables, benches; swimming pool and a restaurant for those who do not wish to prepare their own meals. Eight nearby canyons afford a variety of scenery, being heavily wooded with spreading live oaks, black walnuts and an occasional bay tree, the latter being in bloom at this time and offering a very beautiful and unusual spectacle.

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Elsie Janis will remain as a super-headliner at the Orpheum Theatre, Los Angeles, for another week starting Sunday matinee, May 27. Her new impersonations and delightful comedy have proven a tremendous drawing card at the Orpheum as they always do. Next week will be her final week as she must leave for the east to fulfill concert contracts. For her second week she will offer many new bits not included in her first week's repertoire. Other interesting offerings on the new bill will be Forbes Randolph's Kentucky Jubilee Singers, the greatest aggregation of plantation vocalists in the world; Charles Derickson, the young dramatic tenor; and Burton Brown, the young concert pianist; Abe Reynolds and Florence Clark in "Three A. M." and Jed Dooley, with Audree Evans in "Remarks Befitting the Occasion." Other vaudeville offerings will be Ted Tieman and Pinkie Dees and Mr. Bling-ham. Pathé News, Frankenstein's Orpheum Orchestra, Topics of the Day and Alton at the Organ are other features.

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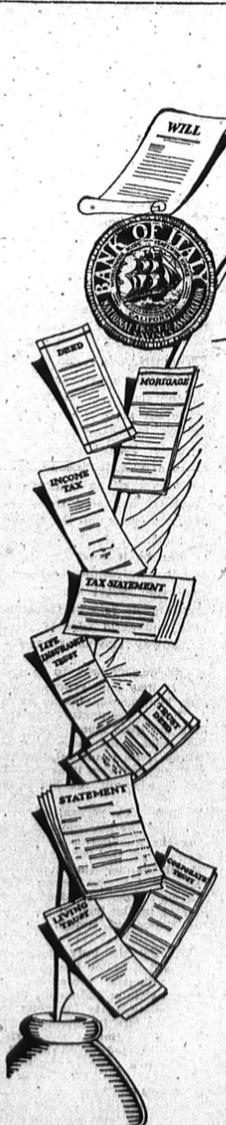
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