

Furniture New Dept.

A. Metzler, upholsterer, the personnel of the Star Furniture Company this week, will be found there ready to give expert service in repair or re-upholstering to any holder who requires such.

Cycle Rider Injures Young Boy

Eddy Henderson, young son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Henderson, residing at Spurlin Court, was knocked down by a young man riding a bicycle near his home Saturday morning.

Make Every Cold Start a SAFE START

Texaco logo and advertisement for Havoline motor oil, highlighting its safety and performance.

Water Companies Ask Permit to Merge Property

American States and Bear Valley Utilities Apply For Merger

Friday of this week has been set for hearing before the State Railroad Commission on the application of the American States Water Service Company and the Bear Valley Utility Company to merge their properties and issue bonds.

The American States Company has subsidiary water companies in a number of Southern California communities. They include the Claremont Domestic Water Company, the La Habra Domestic Water Company, the Harbor City Water Company, the Gardena Valley Water Company, Hollydale Water Company, Ocean Park Heights Water Company, Venice Consumers Water Company, People's Water Company of Palms, and the Los Angeles and Suburban Water Company.

The Bear Valley Utility Company operates in San Bernardino county, according to the petition, but the American States Company is the surviving company, it is stated.

Proposal outlined in the petition is to issue \$3,400,000 in first mortgage bonds, bearing 5 percent interest. The American States Company also operates in Orange, Ventura, Imperial and Sacramento counties.

The commission is expected to hear the proposal outlined by attorneys for the companies, and then take the petition under advisement.

FAMOUS HISTORICAL EVENTS Prohibition ended in United States, December 5, 1933.

WE DRIVERS A Series of Brief Discussions on Driving, Dedicated to the Safety, Comfort and Pleasure of the Motoring Public.

No. 4—OUR BRAKES

We've all noticed that whenever a train makes a long enough stop in a station, there's somebody on the job, dodging in and out under the cars making sure that everything is in good shape for the train to continue its trip.

Now, if we think of it in a certain light, we people who own automobiles are all running little transportation systems of our own. Just like the railroads and airlines and bus companies.

The trouble is that when we let our brakes go like that, all of a sudden we may have to make an emergency stop, and we may find it rather embarrassing. Engineers say that if we realized what goes on in brakes we would see why we ought to keep them checked up.

They say that when we go into a certain energy in the form of momentum. Now when we want to stop, we can't just destroy that energy, because, scientists tell us, Nature never lets any of its energy be destroyed.

What brakes really do is to convert speed-energy into heat-energy. When we push down on the brake pedal we press the brake lining against the brake drums and this creates friction that changes the energy to heat.

Now modern brakes are very powerful. In fact, a 100-horsepower car will have about 500-horsepower brakes. They stop us pretty quickly even from high speeds.

It's easy to see that heat like that can cause a lot of trouble. Some of us may think it's fun to rush up to sudden stops, but we might as well realize that we wear it simply doesn't pay to build up brake heat a lot faster than it can be thrown off.

Now if we want to keep our brakes safe and sound, it's important to remember that all stops do to them. But it's just as important to remember that all stops generate some heat in our brakes.

So maybe it would be a good idea to keep on thinking of our cars as private transportation systems. If we keep them in good running condition, they will serve us with safety and satisfaction.

State of California Is Land of Many Oddities and Superlatives

Land of many superlatives is California. To add to the considerable evidence proving that fact, the map drafting department of the Automobile Club of Southern California recently listed a few of her lesser-known distinctions:

California is as long as the airline distance between New York and Jacksonville, Florida, crossing the states of New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North and South Carolina, and Georgia.

Los Angeles is about the same distance from the equator as Baghdad, while San Francisco and Richmond, Virginia, and Jerusalem are on the same latitudinal plane.

A section along the southeastern edge of the state is as far east as Calgary in Alberta, Canada. San Bernardino county is four times as large as Connecticut.

If the feat were possible, a hole drilled straight down from Los Angeles would open out in Southern Madagascar, instead of China.

The San Andreas Fault is the longest in the world, extending from the Gulf of California to San Francisco. Highest and lowest temperatures ever recorded in the United States were found in California—the highest, 134 degrees, in Death Valley in mid-summer, the lowest on the slope of Mt. Lassen, 56 degrees below.

Truckee has the record for the heaviest snowfall in the United States. The combined area of California's four national parks, more than any other state contains, is greater than that of Rhode Island.

Highest elevation in continental United States is in California—Mt. Whitney, 14,496 feet above sea level. Lowest point is Bad Water in Death Valley, 280 feet below sea level.

For FREE Theatre Tickets, read the Business Directory.

SMITH'S Super Service Station advertisement, located at 2172 Torrance Blvd. at Portola, featuring latest type lubricating equipment.

The First Cremation In the United States Occurred In 1792

By CHAS. B. ROBERTSON

What is said by historians to be the first cremation in the United States was upon the body of Henry Laurens. He died in Charleston, South Carolina, December 8, 1792, and a provision in his will stipulated that his body be wrapped in cloth and burned.

Henry Laurens was one of the foremost men of his day and did much for this nation in her struggle for independence. A short sketch of this remarkable man will prove interesting.

Henry Laurens, statesman, was born in Charleston, South Carolina, in 1724. He was of Huguenot ancestry and was educated in London for mercantile business, in which he acquired an immense fortune. He opposed British aggressions with speech and writing, and pamphlets which he published displayed remarkable legal ability.

On his return to Charleston late in 1774, he was chosen president of the Provincial Congress and the council of safety. In 1776 he was sent as a delegate to Congress and was president of that body for a little more than a year beginning November 1, 1777.

Receiving the appointment of minister to Holland in 1779, he sailed in the Congress packet Mercury, and on September 13, 1780, she was captured by the frigate Vesta off the shores of Newfoundland. Laurens cast his papers overboard but they were recovered by a sailor, and he was taken to London.

Among his papers recovered from the sea was a plan for a treaty with Holland; also several letters which disclosed the existing friendship of the States General for the Americans. The British ministry was irritated by these documents and the subsequent refusal of Holland to disclaim the act of Van Bercel caused Great Britain to declare war on Holland.

In December, 1781, Laurens was appointed one of the commissioners to negotiate for peace with Great Britain. In November, 1782, he signed a preliminary treaty at Paris with Franklin and John Jay, when he returned home. The balance of his life was spent in agricultural pursuits.

Boulder Lake Is 300 Feet Deep

According to figures recently released by the Los Angeles Bureau of Water and Power, there has now been impounded back of Boulder Dam a total of 4,654,800 acre-feet of water. This body of water, which already has become the largest man-made reservoir in the world, has reached an elevation of 927.8 feet above sea level and is more than 300 feet deep.

The water already stored in the reservoir would provide each man, woman and child on the earth with 700 gallons. All this by way of a reminder that Los Angeles county will be faced by another unusual task when the water and power which results from this huge development project reaches the Southern California coastal plain.

LAX THE BLADDER

THIS 25c TEST FREE If it fails. When irritation wakes you up, use this bladder lax to flush out impurities and excess acids. Get buchu leaves, juniper oil, etc., in little green tablets called Bukets, Works on the bladder similar to castor oil on the bowels.

Bladder irritation can cause disturbed sleep, frequent desire, scanty flow, burning or backache. In four days, if not pleased any druggist will refund your 25c. Get your regular sleep and feel "full of pep." Dolley Drug Co., adv.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE FAMOUS Martin Van Buren, eighth President of the United States, was born December 5, 1782.

A. B. Paddock, of Inglewood, and John J. Paddock, of Los Angeles. Funeral services were held at 10:30 a. m. Wednesday, December 4, from L. F. Utter Mortuary chapel, in Inglewood. Rev. Stanley Roberts, of the Third Presbyterian church, Long Beach, Dr. George Manshardt and Rev. J. A. Overton, conducted the last rites.

TORRANCE PHARMACY advertisement featuring fresh roasted nuts (peanuts, cashews) and Christmas cards. Includes contact information for Geo. L. Probert.

Southern California Gas Company advertisement promoting natural gas as a cost-effective and reliable energy source for home heating and cooking.

Genuine Worthwhile REDUCTIONS

On Standard Priced, High Quality Wall Heaters and Water Heaters

Special!—Friday and Saturday ONLY Celebrated Andrews

Ventilated Wall Heaters

Table listing prices for various burner sizes and heater models, including regular and special rates.

FREE INSTALLATION! Where Gas Line Is In Proper Location

General Water Heaters

Table listing prices for different capacity water heaters (16, 22, and 22-gallon models) with regular and special pricing.

10% off On All 1935 Models ELECTROLUX The Modern Air-Cooled Gas Refrigerator

Torrance Plumbing Co. advertisement, located at 8 Marcelina Ave., Phone 60, opposite Post Office.