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# Torrance Herald

TWENTY-SECOND YEAR—No. 51 SECTION A TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1936 PER COPY 5c

## Deep Sand Drills Spur Oil Interest

### Harbor District Relief Activity Centers Here

Torrance Office One of Six Consolidated County Units

The Torrance Welfare district office this week took over the direction of relief activities in the harbor district, under a consolidation order issued late last week by Rex Thomson, superintendent of charities.

Relief workers and visitors were scheduled to make their headquarters out of the local district office henceforth, although a visitor was to be maintained for the time being with desk space in the old San Pedro branch office.

The consolidation involving the Torrance and harbor district welfare offices was one of six throughout the county. The Inglewood district, which adjoins the Torrance district on the north.

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### Symphony Opens Season Friday

30-Piece Unit to Make Recording of Number

First concert of the season by the 30-piece Torrance Symphony orchestra will be presented tomorrow night, 8:30 o'clock, at the civic auditorium. In addition to the program numbers by the orchestra, and a string ensemble, there will be a recording made of one selection for a permanent record of this initial offering. Single admissions are 50 cents.

Conductor Mershon has announced the following program: The Magic Flute overture by Mozart, the allegro moderato and andante movements of Schubert's Unfinished Symphony in E-Minor, all four parts of Sarrane's Don Quixote suite and La Czarine, a Russian mazurka by Ganne.

Following an address by Scott R. Ludlow the Apollo overture by Laurendeau and the special recording, the string ensemble will play Quince's The Distant Lake and Anokida. Closing the program, the orchestra will present a popular fox trot, Caribbean Sea.

### Rebate Deadline

Tax Claims Must Be Filed Here Not Later Than 9 O'Clock Friday Night

Residents who believe they are entitled to a rebate on the 1933-34 taxes they paid to Los Angeles city and school district should file their claims at the city hall before 9 o'clock tomorrow (Friday) night.

Mayor W. H. Stanger, who is assisting City Clerk A. H. Bartlett in receiving such claims, announced today that he would be in the city council room until that hour to assist taxpayers in filing their requests.

This will be the local deadline for such petitions in this city, although the county auditor's office will continue to receive them until Saturday noon, Dec. 5. This is also the deadline to pay first installment of current taxes without penalties.

Claims for rebates on 1933-34 taxes must be filed within three years from the date upon which those taxes were paid, however, and that deadline has passed for many taxpayers.

Several hundred claims have been accepted by Mayor Stanger at his pro-tem office in the council room and have been sent to the county auditor for final consideration. The most that the majority of claimants expect from their petitions is less than \$1.

### 'Silver Star Lane' Attracting Yule Shoppers Down Town

LIGHTS ON NIGHTLY SINCE FRIDAY OPENING

Nightly since last Friday evening when "Silver Star Lane" was illuminated for the first time to launch the biggest Christmas shopping season Torrance has ever known, the colorful Yuletide street decorations in the business district have attracted increasing attention from local residents and visitors.

The opening night when scores of merchants held "open house" and displayed their Christmas stocks for the first time proved a gala event and several thousand people thronged the streets, "window-shopped" to their hearts' content and visited the stores.

Mayor W. H. Stanger turned on the string of 3,600 feet of colored lights strung on both sides of Cabrillo and Sartori avenues and the large "star and comet" displays mounted on every ornamental light standard.

The Torrance municipal band played, paraded and serenaded in front of several stores under the direction of John T. Watson.

Most of the stores were ready to exhibit their Christmas wares to the crowd, others were still in the process of arranging stocks that were finding continuous inspection this week from conscientious shoppers who were determined to avoid the "last minute rush" shortly before the 25th.

Speaking from the triangular park at Marcelina and Sartori avenues, Mayor Stanger, President J. W. McQuaid of the Chamber of Commerce, and President Alden W. Smith of the Torrance Retail Merchants' Association, voiced their keen interest in making this shopping season an outstanding community event and expressed their appreciation to all residents who assisted in making the elaborate decorations possible.

**HOUSE GUESTS**  
 Mrs. Janet Woodington, 2013 Arlington, has as her house guests this week her sister, Mrs. S. M. Leavie, Mr. and Mrs. Hugo Huggill and their daughter Jean, of Saskatchewan.

### All Taxpayers In L. A. May Get Rebates If Any

Legal action intended to protect the rights of all taxpayers in the county so that each will automatically receive a rebate on his 1933-34 taxes if the state supreme court upholds the decision of Superior Judge Bowron is being prepared by the county counsel, upon instruction from the board of supervisors.

Supervisor H. C. Legg, former chairman of the board, stated in a resolution that lack of knowledge of the suit and the statute of limitations should not bar any taxpayer from participating in any rebates, if any are to be allowed by the supreme court.

**FRACTURES ARMS**  
 While entering a car in front of the Sam Levy home Saturday night, Mrs. Lucille Odie, housekeeper at the residence, slipped, fell and fractured both arms. She was treated at the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital and later removed to the Levy home to recuperate.

**ESCAPES INJURY**  
 While riding her bicycle Saturday afternoon, Dorothy Leed of Gramercy avenue was struck by a car driven by Everett Wallace, of 22617 South Figueroa street. Police report that the girl was not injured.

### HERALD OFFERS WINDOW PRIZE

Spun-Gold Trophy to Be Awarded Best Yule Display Dec. 10



On that night all ticket stubs will be collected from the various boxes, placed in a master hopper for the drawing by a merchants' committee. This group will draw three numbers for each store and the winning numbers will be displayed on a special placard within each of the cooperating stores at 6 p. m., Wednesday evening, Dec. 23.

The gift numbers will remain on view until closing time that night. Customers holding tickets do not have to be present when the numbers are drawn but they must be downtown the final night for the Hunt.

Then, by walking from store to store to check the gift numbers with their tickets they may identify the winning digits. When such a winner is held, the customer should claim his or her gift from the merchant displaying the number at once.

**Save Those Ducats!**  
 Remember this—the winning numbers will be posted for one night only—Wednesday, Dec. 23. Those receiving gifts should leave their names and addresses with the merchant awarding the prizes so that the Herald can publish the list of winners in its subsequent issue.

**COUNCIL MEETS TUESDAY**  
 A regular meeting of the city council will be held next Tuesday night at 7:45 o'clock.

### TREASURE HUNT IS ON; CLIMAX DECEMBER 23

Are you saving your Christmas Treasure Hunt tickets? Twenty-six leading Torrance merchants began issuing these potential gift ducats last Saturday morning when the big Hunt, sponsored by the Herald, got under way for 78 prizes that will be available Wednesday night, Dec. 23.

The cooperating merchants are distributing the tickets on the basis of one for each 50-cent purchase. Prominent in every one of the Treasure Hunt stores is a gayly decorated box where customers should deposit the stubs, retaining the major portion for the Hunt's climax.

Patrons of Treasure Hunt stores—and they are all identified by large placards in their windows—should ask for their tickets and deposit the stubs immediately. No tickets will be issued after Monday night, Dec. 21.

**Must Attend Hunt**  
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### UNIQUE CHRISTMAS MUSICAL BEING PREPARED FOR DEC. 16

If present plans of Mrs. Marjorie Elischen and the Torrance Ministerial Union for a Christmas musicale service in the civic auditorium, Dec. 16, are carried out residents of this city and vicinity will see and hear a program that will be unique in many ways.

One-half of the Yuletide in song presentation will be presented by the high school a cappella choir, assisted by an alumni choir and costumed characters. Mrs. Elischen, high school music director, has sketched a reverent, musical setting of rare charm to achieve the effect of universal brotherhood of man at Christmas time.

### 200 On Chamber Roll; Reduction In Rates Sought

Directors Plan Program for Harbor Session Here Jan. 19

Increasing the membership to 200, the largest since 1928, four new members of the Chamber of Commerce were received by the directors at their meeting Monday afternoon. The new supporters of the civic organization are A. J. Ferguson, Columbia Steel plant; Modern Appliances Company, Torrance Tire and Retreading Company, Lewis Motor Sales, Buick Agency, and Dr. H. G. Mitts, chiropractor.

Alden W. Smith presided at the meeting in the absence of President J. W. McQuaid. Preceding the business session, Leonard Reed, manager of the western division of the U. S. Chamber, spoke on the necessity of all individuals, firms and organizations in cooperating with the federal government in solidifying the advance made toward better times.

The possibility of obtaining lower insurance rates in this city was discussed at length.

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### THIS MOTTO STANDS IN WRECKAGE

Standing like a ruin of old but still proudly bearing its inscription, "Enter to Learn, Go Forth to Serve," the proscenium arch of the wrecked high school auditorium is all that remains of the building now being razed by PWA workers.

Towering above the debris of stone, plaster, wood and brick that composed the assembly room of Torrance students for more than five years, the archway will be the last to fall before the wreckers who will be replaced soon with builders.

**Will It Live Again?**  
 Workmen are clearing away the accumulated material from other parts of the building before crashing the large stage opening to the ground. At the present time no new building is contemplated for the site. A new boys' physical education structure is rising south of the present gymnasium and near the old auditorium.

Many an alumnus who memorized the inscription by heart from seeing it so often at "aud calls" is wondering if it will ever again send forth its lettered command from a Torrance high school building; "Enter to Learn, Go Forth to Serve."

### Service Tribute



### DR. FRANK A. BOUELLE

15,000 host to him  
 Paying tribute to his 41 years of faithful service as an educator in this county, 18,000 employees of the Los Angeles city school district will honor Dr. Frank A. Bouelle, retiring superintendent, with a banquet in the Ambassador Hotel, Saturday evening.

### No Quarantine On Dogs Here

Erroneous Report Denied By Health Officers

Reports that Torrance was included among the more seriously affected districts in a "county-wide quarantine on dogs prompted by an alleged widespread outbreak of rabies" were denied yesterday by Dr. H. C. Smiley's office in the Torrance Health center and by the county humane officer in Redondo Beach.

No such a quarantine has been placed on dogs in this city and there have been no reports of any rabies in this area, it was pointed out. Local police also declared that no request has been received from any source to impound stray dogs and cats.

Dr. J. L. Pomeroy, county health officer, is quoted as saying that 900 dogs have been impounded, 312 put to death and many persons bitten in Compton, Altadena, Whittier and Bell districts. But Torrance, according to late information, is clear of any such contagion.

### COMA STILL GRIPS BOY

Tenth Day in Local Hospital Brings No Change

Still unconscious 10 days after he was struck by a truck, 16-year-old Jordon Zumwalt is lying at the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital, all his minor bruises and cuts healed. But the multiple skull fracture which has caused his coma continues to keep him shut away from the world.

Physicians say that the boy, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Zumwalt, of 22227 South Vermont avenue, Los Angeles, may recover but that time—the great healer—must elapse before he is brought to consciousness. Weeks and sometimes months elapse in cases of this kind before recovery is effected.

Jordan's father and mother are constantly at his bedside, waiting for him to regain his faculties. He takes nourishment regularly and indicates when he doesn't like some kinds of foods. The youth is resting as well as could be expected. He suffered his injuries when hit by a truck while riding his bicycle to Torrance high school.

### Southwest Field Sprouts Rigs as Work is Rushed

Prospects that the southwest slope of the old Torrance oil field will become the outstanding field of deep sand exploration and development in Southern California appeared certain this week as oil companies, major and minor, rushed preparations for intense activity.

The Hunt Oil Company is scheduled to spud in its deepest well today just off the intersection of Hawthorne and Sepulveda boulevards.

Initial deep-sand development of that area by the Dearborn Oil Company last week resulted in a flowing well of 500-barrel capacity Sunday night. This brought the district to the attention of a large number of operators and today there is more activity there than there has been in years.

**Center of Attraction**  
 "I believe that we are on the verge of an oil development that will be the biggest to Torrance since the exploration of the old upper sand shallow wells," declared Mississippi-born P. V. Collier, veteran oil operator, who is president of the Hunt company.

Construction work for the 11 months of this year has nearly doubled the amount recorded for the same period in 1935, the totals being \$387,233 for 1936 and \$198,208 for 1935. That the December total will exceed that of last year's 12th month was seen in the issuance of a permit for a \$5,000 oil rig structure west of Hawthorne and south of Sepulveda on the first day of this month. The building total for December, 1935, was but \$3,685.

During November permits were issued for five single dwellings, amounting to \$16,000; three alterations and additions, \$825; one industrial building, \$10,000; an office building, \$6,859; seven private garages, \$2,000, and one neon sign, \$125. Leonard reported. So far there have been 137 permits issued this year as compared to 140 in 1935 at this date.

**RECOVERS FROM RECENT ILLNESS**  
 Friends of Irene Lipp, proprietor of Irene's Beauty Shoppe, will be happy to know that she has recovered from her recent illness and is again in the shop.

**Within City Limits**  
 Other companies reported to be scouting in the area for available leases are the Signal

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### \$34,000 In Action

Local Banks Release Record Sum to 750 Members of Christmas Clubs

### How Year-Long Club Savings Are Being Spent

Based upon a direct-by-mail questionnaire to a considerable number of members of Christmas clubs and applying that analysis to the entire distribution for this year, the total Christmas club fund will be used approximately as follows, according to officials of the corporation controlling that unique form of regular savings:

Christmas purchases	42%
Permanent savings	25%
Year end commitments	8%
Taxes	12%
Mortgage interest	6%
Insurance premiums	5%
Education, travel, charity	2%
	100%

### FIREMEN MAKE LONG RUN FOR \$1 FIRE

After a run of nearly four miles early Wednesday morning, the central station fire force extinguished a small blaze in a home at 3023 223rd street. The fire, which caused but \$1 damage, was caused by a short-circuit from a wire whose insulation was burned off near a stove chimney.

A flood of good, hard cash was flowing into business channels here this week as the accumulated Christmas club savings of some 750 Torrance residents was distributed by the Torrance National Bank and Bank of America.

Approximately \$34,000 was mailed out in checks to those who followed a program of consistent small savings throughout the year in order to be ready for the Christmas expenses of their families. This figure was made public this week by officials of the two banks who pointed out that it was the largest amount ever subscribed by members of their respective Christmas clubs.

Memberships in the 1937 clubs are now open, according to J. Wallace Post, of the Torrance National, and Dean L. Sears of the Bank of America. The Christmas club idea is incorporated, having approximately 5,600 banking institutions and organizations as members. It is estimated that 355 million dollars has been and is being distributed by this method of year-long savings for the Yuletide to about seven and one-half million members. The estimated average amount for each member is \$48.50, a 14 percent increase in accumulations over 1935.