

TORRANCE HERALD

TWENTY-FIFTH YEAR

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1939

SECTION B

Veteran Glider Pilot-Builder Has Shop Here; May Form Company

Lomita Has New Postmaster

Earl F. Fishel, Lomita grocer, officially succeeded Miss Birba Paddock as postmaster in the adjoining community yesterday morning. He was nominated July 26 to the \$2,400-a-year job and received Senate confirmation July 31. Miss Paddock, who was appointed Lomita postmaster by the late Congressman Charles J. Coiden in 1934, said she has no immediate plans for the future except to "take a good rest."

Fishel, who lives with his wife and 15-year-old daughter, Gwen at 1889 261st, has been a Lomita resident for nearly three years. He said he had disposed of his interest in a grocery store on Highway 101 to his associate, Charles Flekinger, and would give full time to his postal duties.

He is a native of Nebraska where he said he was postmaster at Guide Rock several years ago. He retains his membership in that community's Masonic lodge, is a member of the Lomita Kiwanis club and is affiliated with the Harbor City American Legion post. The Lomita postoffice was decorated with a number of floral bouquets given the new postmaster by friends early this week.

Father and Son Jailed Here As Drunk Disturbers

It was "father and son" day at the city jail Tuesday when Fred D. McIntosh, 65, and his 32-year-old son, Fred S., were escorted to the "tank" following a morning disturbance at the Five Point cafe. Both were booked for drunkenness and disturbance of the peace. They live at 1614 Cedar avenue.

The elder McIntosh was released Tuesday night to appear next Wednesday, Sept. 13, at 10 o'clock for trial. Son Fred S. was held in custody pending the fixing of the date for the court appearance.

Designing All-Metal 2-Seater

"It's the king of sports!" That's the way Jay Buxton, veteran glider pilot and builder describes his 10-year-old hobby.

"The thrill you get from soaring high over the earth, soundless except for the whistle of the wind thru the struts and as effortless as a bird is something beyond description!"

Buxton, who now lives in Lennox, is repairing the world's finest glider, remodeling two others and building a fourth in his "hangar" on 213th street just off Border avenue. Two other glider-fans, both experienced aviation mechanics, are keenly interested in his venture here and they may form a company to turn out gliders in Torrance on an assembly-line basis.

His comely young daughter, Lucretia, is also taking great interest in the local plant. She has many hours' experience in the air and is a well-known pilot among glider fans.

Altho he tries to divide his time between the "Nomad," an all-metal, radio-equipped advanced type of glider that was damaged in a faulty landing after it had set a new American altitude record last month at Elmira, N. Y., and his newest creation, a twin-seater soarer, Buxton has a hard time keeping from finishing the "Nomad" before everything else.

This beautiful metal bird is owned by Bob Stanley of Pensacola, Fla., a blind flying instructor in the U. S. Navy. Early in July he soared to a record height of 17,265 feet above sea level at Elmira. On another flight, he crashed but escaped injury. In the hurry to repair his machine for further trials, Stanley did not quite put the finishing touches on his plane and it was damaged again in an abrupt landing.

Record is 280 Miles. He shipped the "Nomad" to



OVER RIVIERA . . . One of the most remarkable glider pictures ever made is this view of Jay Buxton's transporter soarer carrying a little girl and two men. It was taken while the motorless flier was about 350 feet above Hollywood Riviera gliding out toward the Pacific. The camera was mounted on the wing and the shutter was operated by a string leading in to where the little girl is sitting.

Buxton with instructions to put it in first class condition and that is just what the Lennox man is doing here. The body and wing is covered with a special aluminum alloy and the sleek man-made bird is also equipped with retractable landing gear and navigation lights. It weighs 385 pounds and costs about \$2,600 to build.

Buxton has built six different types of gliders but he expects his latest one to be the best of the lot. Two of his soarers are undergoing repairs in his shop here and he is laying out the design of his two-seater, all-metal model which, when completed, will weigh about 435 pounds. In regular production, on an assembly-line basis, such a glider would cost less than \$800.

Flying with friends is the greatest delight of glider enthusiasts. Buxton recalls that recently a fellow-glider pilot traveled 115 miles with a passenger from Wichita Falls, Texas—where gliding conditions are excellent—to the state capitol grounds at Oklahoma City, Okla. They were using one of his gliders. The American distance record, set by the veteran Hawley Bowlus of San Fernando, is 280 miles. Buxton and his daughter have traveled as far as 212 miles in a flight.

Over Mt. San Jacinto The builder-pilot became interested in glider construction when he was a member of the old South Bay Glider club. E. G. Rowell of this city was also a member of this group which used to hold informal glider meets in Hollywood Riviera.

However, flying conditions are regarded as only fair in this area, Buxton said. The best Southland glider areas are around Hemet and Riverside, where the warm air currents lend a buoyancy that is missing from the cold ocean breezes. Glider pilots have flown over Mt. San Jacinto, which is about 11,000 feet high.

Have Enclosed Cockpits Delicate instruments, some of them far more sensitive than those used in power planes, are installed in the latest type gliders. These record altitude, air



FATHER AND DAUGHTER AIR-MINDED . . . Lucretia Buxton, attractive young daughter of Jay Buxton, veteran glider builder, is shown here with her father discussing plans for his latest powerless flyer, a side-by-side two seater glider which Buxton is building in Torrance. In the background is their "Transporter" glider.

speed and balance. Buxton, who is an official recorder for the National Aeronautical Association, is an expert on adjusting these instruments.

Glider flying is safe, he says, because of their light construction and slow landing speed.

However, they are not playthings and a study in meteorology is essential if one desires to soar for distances and altitude. Modern gliders, are equipped with enclosed cockpits which makes flying almost entirely soundless and comfortable.

Assessors Now Revaluing All County Buildings

Work began this week on the enormous task of revaluing all structures in Los Angeles county, according to County Assessor John R. Quinn. It is estimated that there are approximately 1,200,000 such structures within the county limits. It is expected that in the majority of instances valuations in this present fiscal year will be lowered.

Structural changes in buildings occurring in the last six years will be one of the chief objectives of the revaluation program, Quinn said.

Downtown Los Angeles office buildings and office structures in business areas of other cities of the county also will be given a deep study in the program. These structures will be studied both from the depreciation standpoint and from earning capacity. Owners of such buildings for some time have protested assessments levied by the County Assessor on the grounds that the buildings do not return a profit commensurate with the tax levied against them.

Townsend Club Activities

By BETH PAIGE

We note that there is a little misunderstanding as to the date of our club's removing from the McDonald hall. That date is Sept. 12. We meet at Legion hall tomorrow (Friday) evening for our final session at that location.

Our celebration Sept. 3 of the fifth anniversary of the granting of the first charter in America to a Townsend club was well carried out at Hollywood Park.

Sen. Sheridan Downey in his telegram to Dr. Townsend regretted that the call from President Roosevelt summoning him to Washington the day before, cancelled his appearance. Many congressmen spoke; state executive John C. Cuneo and F. Manley Goldsberry of the Trail Blazers gave outstanding speeches. Dr. Townsend was heard to better advantage and one marvels at the youthfulness and vigor of his voice and manner.

Young Democrats Hold Open Meet Here Tonight

All young people in the city are invited to attend a meeting of the Young Democrats of Torrance tonight at 7:30 o'clock at the Moose hall on Carson street. The speaker will be Len Hall, San Pedro Y.M.C.A. director, who will discuss "Neutrality." He will be glad to answer questions concerning this important subject, according to leaders of the Democratic group.

Yearly Polar Trip Urged CANTBERRA, Australia (U.P.)—Sir Douglas Mawson has undertaken the creation of a "Polar Club" which will undertake to send at least one expedition to the polar regions each year.



CHILDREN LEAVE PARIS . . . As fear of German air attacks permeated all of France, the French Government hastily endeavored to move the civilian population of major cities to places of safety. Picture shows French children, with gas masks slung across their shoulders, leaving Paris.

Despondent Woman in Riviera Area Taken in Custody

Found screaming and crying in the Hollywood Riviera district early Friday morning, a Los Angeles woman was brought to the police station to "calm down" and await arrival of her husband.

She told officers, after recovering from her hysteria, that she was despondent over home affairs but embraced her husband fervently when he appeared to take her home.

Glimmer Stolen A headlight was stolen off a car parked in front of Arthur Sikes' home at 703 Portola avenue last Thursday night, the owner reported to police.

Student Oddly "Plastered"

BUTTE, Mont. (U.P.)—One student at the Montana School of Mines who got "plastered" will not be punished by the college authorities. He is Bob Blewett who, during a laboratory class in ceramics volunteered to have a mask made of his face. All went well until the mask hardened and every effort to remove it failed. Doctors finally succeeded in dissolving the hardened plaster.

Wooldridge Herald Circulation Mgr. Writes

Save your pennies. The plutocrat is great only because he controls our pennies.

"Trailer Vagabond" Tours Arlington Nat'l. Cemetery

By WARREN BAYLEY

Although Arlington is the best known of all National Cemeteries, it takes its fame from the fact that it was the home of Robert E. Lee, the great American soldier. Here he and the beautiful and accomplished Mary Ann Curtis were married on June 30, 1831; here their seven children were born; here General Lee made the momentous decision to join the Confederate Army in April, 1861. Arlington was the only home General Lee and his family had from the day of his marriage until the Confederacy fell.

Under an Act of Congress the estate was seized by the War Department in 1862 because taxes were delinquent. Mrs. Lee, the owner, sent the necessary sum by messenger but the tax commission refused to accept it on the grounds that she had to appear in person and make the payment. When she did not appear, the estate was sold at public auction and was bought in by the War Department for \$26,800.

After the death of General and Mrs. Lee, their son, also a General, petitioned Congress for a return of the property. Congress ignored the petition and he brought suit against the Government. In 1879 a jury decided in his favor. The Government, through the Attorney-General, carried the case to the Supreme Court and bitterly contested the decision of the lower court. Finally, in 1882, the Supreme Court, with a divided bench, upheld the decision.

But for the generosity of the Lee family all the bodies in Arlington at that time would have had to be removed. General Lee, however, finally agreed to sell the property to the Government and in 1883 the money was appropriated and the transfer was made.

Although the cemetery was originally set aside as a resting place for Union Soldiers and Sailors, the first burial was a Confederate trooper who had been wounded at the Battle of Bull Run. Today, any soldier who has worn the uniform of this country can be buried in Arlington; and it has thus become the favorite burial ground for

soldiers of the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, the Philippine Insurrection, and the World War.

Unknown Soldier Shrine Almost every visitor to Washington, D. C. goes to Arlington, and since the World War the numbers have been increasing greatly. This is due, no doubt, to the fact that the Unknown Soldier is buried there and the Government has built a magnificent open-air auditorium as a Memorial to the soldier and sailor dead of that war.

The body of the Unknown Soldier was brought from France by General Pershing and entombed on Armistice Day November 11, 1921. As time was short a temporary tomb was constructed and it was not until 1931 that the permanent tomb was completed. It stands in front of the Memorial Auditorium and from its vantage point may be seen the Lincoln Memorial, Washington Monument and the dome of our National Capitol.

"Trailer Vagabond" is sponsored and appears in this newspaper thru the courtesy of HOWARD G. LOCKE, fire and automobile insurance agent, 1406 Marcellina, telephone 135-M.

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