

## Chamber Directors Reelected

Officers of Torrance Chamber of Commerce for the coming year were reelected Monday night by the directors of the body.

Reed H. Parkin was reelected president; Charles V. Jones, vice president; R. I. Plomer, Jr., vice president; Hillman R. Lee, treasurer. Other directors are C. B. Bag-nall, C. B. Mitchell, I. Washer, the Rev. Paul M. Wheeler and Grover C. Whyte.

Blaine Walker is executive secretary.

The directors took under study a proposal that a new city directory be published in Torrance. The last directory was published in October, 1941, by the Western Directory Co., and the same firm is proposing to publish a 1946 edition.

An annual audit of chamber books also was approved.

## G.P. Cranemen Unearth Cash Register Here

While crane operators at General Petroleum Corp. were excavating near Crenshaw blvd., they unearthed a cash register belonging to the Pletz Middleton Tire Service in Inglewood, police report.

The register was only partly covered with dirt, crane men said, and was believed to have been thrown over the bank onto the G.P. lot. Sheriff's deputies said that the cash register had been stolen the evening previous and had contained \$75 in cash along with several important accounts and papers.

### NEW EMPLOYEES

William Diamond and J. R. Stephens were hired by the City Council Tuesday night as laborers, at \$170 a month. Stephens' case was one of reinstatement, the man having served in the armed forces during the war. Edwin Clemmens was hired in the park department, at the same rate.

## IMMEDIATE POSSESSION OF AIRPORT POSSIBLE TO CITY, REPORT TO MAYOR REVEALS

The way has been opened for the City of Torrance to get immediate possession of the Army airport in Torrance and steps are being taken to acquire the port, Mayor W. H. Tolson revealed following his return from Sacramento where he, with other city officials and Harry B. Lewis, aviation authority, attended the Western States aviation conference.

Mayor Tolson declared that he had wired to Washington, on information secured in Sacramento, relative to securing a temporary permit to occupy the airport pending working out of permanent possession.

He indicated that the city contemplates operation of the airport by one of several private firms which have submitted bids for the privilege.

The city would be required, he said, to keep the port always available to the military, and continued use of the port by the Civil Air Patrol would be permitted.

Attending the conference in Sacramento with the mayor were Councilmen J. E. Hitecock and C. M. Gilbert, and Deputy City Attorney Otto Willett. While Lewis attended as an interested party, he was asked to assist in representing the city's interests.

That the 480-acre million dollar air field might become Torrance municipal airport within the next few weeks loomed as a definite possibility, the mayor said.

He proceeded at the council meeting Tuesday night to secure organization of the aviation commission as requested by Torrance Chamber of Commerce, and his colleagues immediately named him as a member after concurring in the appointment of Reed H. Parkin, president of the Chamber of Commerce and secretary of Doak Aircraft Co. as chairman. The council asked that consideration be given to World War II flyers residing in Torrance, in forming the commission, and it was revealed that Parkin had suggested as one member City Engineer G. M. Jain.

The commission will be worked out within a few days, it was indicated.



CHRISTMAS PAGEANT . . . Young people of the First Christian church will present a Christmas cantata several evenings prior to Christmas on an outdoor stage constructed on the lawn of the church, Arlington and Englewood. The cast includes in the manger scene above, left to right, Ben Prime, Allene Littrell and Lorene Littrell as the three Wise Men; Ralph Prime as Joseph; Joan Mumford as Mary; Harold Burgener, Dean Lougee and Teddy Menmuir, Shepherds. (Torrance Herald photo.)

## Munoz Pleads Not Guilty To Petty Theft

Frank F. Munoz, 737 W. 187th st., Gardena, pleaded not guilty when arraigned before City Judge John Shidler Monday on a charge of petty theft.

Munoz was charged with stripping a car that had been involved in an accident recently at Crenshaw blvd. and Pacific Coast Highway. The auto, police report, was wedged in a culvert and as yet no owner had claimed it.

Torrance Police Officer Gerald Enfield, reported that he had come upon Munoz in the act of stripping the car. Munoz at the time was alleged to have said: "I am not stealing these parts, I'm taking them."

Enfield said that parts from the abandoned car were found in Munoz's auto parked nearby. Trial was set for Jan. 22. Munoz is free on \$200 bail. His car is being held by police.

## 17 TAXI CABS LICENSED IN TORRANCE, UNDER COUNCIL 'COME ONE, COME ALL' POLICY

Several members of Torrance City Council, led by Councilman C. M. Gilbert, several weeks ago tried to protect the taxi business of Torrance for the benefit of returning veterans of World War II.

Over-ruled in this effort, the whole town was thrown open to any comer with the result that 17 cars are now licensed to carry passengers and a "taxi war" is in the offing as indicated by the keen competition developing.

Records of the office of City Clerk A. H. Bartlett show that City Taxi Co., operated by J. W. Alford at 1330 Cabrillo ave., had the only taxi business in Torrance from 1942 until July of 1945. He now operates five cabs under that name and one under the name of Torrance Yellow Cab Co.

In July, Miss Marie Bruce, now Mrs. Danny Frohman, secured a license to operate a cab, and at this date as the Yellow Cab Co., Mr. and Mrs. Frohman operate six cabs in Torrance. Frohman had a taxi business in Lomita.

Other taxi licenses issued since the council threw the business open to any applicant are: Chuck Cab Service, C. T. Berry, 2365 Torrance blvd.; H. & R. Cab Co., A. K. Hill and N. F. Robinson, 1226 Crenshaw blvd.; George A. Mort, Park hotel; Torrance Checker Cab Co., V. O. Callahan and R. H. Gilbert, 2424 Ocean ave.; Torrance Green Taxi, V. Fredrickson, 1911 1/2 Andree ave.

Meanwhile a regulating ordinance is in the process of adoption, but what its effect will be on the licenses already issued has not been disclosed.

## Angle Parking, Refuse Draw Fire

Street parking and trash in the streets of downtown Torrance came in for criticism of Walteria area residents Tuesday night at the City Council meeting. B. J. Michel said that angle parking was responsible for many accidents along Marcelina ave.

George B. Thatcher said that on Sundays the paper and trash littering the streets is a disgrace to the community.



SANTA CLAUS' HELPERS . . . Busy in one of Santa Claus' workshops in Torrance, the City Recreation Center at Arlington ave. and Lincoln ave., is this group of Torrance youngsters. They are making all kinds of gifts, of wood, leather, paper, cotton and other materials. This is one city recreation function that knows no slump, Dale Riley, superintendent, said. In charge are Edna Hillier and Vivian Callihan, shown in the background. (Torrance Herald photo.)

## 207 ACRE ELLINWOOD TRACT PURCHASED FOR ELABORATE HOME DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

The first large scale home development project to be launched in Torrance for many years was announced yesterday by Ben Haggott, Carlos Verdes Estates and Torrance Realtor, with the purchase by Roy P. Dolley, a prominent Los Angeles attorney, of 207 acres of the Ellinwood ranch property.

\* The land will be subdivided immediately, streets and utilities installed and the new subdivision will be an elaborately planned residential development of which Torrance will be proud, Haggott said.

Architectural and other restrictions will be applied he said, and the tract will be divided at present into one acre home sites.

The property, purchased from Charlotte Mc Greer, of Seattle, daughter of Dr. C. N. Ellinwood, extends from 101 highway along the Torrance-Redondo Beach line north to Avenue G, or 230th st., and east about one-half mile. The land has 2738 feet of frontage on 101 highway.

It consists of the beautiful rolling property across 101 highway and north-east of the north-east corner of Hollywood Rivera.

This is the first subdivision of any part of the Ellinwood ranch property which consists of more than 800 acres, and the first big development in many years of any of the larger holdings.

However, coincident with Haggott's announcement, the Western Investment Co. interests announced that they are proceeding to release 400 acres of their land for subdivision purposes at once. The Western property is immediately east of Madison ave., south of 101 highway.

Haggott will be the agent in charge of the sale of the Dolley property and initial plans for the subdivision of the 207 acre tract will be submitted to the City Planning Commission in the near future.

Included in the plan, it is said, will be a request for a dedicated highway to connect the new tract with Sepulveda blvd., or Hawthorne blvd., thus giving the tract better access to Torrance.

Likewise, Haggott said, at least one acre of the land will be given to the City of Torrance for tennis courts or other park purposes.

Disposition of the highway frontage has not been decided, Haggott said, it being suitable at the present for some purposes, but perhaps more desirable for other uses later.

The announcement of the purchase of the Ellinwood acreage followed within one week of an article in the Torrance Herald revealing the intention of the Torrance Realty Board to secure the attitude of the Ellinwood interests, Del Amo Estate and Weston interests toward subdivision of their lands.

## Auto Accidents Hospitalize More Victims

The Crenshaw ave. and 164th st. intersection was the scene Dec. 14 of a two car accident landing two more victims in the Torrance Memorial hospital with lacerations, bruises and shock.

Viola Lee Fletcher, 2922 Hermosa ave., Hermosa Beach, driver, and Ethel Reed, 13721 Crise ave., Hawthorne, passenger, according to Torrance police reports, crashed into a car driven by Paul Zimmerman, 2833 W. 83rd st., Inglewood, at the above intersection.

### DR. W. J. HARRISON

Dr. W. J. Harrison, of Douglas and formerly of Torrance, visited here Tuesday.

## Navy Mothers Club Installs New Officers

The annual report of Welfare Chairman Mary Towler, Torrance, of the Little Hills Navy Mothers club, reveals the work produced by the club, for the year 1945.

At the annual meeting and installation of new officers held Sunday, Mrs. Towler reported the following welfare work: Last April, a box of articles weighing 43 lbs. and another in August, weighing 47 lbs., containing blankets, slippers, bedside bags, layettes and knee robes were sent from the club to Navy Relief, San Diego.

During the year, three baby layettes were sent to needy Navy wives, a box of woollens was sent to Kate Crutcher's Children's hospital; three large cartons of clothes to Allied Relief; three and one-half baby sheets for the obstetrical ward and many books sent to the library of the Army hospital at Torrance.

A sewing machine was purchased by the club to carry on the welfare work. Four Christmas gift packages were sent overseas last year to orphan boys in the service.

To sons of the club members, were sent Christmas cards with a crisp one-dollar bill enclosed, which numbered sixty-two.

The welfare chairman made 72 ditty bags herself, at home, for the Red Cross. At present the members are working on two quilts and completing a baby layette.



HER LETTER ANSWERED . . . Little Claudia Smith of Torrance wrote to Santa Claus asking for a new scooter. The Santa Claus editor of the Torrance Herald intercepted her letter and arranged for the little girl and Santa to meet at one of his workshops in Torrance, Longren Aircraft Co. In awe, she gazes at Old St. Nick as Chapman Wentworth, vice president in charge of production, hands Santa the 30,000th scooter turned out by the war-born factory. So Claudia and more than 30,000 other kiddies throughout the country will be made happy Christmas morning with Longren "Shooting Star" scooters made in Torrance. (Photo by Torrance Herald Santa Claus editor.)

## HOLIDAY SPIRIT DESCENDS UPON TORRANCE AS ANNUAL YULE SEASON APPROACHES

A holiday air descended upon Torrance this week, with crowds thronging the commercial district preparing for Christmas. Celebrations became the topic of conversation, as the community prepared for its first peacetime Yule season.

Merchants report the biggest holiday business in history, with the advent of new stores and release of formerly hard-to-get items. Food stores, but for butter or substitutes, said they are ready for all-comers, with ample stocks.

Christmas falling on Tuesday, many four-day holidays were scheduled.

The City of Torrance granted Monday off to all employees except emergency and statutory workers. The others, such as police, fire and bus department officers, certain of the city clerk's office and other emergency employees, will be compensated at later dates, it was said.

The City Hall will be closed from Friday at 5 p.m. until Wednesday at 8 a.m., except for emergency, it was explained.

Some of the factories will close for the four-day period, or longer, it was said. Included are International Derrick and Equipment Co., Longren Aircraft Co., Doak Aircraft Co., the Navy Material Redistribution Center and others.

General Petroleum Corp. will operate with limited crews. National Supply Co. and Columbia Steel Co. said that they were not prepared to announce a holiday schedule as the Torrance Herald went to press last night.

Many stores will remain open Christmas eve, while most of them will close at 6 p.m. Monday, it was said.

The postoffice will remain open until 6 p.m. Saturday and Monday, to accommodate late mailers, Postmaster C. Earl Conner said.

The Torrance Herald office will be closed all day Tuesday, and all news for which the deadline normally has been Tuesday, such as church notices, society items, club and similar notices, must be in before Monday at 10 a.m. to insure publication.

The Herald will be printed as usual for distribution Thursday morning.

While the community was in the hustle and bustle of the holiday spirit, the true meaning of Christmas was not lacking.

Churches of the community were scheduling special holiday services and cantatas, with carols and all that goes with the season. The Big Moose lodge Christmas party is scheduled for Sunday in the Civic auditorium.

Charity organizations were seeking out the needy to see that no one is forgotten. Christmas morn., Eliza's Nursery offered free Christmas trees to needy families duly listed with charity groups.

Santa Claus was busy pre-

## COUNCIL, PLANNING BODY AGREE TO ABOLISH ALLEY SETBACK REQUIREMENTS

Culminating a successful drive by Torrance Chamber of Commerce, the Torrance City Council and City Planning Commission Monday night reached complete accord on the question of alley setbacks in Torrance, and agreed that Land Use Ordinance No. 316 should be amended so as to strike out paragraphs and sections requiring business

health and fire hazards, and deprive stores of 15 per cent of their needed floor-space.

Notice of the first public hearing to be held early in January will be published in the Torrance Herald next week.

Dwellings or apartment houses which might be built in the C-1 or C-2 (commercial) zones must retain the setbacks as at present required by the ordinance, under conditions of the accord.

Attending the joint meeting of the council-planning body were the directors of the Chamber of Commerce and a number of Torrance commercial district property owners and merchants.