Torrance Herald

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TWENTY-THIRD YEAR—No. 29. TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, JULY 29, 1937 $2.00 PER YEAR — SINGLE COPY 5c

L. A. SCHOOL TAX INCREASE IS CERTAIN

SHOP TALK

By RAY BROOKS

Mrs. Willis Brooks of Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital tells one that occurred last week:

Bill Mason, the young feller you so often see trudging over the hill and dale bent on delivery of Western Union telegrams, swept popeyed into the hospital the other day with a wire for one Robert Taylor. Excitedly, Bill asked if it was the REAL Robert Taylor, what he was doing in Torrance, etc.,

Reluctantly Mrs. Brooks had to inform Bill that the telegram probably was intended for a new hospital attendant whose real moniker was Robert Taylor, but who was not the "too beautiful hero" of the screen.

FRUGAL NIPPONESE

Observed these past few weeks parked beside the highways around this and other towns are a myriad of young Japanese boys and girls who sit quietly beside a small box loaded with sweet corn or tomatoes and wait for motorists to stop and shop their wares.

It appears that the famous Oriental frugality and enterprize has spread even unto the offspring, some of them only a half dozen years old but who already know the fine points of shrewd bargaining. And where American kids would be frisking on the beach or playing marbles in the back yard, these ambitious youngsters help mama and papa by earing a few extra dimes selling their produce to motorists.

THE RETURN OF RINKER

Back into harness this week is Earl Rinker who many will remember as a barber on the better variety and one who boasts a long and successful stay in Torrance some years ago.

Earl is whacking off whiskers and shaving necks at George Morton's American Barber and Beauty Emporium, the same place Earl used to work (for previous owner Frank Marshall) about two years ago when he left to wield a sizzeling hot razor in that inferno of infernos, Needles, Calif. Needles, however, proved to hot for Earl (in a weather sort of way) and he returned with his wife and one child to Ye Goode Village of Torrance.

George Morton says Earl is a better barber than Perry Kincheloe, the which Perry heatedly denies as he strops a long razor to which there just ain't no agrument.

THE LADY IN RED

Madame Harriett Leech, alias the Lady in Red, back this week from a two week's picnic in the High Sierras with her three sons (with three sons could it be a picnic?) has a sunburned back as crimson as Chief Stevenson's fire truck, screams fit to kill if you even look askance at her.

HOAXER

Roland Blakeman, of the RB Cut Rate Drug, the gent who never seems to find time to go fishing but who at the same usually goes, is planning, come next Monday, a week's trip with his wife and Mr. and Mrs. Murray Gaunce to the fishin' ground around June Lake. Roland, I hope you get your fishin' line wound around Murray's neck and you both fall in . . . you lucky fellows!

PINCH HITTERS

On vacation myself next week, the next edition of this frightful literary opus will be written not by one person but by several . . . Boss Whyte, Editor Straszer, Society Sleeth, Social Security Fraser, and Shop Foreman Lewellen. You see, it takes the combined efforts of quite a group to produce drivel as horrendous as Shop Talk. Here's hopin' you like their stuff and you probably will as they undoubtedly will take this opportunity to vent their spleen for both me and my literary child.

BILL THORNBURGH

. . . my next door neighbor . . . is 72 summers old, looks fifty, is as spry and agile as a mountain goat . . . arises regularly at 5 a. m., seldom if ever goes out nights, usually hops into bed not later than 9 p. m. Bill is retired, worked many years for the railroad out on the desert . . . never ate a vegetable until he was sixty, smokes cigars but has never tetched a drop of beer, wine or the harder spirits. Tells about a group of Mexican shovel workers who had their pay reduced. They took the reduction without a whimper but thereafter never seemed to accomplish much, though they appeared to work hard. Truth was that every Peon had cut several inches off the end of his shovel as a protest against the slice in wages!

Degenerate Still Sought in District

Several suspects were questioned by Redondo Beach police during the past week in connection with the brutal attack on an eight-year-old girl by a bewhiskered degenerate in a corn field within the city of Torrance. However, no arrests have been made as yet.

The little girl was lured to the field and assaulted when the man sent her small brother to a distant house to deliver a paper to his "wife." The child-victim and her brother are aiding the beach city police in an effort to locate the fiend.

Description Given

With an officer in plain clothes and a police matron, she has mingled with crowds to the beach during the Covered Wagon Days celebration, attempting to identify her assailant. The description of the man wanted, according to police, follows: Dark, sunburned complexion, age about 35, medium build, trimmed beard, moustache and sideburns. The man wore a dark hat without a band and no coat, the girl said.

Torrance police are cooperating with the beach authorities in every manner possible to apprehend the child-ravisher. Local officers were assigned to the Redondo Beach celebration in hope of locating the man but they were unsuccessful.

Plebiscite Open to All Lawyers

Local attorneys, whether or not they are members of the Los Angeles Bar Association, will be permitted to vote in the county-wide plebiscite of lawyers to select a successor to the late Superior Judge William Tell Aggeler, it was announced today.

Governor Frank F. Merriam has given assurance to Bar Association officials that he will give earnest consideration to their recommendation in naming the new judge.

Mentioned for the vacant office are Joseph A. Allard, Jr., prominent Pomona attorney in the city where there is a branch of the court; Frederick M. Hall, Los Angeles city public defender who polled an impressive vote in the last municipal election; and Justice of the Peace Burl L. Wix, of Glendale.

Municipal Judge William McKay, Clement D. Nye, Lucius P. Green and Joseph Marchetti also have been mentioned by persons close to the governor as likely candidates for election to the superior bench. Marchetti is reported to have the backing of William G. Bonnelli, former Los Angeles city councilman and now a state official.

County May Aid Toy Loan Libraries

A boost in the number of toy loan libraries throughout the county as a part of the delinquency prevention program was seen this week following a ruling from county attorneys that the county may appropriate money for their maintenance.

Budget Reveals 6 Million Gain

Taxpayers inside the Los Angeles city school district, which takes in Torrance, Lomita and a number of other cities adjacent to the city as well as some unincorporated territory and Los Angeles proper, are threatened with a tax increase, judging by the proposed budget that is to be submitted at a public hearing to be held next Monday night, August 2.

The new budget of nearly $41,000,000 is some $6,000,000 larger than last year's budget, according to Harry Howell, budget director.

This will not mean as large an increase in the school levy as it would indicate at first glance, however, because the assessed valuation of Los Angeles city has been increased by some $40,000,000. However, this is not expected to offset all of the $6,000,000 increase, but will aid materially.

Pay Partly "Restored"

Nearly half of the $6,000,000 increase is allocated to the district's pay-as-you-go building program, Howell said. School buildings throughout the district will be reconstructed and made earthquake resistant where this work has not already been completed, with the aid of PWA funds granted the district.

More than half of the new budget, or $23,000,000, is required for teachers' salaries. This is $1,000,000 larger than it would have otherwise been because pay restorations are to be given the teachers throughout the district.

This is given as 6½ percent, as only 3½ percent of the 10 percent cut made during the depression had been restored.

Mrs. Hitchcock's Sister Succumbs In Hospital

Mrs. Esta Hitchcock, wife of James E. Hitchcock of the C. C. M. O., received word Tuesday of the death of her sister, Mrs. Mathilda Segelhorst of Taft that morning at the Good Samaritan hospital in Los Angeles. Mrs. Segelhorst had been ill for about 10 days. She was 46 years old and a native of Pennsylvania who came to California in 1909.

She was survived by her husband, A. L. Segelhorst; two children, Elaine, 20, who is a student at U. C. L. A., and August, 21, who is attending Cal Tech; another sister, Mrs. Ray M. Hale of Portersville, and a brother, Fred M. Van Ness of Tracy.

The funeral service was held this afternoon at the McAuley Mortuary chapel in Fullerton and interment followed at Loma Vista cemetery in that city.

Civic Pride Put To Test

LOS ANGELES (U.P.)—The local street car corporation has petitioned the State Railway Commission that it be exempted from the necessity of maintaining window wipers in street cars during the summer.

Roller Skater Perseveres

SIDNEY (U.P.)—Stanley Mockford has completed the 600-mile journey from Melbourne on roller skates.

United Concrete Gets $370,000 Paving Contract

Work is to be started August 10 by the United Concrete Pipe company of Torrance on the widening of Foothill boulevard between the Los Angeles county line and San Bernardino, it was announced this week. Amount of the contract is approximately $370,000.

Worrells Find Home Is Best

A couple of mockingbirds were chortling in a tree near their home when Mr. and Mrs. S. S. Worrell returned last week from an extensive vacation trip that took them thru Zion and Brice National parks and as far east as Lincoln, Neb.

"The combination of those 'mockers' and the peace, quiet and coolness surrounding our home gave me the biggest thrill I had during my three weeks' holiday. We saw a lot of territory, battled grasshoppers in the mid-west, marveled at the wonders of erosion in the two Utah parks and saw the results of five years' drought in the Mississippi basin. But I'll take Torrance for mine over any place I have ever seen," the veteran hardware dealer declared.

By protecting the radiator of his car with a couple of gunny sacks, Worrell was able to get through the 'hopper horde without difficulty but he found no pleasure in driving for miles with the large insects splattering on his windshield. "They were so large that I ducked every time I saw one coming at us from the front," he said.

Zion and Bryce national parks are beautiful and accommodations there are priced excessively high, Worrell reported. However, just outside the parks a tourist can obtain quarters for reasonable amounts. The roads are excellent and the Torrance travelers encountered no delay on account of the rains they ran into.

Speeders Caught By Cyclist

YERINGTON, Nev. (U.P.)—Nevada's only bicycling police chief, Fred J. Brooks, today advertised his motorcycle for sale because he never uses it. "It's too fast," Brooks explained. He catches his speeders by "slipping one over on them," noticing a speeder and then waiting until he comes back and giving chase on his bike.

Lomita Chamber to Hold Dinner Meet Friday

The entire membership of the Lomita Chamber of Commerce has been invited to a "get-together" dinner to be held in the Artisans hall tomorrow night at 6:30 o'clock. Hugo F. Schmidt is chairman of the entertainment committee and Secretary H. H. Halladay is in charge of arrangements for the affair. President E. M. Mosher will preside.

A number of topics connected with the continued growth and development of Lomita and surrounding territory will be presented for consideration following dinner. Mosher has announced the following committee appointments for the current year:

Streets and Highways: Halladay, John Holm and Roy E. Sidebotham; Membership: A. M. Gamby, William A. MacVeigh and A. C. Crook; Entertainment: Schmidt, Robert E. Gumm and J. E. Barrett; Parks and Recreation: Joseph Burkhard, Ray E. Townsend and Romley Harvey; Public Welfare: Marion Welch, A. L. Owens and George G. Key; Public Health and Sanitation: Dr. T. W. Bullock, Thomas B. Hill and Frank Laski; Retail Merchants' Affairs: A. F. Franklin, Earle Dourte and W. B. Puckett; Publicity, Advertising and Promotion: Coy F. Farquhar, A. J. Sonnichsen and H. W. Webb.

Young Lomitan Ends Training

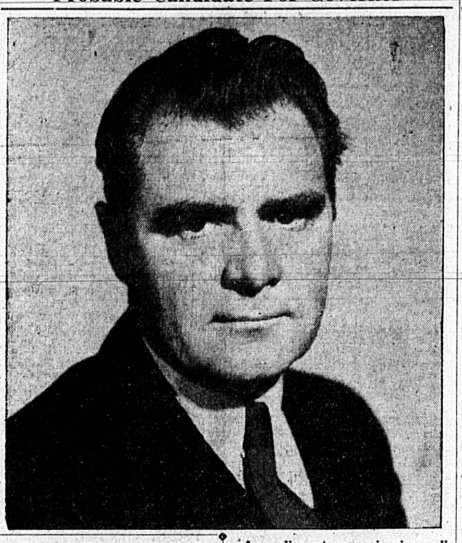
Parker Stahnke, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Stahnke of Lomita completed his course this week in the electrical school at San Diego naval training station. The graduation exercises for his class are to be held tomorrow and Stahnke will be on leave from August 10 to 20, during which time he expects to visit his parents.

At the end of his leave, the young man will be assigned to a naval vessel and he has applied for a berth on the U. S. S. Saratoga, with a battleship as secondary preference.

BOLD ROBBERY

A new tire and wheel were stolen from H. C. Thompson's car Friday night, the owner told police, while it was parked in front of his home at 1027 Cota avenue.

Probable Candidate For Governor



According to gossip in political quarters, Pierson M. Hall of Los Angeles, shown above, is a likely candidate for Governor or United States Senator on the Democratic ticket next year. Hall for the past four years has been United States Attorney for the district of Southern California and has made an enviable record. He is married and the father of two children.

Hall was principal speaker at the dedication of the new Torrance Postoffice building and is a personal friend of Postmaster Earl Conner. He has visited here a number of times.

Referendum On Measure Sought

Opponents of the Senate Bill 200, commonly known as the Garrison Act, have obtained more than 70,000 valid signatures on petitions intended to force a referendum vote at the November, 1938 election, according to W. M. Kerr, Registrar of voters.

The act authorizes the creation of a Public Utilities Commission within any city or county and authorizes the issuance and sale of revenue bonds to construct or acquire public utilities. Feature of the bill is that these bonds would be retired out of revenues instead of by taxation as done at present.

Private power companies are said to be strongly opposed to the new Act. Registrar Kerr said that petitions are ready to be sent to Sacramento containing 70,664 signatures. A total of 116,487 are needed to prevent the act from becoming effective until the referendum vote is taken at the next gubernatorial election, but opponents of the bill said they believe the other 45,000 could easily be obtained in the northern part of the state.

Broader Pension Laws to Bring More Cases

Approximately 7,000 applications for state old age aid under the liberalized laws to become effective next Sept. 1 are expected to be filed before October 1, charities officials estimated this week. Superintendent Rex Thomson said he wants to accept the applications as soon as possible for two reasons:

"It is impossible now to estimate with any accuracy the number of additional state aid cases for which this county will be responsible and to whom we must furnish aid by reason of the amendments to the State old age security law.

"Also, the county will be required under the new law to make complete investigation of all applications for aged aid within 90 days after the applications are received, and the supervisors must act upon the applications within this time, or give good reason to the state department of social welfare for any delay."

The large influx of new applications will be the third of its kind in less than two years. On Sept. 15, 1935, the age limit for aged relief was reduced from 70 to 65 years, and in 1936 the residence requirement was reduced from 15 to 5 years.

The new law will permit owners of property which has a value of less than $3,000 to receive the aid and retain full title to their property. In the past they could not receive aged aid without giving the county a lien on the property.

Soviet To Graduate 90,000

MOSCOW (U.P.)—This year Soviet universities will graduate more than 90,000 new specialists.