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# Torrance Herald

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and Lomita News

TWO  
SECTIONS  
14 PAGES  
THIS ISSUE

TWENTY-THIRD YEAR—No. 32.

SECTION A

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, AUGUST 19, 1937

PER COPY 5c

## Driver Wraps Car Around Pole in Fatal Crash

Carreering east around the long curve of Redondo-Wilmington boulevard at what police believed was a high rate of speed, Bon Orville Galpin, 24, of 705 Myrtle avenue Inglewood, literally wrapped his Plymouth coupe around a line pole 140 feet west of Hillworth avenue and died almost instantly at 5:30 o'clock last Sunday morning.

The pole was nearly snapped off by the impact and the car was so demolished that it took police 51 minutes to extricate Galpin's crushed body. That the victim attempted to avert the accident was shown by skid marks that extended 140 feet away from the crash scene. That he was speeding was evidenced from the fact that a 25-mile zone roadside sign which stood five feet in front of the line pole was snapped off and hurled for 49 feet thru the air where it struck an advertising sign-board, shattering the tin backing.

**Find Broken Bottle**  
Galpin was crushed in the seat, his head, shoulders and left arm hanging out of the door, his legs pinned to the front seat by the shattered instrument board and cowl. When the body was finally removed, police found a broken whiskey bottle on the seat.

"The seat was damp and the smell of whiskey was very noticeable," Officer Percy Bennett reported. The car was towed to Mullins' garage where it attracted many spectators. Galpin's body was taken to Stone and Myers' mortuary, from where it was sent to Inglewood for funeral services this week. No inquest was deemed necessary by authorities. The young man was survived by his parents, who live in Inglewood and a brother. He had been employed as an aluminumware salesman.

**Witnesses Accident**  
Investigation of the crash developed that the pole was struck by the car's left front wheel. The speedometer was stopped at 39 miles per hour, the ignition switch was on and the headlight switch was off.

Stanley Austin, 2318 237th street, who was delivering papers nearby, saw the accident. Mrs. Agnes Dannenhauer of 2500 Redondo-Wilmington boulevard, heard the crash and ran out of her house, which was just 200 feet from the scene to see the car wrapped around the pole and the driver's head hanging out of the door. Mr. Stephenson, a neighbor on Hillhurst street, also heard the crash and notified police.

## CITY REJECTS PUMP BIDS

A brief meeting was held by the city council last Thursday afternoon with Councilman James Hitchcock again presiding in the absence of Mayor W. H. Tolson, who was vacationing.

Leonard J. Young, assistant city engineer, summarized the contents of the bids opened August 10 on a new pump and equipment for the municipal water district. His recommendation that all bids be rejected in view of "previous quotations" was followed by the council.

A resolution was passed authorizing the water district to proceed with the purchase of the new equipment on a force account and on the open market.

The only other business transacted by the council was the adoption of a change order reducing the amount of cement in the plaster being applied in the new Civic Administration building adjoining the Civic Auditorium. Young told the council that by reducing the cement concrete it would be possible to eliminate much of the cracks now being found in other civic buildings. The reduction will also save the city \$5.84.

## Deadline Nears On Tax-Paying Minus Penalty

Less than 10 days remain to take advantage of the opportunity to pay delinquent taxes without penalties. The plan expires Sept. 1.

After that date, interest will be computed at the rate of seven percent per annum from July 1, 1936. The delinquency must be later than 1936 alone, however, else the provisions do not apply.

The 10-payment plan of paying delinquent taxes will remain in effect, however, until next April 20, this extension of time having been granted by the 1937 state legislature.

## School District Valuation Gains

Gain of approximately \$15,000,000 in the total assessed valuation of the Los Angeles city school district was reported this week in unofficial figures prepared by the county auditor's office. The new total, subject to equalization of public utility valuations, was given at \$1,472,748,640, as compared to \$1,456,076,000 last year. The area referred to is known as the elementary district.

Assessed valuation of the Los Angeles city high school district this year was unofficially placed at \$1,493,382,025, or about \$17,000,000 more than last year. Area of the high school district is larger than the elementary district.

**9-Cent Increase**  
Final figures for all school districts now are being assembled for the county auditor, with deductions or additions ordered by the county board of equalization, so that the new tax levies may be computed and ready to submit to the board of supervisors by Sept. 1, when the rates must be set by ordinance.

Increase of approximately nine cents in the tax levy of the Los Angeles school district has been estimated by school officials on the basis of unofficial figures on assessed valuations.

## County Library 25 Years Old

Completing its 25th year of service, the Los Angeles County Public Library now functions through branches located throughout unincorporated county territory and in Torrance and 23 other cities in the county. County Librarian Helen Vogleson reported to the Board of Supervisors this week.

"It has been proven that this plan of service, supported only by that part of the county which belongs to the library system and pays the special tax levied for the purpose, can be performed more economically than by many independent libraries," Miss Vogleson said.

"For example, the city of Pomona, which has a good small library, had a library tax rate last year of 24 cents per \$100 assessed valuation or \$1.36 per capita, while the County Library rate was five cents per \$100 or 56 cents per capita," Miss Vogleson declared. During the past fiscal year, ending June 30, the county library system issued 3,050,697 books.

**ADD TRAILER TRIALS**  
The recent legislature added to the woes of trailer motorists. It enacted a law which forbids overnight parking within 20 feet of the traveled portions of highways in unincorporated areas in the state.

## Expo Sites in Hands of L. A. Deciding Group

Whether the annual Los Angeles Trade Exposition site is to be north, south, east or west of the downtown district is, expected to be decided shortly, according to Ralph B. Lloyd, chairman of the Citizens Committee of Fifteen.

Yesterday was the deadline for submitting proposals and ideas for the permanent site. A citizens' committee in the southern end of the county has urged that the exposition be located there, approximately half way between the metropolitan district and the harbor district and adjoining Torrance on the north. This is known as the Figueroa-Vermont-Normandie Midway site.

West Los Angeles citizens on the other hand, were prepared to urge the selection of a site in the western side of the city, possibly one of the areas now devoted to a golf course and recently considered as a possible site for a motion picture studio. The Baldwin Hills, site of the Olympic Village in 1932, was also offered for a site, according to committee members.

While Griffith Park has been suggested by civic bodies in San Fernando valley as an ideal location, the provisions under which the park was deeded to the city by the late Colonel Griffith do not permit this, it has been explained. There is private land adjoining Griffith Park on the west at a high elevation, however, but this would not be as accessible as a site on more level ground, it is pointed out.

Elysian Park, overlooking the Atwater district from the west, is expected to be given serious consideration, it was learned. Areas to the east of Los Angeles are at a disadvantage because of the Los Angeles river channel and various railroad yards.

It is proposed to open the Exposition in 1942, or possibly before, and the city already has taken steps to "reserve" the date world wide.

## 'SOCIAL CLUB' RAIDED HERE

Swooping down on the recently incorporated Torrance Social club at 1951 Carson street early Sunday morning, officers of the county vice squad and Police Chief G. M. Calder arrested 10 men for gambling and confiscated all equipment—even the light globes.

The prisoners were released on \$50 bail each to appear Monday afternoon before Judge Frank Carrell of the Inglewood justice court at Moneta. There they pleaded guilty to the gambling charge and were fined \$5 apiece. Led by Deputy Sheriff C. J. Rittenhouse, the raiding party asserted that they found poker, blackjack, craps and other games in progress at the club quarters.

Three of the men arrested, Burt Sharron, 49; J. J. Hornback, 32, and Mark Jones, 51, all of this city, were listed as directors of the club when it was incorporated the latter part of July.

## MRS. HENDERSON, FIRST LIBRARIAN, SUCCUMBS HERE

Mrs. Isabel Sarah Torrance Henderson, this city's first librarian who served in that capacity for nearly 22 years, passed away at her home, 1804 Gramercy avenue, early Sunday morning.

Born in Buffalo, New York, Sept. 14, 1865, she was the daughter of Morgan W. Torrance and Mary Gibson. Mrs. Henderson was a graduate of Buffalo Normal school and schools in Europe. She married the late Dr. William Robert Henderson of Randolph, New York, on March 22, 1899, in her native city. She leaves one daughter, Mrs. Natt F. Jamieson.

Mrs. Henderson came west to Torrance in 1913 to visit her cousin, Jared Sidney Torrance, founder of this city. In those years before the start of the World War only a railway station and a few homes indicated a potential settlement in the surrounding bean fields. At once she saw the need for a cultural outlet in the budding community.

**Library is Memorial**  
With the assistance of her cousin, who gave a collection of books, Mrs. Henderson set up a circulating library in her Gramercy avenue home. With the growth of the city, the library was moved to a school building on Cabrillo avenue, to across El Prado from the Christian Science church, to the little shabby-girt cottage farther up El Prado.

Today, although her health did not permit her to continue the work she loved in the new

(Continued on Page 2-A)

## Health Service On Actual Basis

Contracts with various cities such as Torrance for furnishing health service must be based upon the actual cost of the work in that city, and not upon the average cost to the county health department, the county counsel's office ruled today.

The state law authorizing the county to contract with cities to furnish inspection service and to enforce state health requirements provides that this service shall be performed by the county at cost, or as near that figure as can be computed, county attorneys explained.

To attempt to make a contract on the basis of the average cost of performing a certain service for each person, or by the call, would not be proper, the opinion, requested by the health officer, stated.

## Civic Dance at Aud. Saturday

Another "Community Dance" will be held Saturday night in the Civic Auditorium, beginning at 8 o'clock. Sponsored by the City Recreation department, the dances have proven popular with the younger set here and many adults likewise have attended them. Dale Riley, Recreation supervisor, announces that the tickets will be 25 cents per person or 35 cents per couple. Ray Dietrich's 11-piece swing band will furnish the music.

## Tribute Offered in Memory of 'First Lady'

By DR. J. S. LANCASTER

I have known Mrs. Isabel Henderson, the cultured and gentle little lady who has just left us, for 22 years. In all that time I have considered her "The First Lady of Torrance."

As our librarian from the beginning of Torrance she has inspired many people to richer and happier lives by her advice and admonition in the matter of reading books. Before we entered the War she instigated the foundation of the Torrance Relief Society which organization has expended thousands of dollars in relief to needy persons in this community, with no overhead expense. In the earlier years she was prime mover in our Red Cross activities.

When I organized the Torrance Hospital Association several years ago before we had our hospital she was one of the original directors. Her steadfast loyalty and aid was a big factor in our obtaining our hospital.

Our community has been most fortunate in having such a woman as one of us and shares with her devoted family the great loss of her passing.

## Boy, 9, Admits Series of Thefts When Detained

With the detention of a nine-year-old boy in Wilmington Monday, police nipped a highly potential young criminal after his third theft in less than a week. The boy, who resided with his parents in a Western avenue auto court, was brought to the local police station for questioning and officers said he readily admitted the thefts.

He was accused of taking \$3 from a bank belonging to a Mrs. Terry in his home auto court, \$5 from a pocketbook he grabbed out of a car belonging to Frances Granger of Martina avenue, and the car keys from Mrs. Mary Sana's machine while it was parked on Marcelina avenue near Sartori on August 6. The keys and Miss Granger's pocketbook were recovered.

The latter was found by Ernest Ashton in the incinerator at the rear of his home. It had been tossed in there by the boy after he had removed the money. Inside the pocketbook were the "pink" slip to the Granger car, driver's license and other papers. The boy, who appeared little concerned for his thefts, was taken to the juvenile hall for further investigation and court proceedings.

## Pickets Resume Laundry Patrol; Strike Revived

Apparently amicably settled last Wednesday night after 76 days of picketing, arguing, fining and disturbing, the Torrance Laundry and Dry Cleaning company strike broke out anew to the amazement of the laundry management and the public on Monday morning. At that time, seven of the striking workers who had been re-hired by William Rojo, president of the laundry firm, on Thursday morning and who worked that day, Friday and Saturday again walked out and joined the revived picket line.

Today the marchers continued to stroll up and down in front of the Carson street plant and the laundry continued to operate with, according to Rojo, all the help we need. Leaders of the C. I. O. lodge of steel workers here who had informed The Herald last Wednesday night that the strike was "off" and the "settlement is satisfactory to both sides" remained silent this week while C. I. O. banners were again hoisted by some of the strikers.

**"Business As Usual"**  
The only change noted in the "strike picture" was the absence of the guards which patrolled the laundry site from May 29 to August 12. They were not re-employed, Rojo stated, because "I believe they won't be needed and the situation can be controlled by the local police department."

In view of the abrupt resumption of the walk-out, Rojo said that he would not engage in any further negotiations with the dissenting workers or their representatives. He indicated that he had adopted a different stand in ordering published in today's Herald an advertisement which assumes that, so far as the laundry is concerned, the strike is definitely a thing of the past and it will be "business as usual" at the plant.

"I acted in good faith in re-employing seven of the strikers with the start of the day's work last Thursday morning. They continued to punch the time-clock for the next three days. Then when Monday morning came they were again on strike," Rojo said. "I received a delegation from them Tuesday."

## WILL LEARN FATE FRIDAY

Granville Hollingshead, 83, found guilty late last week on charges of two counts of a statutory offense, was scheduled to be sentenced tomorrow in Los Angeles county superior court.

Hollingshead, who resided here 10 years, was tried by a jury on charges dating back to last July 2. He has been in the county jail in default of \$5,000 bail, and was held to answer July 7 by Torrance city court.

Ralph Deigh, former WPA school crossing guard here who was arrested on a morals charge last July 2, is scheduled to go on trial Wednesday of next week in Department 46. He pleaded not guilty recently.

## New Type Iron Ore Extraction Plant Building Near City

Construction of what is known as a "pilot plant" for development of a metallurgical process which engineers say may revolutionize Southern California ore reduction is under way in the 20,000 block on South Normandie avenue adjoining Torrance. Operations, The Herald learned yesterday, are expected to begin in about five weeks.

## Federal Building For Lomita In Congress Bill

Word was received today by Postmaster Birds Paddock that Lomita has been included in the current Federal Deficiency Bill for a \$70,000 new postoffice building.

While this does not assure construction of a Federal building in the adjoining community, it must still receive endorsement from Congress and the subsequent recommendation of postal officials, nevertheless the inclusion of the Lomita project in the bill is regarded as a forward step. A large share of the credit for placing Lomita's request in the congressional measure is due to Congressman Charles J. Cullen, of this district. Miss Paddock is expecting an inspector Saturday at the Lomita postoffice to review possibilities of extending rural route service in compliance with numerous requests. The Lomita postoffice has made several such extensions in the past year and its volume of business has shown a steady increase.

**Other communities included in the Deficiency Bill now before Congress for Federal buildings are Hermosa Beach, Manhattan Beach and Gardena, it is understood.**

## Chamber Plans Dinner Event

At a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce directorate with President E. M. Barber Monday afternoon, eight new members were received and plans were started for a community dedicatory dinner to celebrate the completion of the chamber's new headquarters in the Civic Administration building, now under construction adjoining the Civic Auditorium on El Prado.

New affiliates of the chamber are: Gaston Arcq, retail furniture dealer; Father Joseph Fitzgerald, pastor of the Catholic Church of the Nativity; Dr. W. A. Hoxie, dentist; Roy Stewart, manager of the Hollywood Riviera clubhouse; Cecil Smith, service station operator; John C. McCall, attorney; George Probert, owner of the Torrance Pharmacy; E. E. Murchison, manager of the Western Auto Supply store and Clara Lewis, owner of the Torrance Bakery.

Secretary L. J. Gilmeister was authorized to contact the city council to arrange for the dinner in the new civic building. Community leaders from adjoining cities will be invited to attend and there will be a special entertainment, according to tentative plans. The chamber directorate also authorized Gilmeister to proceed with an extensive housing survey.

He will make a study of surrounding communities which may be comparable in character to Torrance, such as Gardena, San Pedro, Inglewood, South Gate, Compton and Burbank, to determine their housing facilities. This will include reports on these cities' license for building, number of residences built during the past six months or a year, building costs and other data.

When finally accumulated this material is expected to show just how Torrance can proceed to increase its housing. The city council will be interviewed to determine what can be done to eliminate any pronounced barriers to home development here. The outside information, according to chamber leaders, should reveal any such deficiencies in Torrance. Large-scale home construction is held to be this city's paramount need at the present time.

Walter Gordon Clark of Los Angeles, prominent engineer, is in charge of the construction of an office and production building and an 87-foot tower, atop which is to be a metallurgical chamber with electrical equipment.

Iron ore from Southern California and Nevada sources is to be fed into this chamber at the top of the tower and, after being processed at various points in the tower, will reach the bottom as pure carbon free iron in honeycomb form, it is claimed.

**1,500 Tons Daily**  
President of the Clark Iron Corporation, and the industry is known, is Arthur Reynolds, former president of the Continental and Commercial bank of Chicago. The firm, which is a Nevada corporation, has been operating a laboratory to test its new reduction process, which eliminates the use of coke in Glendale for a number of years, it is understood.

Engineers for the Los Angeles department of building and safety issued the building permits for the tower, which will be 20 feet square and cost about \$400, and for the office and "pilot plant," 16 by 36 feet, costing \$800.

They learned, it is reported to The Herald, that the Clark Iron Corporation expects to develop its process so that a plant with a number of units like the one under construction could produce 1,500 tons of pure carbon-free iron a day—enough for all Pacific coast foundries.

**Tap Virgin Ore Sources**  
Launching of the project recalls the \$1,000,000 plant erected near the South Normandie street site of the ore reduction plant for the Hughes-Mitchell Processes company several years ago. This latter plant was to be used in refining ore by a new process but it failed to work on a large scale as it did in laboratory tests.

However, officials and engineers for Hughes-Mitchell are still working on their project. A recent inquiry at the plant brought the information that their efforts are making favorable progress but none of those interviewed would be quoted on future prospects at the present time.

It is understood that the Clark Iron Corporation is beyond the experiment stage with its metallurgical process, which has perfected the technique of the method which those familiar with the ore problems of the Southland claim will tap vast undeveloped sources of potential iron. These sources have long been known to mining men but because of the lack of coal—coke in Southern California they have been denied for industrial use.

## Fingerprint Class Opens Here Soon

A class in the science of fingerprint reading will be conducted shortly in Torrance by Lowell Hopkins, captain of the Redondo Beach police department. Captain Hopkins is president of the Southern California Association of Fingerprint Officers and an acknowledged authority on the subject.

"With the growing recognition of the advantages of fingerprint knowledge evidenced by the increasing number of endorsements being given to the idea by various service clubs, those desiring to become skilled in the science will find great opportunities await them," said Captain Hopkins.

Women as well as men are invited to join the Torrance fingerprint class, which will be limited in number. Those wishing to enroll should leave their names with The Torrance Herald, telephone 444, at once.

## Two-Way Radio Tests in Sheriff's Cars are Proving Successful No 'Dead-Spots' Found Where Messages Cannot be Sent from Patrols in This Area

Indicating important developments for improved efficiency in the Sheriff's department, experiments are being carried on in county territory adjoining Torrance and Lomita at the present time to test the practicability of two-way radio transmission for sheriff's patrol.

Captain Gregg of the Vermont sub-station and S.D. Sykes, radio technician, demonstrated the new equipment this week, prefacing their explanation of the possibilities inherent in the project which would have seemed a wild dream only a few years ago.

Suppose, they said, a radio car should be called to the scene of a serious accident -- as happens every day in the week. No matter what the hour nor how

desolate may be the spot where the accident occurs, the patrol car equipped with two-way radio transmission can summon aid of whatever kind is needed to the scene.

**50-Watt Transmitter**  
Or suppose the patrol car should be on the trail of a "hot" suspect. Keeping in constant touch with other patrol units and with developments as reported to the central station, the radio car can pursue the course on duty without loss of time or futile blind searching because of ignorance of last-minute developments. The possibilities of usefulness to the public that the sheriff's department serves are unlimited thru application of this 20th century miracle, to the problems of law enforcement.

**Ready for Use Soon**  
From this station go out the messages to the officers' cars carrying sending equipment, testing them over various areas for the efficiency of the sets they are carrying. Station W6XPA will be the official broadcasting station of the Sheriff's

department. Each car equipped now for testing the project carries a complete mobile transmitting and receiving equipment of 18 watt power. The transmitter set, of utmost compactness, fits into the luggage compartment of an ordinary sedan. Each car so equipped will have a regular call letter, governed by the Federal communications bureau. Each car will, however, be known by its regular number.

Test so far have proved that the cars can send with equal efficiency whether moving or stationary. At the present time the cars equipped with two-way transmission are engaged in testing throughout the county area in this district for any

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