



Altho the poker game in which Henry R. Clifton, right, wealthy English sportsman, dropped \$150,000 appeared to be a "raw deal," to give a visitor, the incident which is under investigation by the district attorney's office in Los Angeles may be settled by a "gentleman's agreement," it was reported today. Low Price, left, brother of Fanny Price, one of the four Americans Clifton accuses of having "taken him," said yesterday he intends to "put it up to the Englishman as a sporting proposition." The proposition was unnamed. Price is scheduled to give a deposition today regarding just what happened in a Long Beach hotel room. He claims the game was legal draw poker. No one has expressed sympathies to Clifton for his alleged heavy loss.

## Same Girls Win Two Local Essay Contests

Top literary honors in this city this year can be claimed by Miss Coral Lindeman, high school student who resides at 2227 Plaza del Amo. And runner-up for writing kudos is Miss Marian Spehger, another T.H.S. student who lives at 1307 Portola.

They won first and second awards in two essay contests held within the past two weeks. The latest accomplishment of the young writers was to capture the Air Mail essay contest, held by the local postoffice with the cooperation of the Torrance Retail Merchants' association and the high school.

In that contest, as well as the Fidae essay by the local American Legion Auxiliary, the names of all the student writers were not known by the judges until they had announced their decision. Each of the papers submitted in the two contests were given numbers by teachers and all identifying marks were erased.

For winning the Air Mail writing event, Miss Lindeman received a \$3 merchandise order and Miss Spehger a \$2 order for second place, good at any local store. The orders were provided by the merchants' group. Honorable mention was given Ruth Norman, 1728 Gramercy, and Arthur Woodcock, 1218 Annapola, by the judges, Scott R. Ludlow, Mrs. Dorothy Jamieson and Grover C. Whyte. There were 35 entries in the Air Mail essay contest.

Miss Lindeman has chances of winning additional awards for her literary efforts because both of her essays have been entered in the state and national Fidae and Air Mail contests.

## PSYCHOLOGIST HERE TONITE

Tonight at 8 o'clock H. Malcolm-Smith, noted psychologist, will appear at the Civic Auditorium on a special program for local residents, according to the Torrance Business and Professional Women's club, who is sponsoring his free lecture engagement. Malcolm-Smith is widely known as "success builder," having assisted thousands of ambitious men and women to discover the work they are best fitted for and coaching them to financial security.

The program tonight is designed to help people of all ages who are seeking harmony in the home, lasting friendships, better business ethics and financial security. According to Malcolm-Smith, "opportunity is greater today than at any time in the history of America, for those who are ready for it. I think America is now ready and willing to follow intelligent direction. All the average person needs is one good idea put into practice, to bring the comforts and a fair share of the luxuries of life."

He says he will cover many of the important secrets which brought success to more than 500 of America's most successful leaders in his talk tonight. The Business and Professional Women's club plans to attend the meeting in a group and members urge every local resident to be present to hear this unusual speaker.

## Drunk Driver Escapes Injury In Car Plunge

Police officers called to "save a dying man pinned underneath a wrecked car" Sunday night are more convinced than ever that "God keeps a special watch over drunks and children."

Rushing to the scene of the accident—the sharply pitched Hawthorne avenue extension ascending into the Palos Verdes Estates—the officers found M. D. Gutierrez, 39-year-old Gardena, thrown clear of the wrecked machine. He was very much intoxicated but unhurt. Fortunately he had swerved his car to one side of the road where the fall was not as great as the other.

Gutierrez, when sober, was fined \$50 or 25 days in the county jail for driving while intoxicated. He chose the jail sentence.

## Deputy Assessor Here Two More Thursdays

A deputy from the county assessor's office was at the Chamber of Commerce today to assist local residents in filling out their personal property statements and to help veterans file their annual claims for tax exemption.

The official will return next Thursday afternoon, May 12, and again on May 19, to perform this service from 3 to 5 o'clock in the afternoon. Those desiring such assistance should call at the chamber building on El Prado instead of making the trip to the county office in Los Angeles.

## Taxpayers Are 'Catching Up'

Delinquent taxes amounting to \$632,333 were paid into the Los Angeles county treasury last month by property owners redeeming their tax-deeded property under the 10-payment plan, or in some instances for cash.

The county tax collector's office reported this week. This compares with \$764,000 for April of last year, but the delinquency is dropping steadily each year, so that taxpayers are actually "catching up," it was explained.

## Shidler Qualifies for State Bar

San Francisco news dispatches Tuesday morning reported that John A. Shidler, son of the late Dr. George P. Shidler of this city, had successfully passed the state bar examinations and is now qualified to practice as an attorney. The report also disclosed that Hiram Johnson III, grandson of the U. S. Senator, had also passed the bar tests. Attorney Shidler indicated yesterday that he may start his law practice here.

## C. P. Roberts Publisher, Dies in Wilmington

Death wrote "30"—traditional newsmen's ending mark to the career of Claude P. Roberts, Wilmington publisher and postmaster, founder of the Lomita News Letter and former owner of The Torrance Herald, shortly after noon Monday at a Wilmington nursing home. With the veteran newsmen at his death were his wife, Mrs. Dortha Roberts; his son, Preston G. Roberts; and daughter, Mrs. Claudia Shell. He was 60 years of age and had been confined to bed since shortly after the first of the year.

The funeral service will be held tomorrow (Friday) afternoon at 2:30 o'clock at the Calvary Presbyterian church in Wilmington, corner of Marine and "L" streets. Rev. J. W. Tweedie, pastor of that church, will officiate.

Mr. Roberts' newspaper career took him throughout the north and southwest Pacific states. He was named postmaster at Wilmington in March, 1936, by President Roosevelt on recommendation of his friend, the late Congressman Charles J. Coffey.

He was a charter member and a past-president of the Wilmington Rotary club.

Here in 1923-23

He was born in Indiana in 1880 and went to high school in Chicago and then to Valparaiso University in the Indiana city of that name. His first newspaper job was with the Spokane (Wash.) Review where he also covered mining news which took him to the Rocky Mountain News in Denver and then to Lander, Wyo. He first came to California in 1902 and was on the editorial staff of the San Bernardino Sun for three years.

Then he returned to the mining country of Arizona, went to Oregon and returned to this state in 1912 when he was a printer for the San Pedro News and Pilot. In 1918 he purchased a small print shop in Lomita and issued his Lomita News Letter and later the Torrance Enterprise. Successful in that venture he purchased The Herald from B. M. Knutson in March, 1922.

Mr. Roberts discontinued his Enterprise but continued to issue The Lomita News Letter and The Torrance Herald as separate papers, both of which he sold to the present publisher in June, 1923. They were later consolidated and the Lomita print equipment moved to Torrance.

Following the disposal of his Torrance and Lomita papers, Roberts was in Long Beach for

## Gets Injunction Against Pickets

Women pickets who had paraded in front of Joe Klink's Quality food markets on Sartori and Torrance boulevards for the past month disappeared from their solitary patrols Tuesday after Superior Judge Emmett K. Wilson granted the store owner a temporary injunction banning the marchers. The action is returnable May 11 when Klink, thru his attorney, Kenneth B. Hughes of this city, will ask to have the picket-ban made permanent.

The women pickets took over the store fronts' march when men pickets representing the A. F. of L. store clerks' and butchers' unions asserted they were notified by local C. I. O. leaders to "serenade" Klink's workers. It is understood, however, as members of the C. I. O. union.

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The fossils are believed by

## Youth Has Fling in Boys' Week Observance Here

### SATURDAY IS FINAL DAY

Youth was having its fling—in an authorized manner—this week here as Boys' Week continued to hold the interest of a large proportion of the young men enrolled at Torrance high school. The local observance of the national "Week" got off to a good start, despite the rain, last Saturday when 21 students served as "guest-managers" in as many business houses here.

Today boys are manning various civic offices and positions to mark Boys' Day in Citizenship. The complete list of young officials-for-the-day is published in the adjoining column.

Tomorrow, Friday, is Boys' Day in Loyalty and Legionnaire. James H. Scott has arranged a program based on a demonstration in flag etiquette. This will be held at the high school for all boys.

Friday is also Boys' Day in Safety and in Radio. A special open-air demonstration of traffic safety has been planned by Motor Sergeant Ernest Ashton, with the approval of Police Chief G. M. Calder, to show students how accidents can be averted and what to do to assist traffic officers in event of a smash-up. This will be staged on a street near the high school. The fire truck will also be used in the demonstration to show how careless motorists interfere with the fire department's work.

Civic Session Saturday. Regarding radio, Instructor Francis Waddingham is arranging a tour of some Los Angeles broadcasting stations for boys interested in this industry.

A meeting of about 50 boys at the Chamber of Commerce Saturday morning will conclude Boys' Week here. At that session, Chamber Secretary L. J. Gilmeister will discuss a number of civic matters such as the Torrance Municipal Water District, Metropolitan Water District, city organization and duties of various officials, the relationship of the Chamber of Commerce to

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## McGinnis Hopes Folks In India Won't Worry

Roger McGinnis, who was injured in an automobile-truck accident with four other gas company workers two weeks ago, has recovered from his injuries and is returning to work in a few weeks. McGinnis' parents are in Jamshedpur, India, and because they subscribe to The Herald, he was deeply concerned over the report published in last week's edition about his accident.

"The paper will arrive in India before my letter explaining I wasn't badly hurt and mother will worry about me," McGinnis said. "I'm getting along fine now and I hope my folks will see this story in The Herald and won't be concerned about my health."

## Bible Class Will Honor Mothers

A special Mothers' Day program will be conducted by the Torrance Men's Bible class Sunday morning at 9:30 o'clock in the Boy Scout hall on El Prado. Attractive bouquets will be presented to the oldest and youngest mothers attending and there will be special music.

position Park museum for further study. The extreme age of the remains, geologists point out, may refute the theory that this region of the world is very young so far as geological ages go, for the gargantuan mammals of the miocene age to have left traces of inhabitation. Specimens already discovered near Waverly and examined lend credence to the belief that the Palos Verdes diggings may be the largest combined prehistoric water and land mammalia remains known to science.

Studying the bone specimens with unusual interest today are Dr. Chester Stock, California Institute of Technology paleontologist; Dr. W. P. Woodring, U. S. geological survey expert, and S. Maus Purple, consulting engineer. Subterranean disturbances millions of years ago, which formed some 14 laminated plateaus in the giant oyster bed where the remains were discovered, have forced the miocene strata to the surface, they explained.

## City Administration is in Youthful Hands Today



WILBUR FRANKLIN "Rizzoner" and

The Acting Mayor of Torrance had no trouble in stepping into Mayor William H. Tolson's shoes this morning; they both were the same size. But the Acting Police Chief would have been lost in Police Chief G. M. Calder's brogans.

Wilbur Franklin, mayor-for-the-day, took to the chief municipal executive's post like a duck to water. After all, running a city and running a bunch of students is similar in many ways, and Wilbur is president of the Torrance high school student body. He is specializing in agricultural work and is a member of the Key club. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Fred Franklin of 3658 236th street.

Lee Roy Benner, police chief-for-the-day, announced he was determined to put down any crime wave that may break over the city during his tenure. He took keen interest in inspecting the jail, the first thing to be certain it was large enough to hold all the criminals he would like to put behind bars.

## CONSTRUCTION SOARS HERE

A rush of applications for building permits—five of them for wooden oil derricks valued at \$5,600 each—advanced the April total of new construction here to \$81,225 when the books at the city engineer's office were closed last Saturday. The amount of building permits granted in April, 1937, was only \$21,690.

The current construction year is now within \$40,098 of equaling the all-time record building year of 1927, when building to the amount of \$2,119,923 was recorded here. The four-month total to date stands at \$2,078,825.

Nine homes were started here during the past month. Other construction included one home alteration and repair job, two non-residence alterations, eight garages, one radio antenna tower for the new CBS-KNX transmitting station at 190th and Hawthorne two new factory buildings and 10 wooden oil derricks. The comparative monthly building totals are:

	1938	1937
January	\$1,811,950	\$41,030
February	\$2,400	11,845
March	154,250	24,155
April	81,225	21,690
Total	\$2,078,825	\$98,720

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## OIL BOOM DRAWS MOVIE MEN; SIX NEW RIGS START

While the South Torrance quest for richer, high-gravity oil gained in activity, chiefly in the sector lying off Pennsylvania avenue south of Sepulveda to 234th street, newsreel photographers with sound trucks and in an airplane toured the booming field during the week to record derrick doings.

## Library Contract Is Approved By Supervisors

Contract between the city of Torrance and the Los Angeles county public library, by which the county agrees to furnish library service here during the coming fiscal year, was approved this week by the board of supervisors.

Payment of \$7,080 is to be made to the county for the service, the county to furnish all books and library staff. More than half the cities in the county have similar contracts with the county, as it has the advantage of offering a much wider selection of reading matter to patrons of the library.

## Old Drainage Plan Revived

A comprehensive plan for solving the drainage problems of the Nigger Slough area, submitted to the board of supervisors 12 years ago but about which little or nothing has been done, according to Flood Control Engineer C. H. Howell, today had been recommended by him to the present board for "careful study."

The report, prepared by Olmsted Brothers, consulting specialists of Boston, at the request of the then board, suggested that whatever projection work was projected, should be undertaken before costly improvements had been constructed in the area lying between Nigger Slough and the sea.

Among other regulations, the report suggested study to determine and laws to fix minimum elevations for proposed streets and houses or industrial buildings. Howell was no chief engineer of the board at that time, having been appointed some three years ago.

## Carnival Queen Election Friday

There's a lot of electioneering going on at the high school these days in which seven attractive young ladies are deeply concerned. One of them will be elected queen of the annual T. H. S. Carnival tomorrow and she will be crowned when the gala entertainment is presented May 20. Candidates for "Her Majesty" are from the senior and A-11 home rooms.

"Hayseed gathering" will be the theme of the 1938 Carnival and the committee in charge. Mrs. Marjorie Eischen, faculty director; Wilbur Franklin, Marjorie Alverson, Marjorie Page, Reggie Trotter and Harry Bell, promise it will be "bigger and better than ever." They plan to have some 37 different booths, concessions and shows.

Weston Leech is generalissimo of the parade to be held on the afternoon of the entertainment. Nearly every student is participating in the arrangements for the event, the proceeds of which will go to enrich the student body fund.

## Art Students View Buildings

Students in Miss Ada Chase's Art Appreciation class continued their project of studying local sources of material by inspecting the civic center buildings yesterday morning. They sketched details of the city hall, auditorium and Chamber of Commerce buildings and later were shown the dining and kitchen facilities in the latter structure.

The class, according to Miss Chase, has done original research work at the county health center, local furniture stores and inspected several other Torrance buildings this term.

The movie men "shot" a large number of scenes throughout the field, which has become known as the most active producing area in the Los Angeles basin and the second leading field in the state. The Rio Bravo field near Bakersfield holds top California oil honors at the present time.

Six new derricks, three of them steel structures, were started during the past week as oil firms extended their exploration of the deeper sands lying 5,000 or more feet below the surface. Wooden derricks were being erected for Dan Coplin and associates of Huntington Beach at 232 231st; M. C. Albertson Oil company at 2408 227th, Star Petroleum of Santa Fe Springs at 2340 231st.

800,000 Fire Loss

Superior Oil lost no time in clearing away the debris of the fire April 27 which destroyed its derrick on the Steinhilber lease and caused a loss that now is estimated to run as high as \$800,000. Everything but the pumps were lost in the night blaze. A steel derrick has been raised over the burned out property and workmen are now starting to drill anew. Superior suffered two major reversals a week ago when the fire brought an end to efforts being made to locate 1,500 of open hole. The original penetration had been lost after cementing.

Two more steel derricks are being erected for the Texas company of Los Angeles at 2455 230th and 2332 229th. Both are understood to be grass-roots ventures. C.C.M.O. is repairing and extending its wooden rig at 2411 Sepulveda.

McDonald and Burns Moore No. 3 is holding its field-record production of 600 barrels of 27 gravity, cutting less than one percent, according to reports received by The Herald. This well is located at 229th and Pennsylvania and was bottomed at 5,629 feet. Jack Doyle's well on the lease he obtained from Neil H. Anderson at 229th near Narbonne is said to be going strong at better than 200 barrels.

Woolner on Pump

Among the other noteworthy developments in the South Torrance field during this week were:

Patton-Conway is opening its fee well on 233rd between Narbonne and Pennsylvania and is rigging up and setting a boiler. Grubbs and Main are going in on the Woodyard Lynn No. 1 on 231st west of Pennsylvania and will re-drill. The derrick has been repaired and the draw works are in.

MacDonald and Burns are very active about their holdings in the sector around Pennsylvania; George W. Camp and the Woolner Oil company are reported to be readying equipment for new projects.

Woolner Oil's No. 1 came in Monday, producing around 100 barrels. They are reported having sand trouble and the gun-perforation was not the success it should have been.

Hits Crown Block. Gun-perforating on the Emerald Oil's fee lease Tuesday released an unexpected amount of pressure. The well got away from 2 and 4 o'clock in the afternoon but before and after those hours the results are wet. He believes the tide may have something to do with this periodic oil production.

The old Timeo well, Cady of Washington, the operator, at 229th and Narbonne has been deepened 350 feet from its first deepening to 4,750 and was completed Tuesday. Taping is now being set. The C.C.M.O. is preparing to

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## Fossils, 25 Million Years Old, Excavated Near Here

Ancient Bed of Pre-historic Bones May Upset Theory About Region's Geological Age

Discovery of some large fossils, encased in chunks of sandstone excavated from the Palos Verdes hills near Waverly has aroused intense speculation among paleontologists, geologists and students of past ages.

Their eagerness to penetrate the mysteries of the fossils of bones, said to be in excellent condition, is understandable to the laymen when it is understood that the remains threaten to explode the present theory of Southern California's geological youthfulness.

experts to be from the miocene age of 25 millions of years ago. Included in the find were sharks' teeth from man-eaters estimated at 175 feet long, perfectly preserved fish matrices, sections of vertebrae eight inches in diameter.

Sea and Land Combined. The fossils were first discovered several months ago while workmen were digging for flagstone material to be used in garden beautification. The ancient bones are said to be in excellent condition and the choicest specimens are now being transported to the Ex-

position Park museum for further study.

The extreme age of the remains, geologists point out, may refute the theory that this region of the world is very young so far as geological ages go, for the gargantuan mammals of the miocene age to have left traces of inhabitation. Specimens already discovered near Waverly and examined lend credence to the belief that the Palos Verdes diggings may be the largest combined prehistoric water and land mammalia remains known to science.

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