



The bodies of Noble Huffstetter, 35, and Robert Boes, 22, are shown above in the foreground of this picture as they were found a few moments after their plane crashed near San Jose, Cal. Huffstetter was en route home to a birthday party. In Boes' pocket was found an uncashed pay check—dated Friday, the 13th.

Celebration Saturday Opens Foreign Trade Week at L. A. Harber

Postponed because of storms which recently swept this area, the 1938 Harbor Day celebration will be held Saturday, May 21, as the opening thriller for Foreign Trade Week, May 22-28, inclusive.

The program will reach its climax with a simulated night bombing attack upon San Pedro by a fleet of National Guard planes. Giant searchlights at Ft. McArthur and on battleships anchored in the harbor will sweep the skies as batteries of anti-aircraft guns theoretically attempt to beat off the attack.

The Foreign Trade Week program will be officially inaugurated Monday when a monster celebration is staged at Los Angeles Long Beach harbor. Shrieking sirens on land, deep blasts from vessels at anchor in the harbor and the drone of airplanes overhead will announce the arrival of visiting dignitaries and the formal opening of the celebration.

The bedlam of noise will be the signal for the harbor to leap into a scene of feverish activity. Fireboats will go into action with fantastic streams of water pouring from their nozzles, speed boats will roar away from their moorings, tugs will churn the water of the bay while sea-going liners break out their gayest array of flags.

Meanwhile, the adjoining docks will also be the scene of frenzied activity as huge displays of export and import products are thrown open for public inspection and specially arranged demonstrations of cargo handling are held for the benefit of more than 1,000 Southern California manufacturers who will attend the celebration as guests of honor.

The cargo handling demonstration is expected to prove to be one of the highlights of the day. An immense crane with magnetic lift, dock jetties, lift trucks and lift boards will be brought into use to demonstrate the efficiency with which cargoes are handled with the aid of modern equipment.

Cities and towns throughout the Southland have been invited to send official representatives to the celebration.

Mother Pays Fine Assessed Son, 33, for Drunk Driving

Fifty dollars passed from a trembling woman's hand into the city treasury Monday morning while a bare-footed man of 33 years stood before City Judge Robert Lessing's desk with a bowed and bloody head.

The woman, who kept biting her lip to keep from crying, was the man's mother. Judge Lessing had just sentenced him to pay the \$50 fine in penalty for being a drunken driver.

Frederick Douglas Pine of Harbor City had been found badly bruised beside the wreckage of his car on Highway 101 early Sunday night. Evidently he had turned the machine suddenly and it toppled over. Fortunately no other car was involved but Pine, homeward bound from a convivial fishing trip minus his shoes and socks, was "very drunk," according to police who were called to the accident scene.

"Had a Couple Beers"
The officers rushed him to Torrance Memorial hospital where he was treated for some

Alumni Reunion is Feature of H. S. Carnival

In addition to its many student features, the annual high school carnival tomorrow (Friday) afternoon and evening will also be the center of interest for many an "old grad" of Torrance high. The recently re-organized alumni association has announced a "homecoming day" for the carnival and there will be a special alumni registration booth in the gymnasium.

A baby show from 2 to 3 o'clock in Room 106, with several prizes, will be held for the graduates and Mrs. Stella Young and Mrs. Marjorie Eischen, faculty members, are assisting President Tommy McNeil and other alumni officers in arranging for a welcome to all former students who attend the carnival.

Walteria Church to Build Soon

Construction of a new church building, 42 by 20 feet in size, is expected to start shortly at the corner of Park and Newton streets in Walteria for the First Fundamental Baptist church of that community, it was learned this week.

The church organization recently purchased two lots at that location and the former Bell store which occupies one of the plots. The store building will be incorporated in the church structure, it is understood. The church has been renting the Baker place next to the Walteria postoffice. Mr. Anderson, a clerk in the Los Angeles postoffice, is the pastor.

'AL' CURLER DIES HERE AT AGE OF 46

A well-known resident here for more than 21 years, Harold E. "Al" Curler, passed away last Thursday at his home, 2011 Gramercy. He had been ill for the past seven months and was 46 years of age. Mr. Curler was active in civic affairs, although he never sought public office, and he had a great many friends who regret his untimely death.

The funeral service was held Saturday at Stone and Myers' chapel with members and the chaplain of the Elks lodge at Redondo Beach conducting the rites. Interment followed at Roosevelt Memorial park.

Mr. Curler came here in September, 1916. His father then lived in Lomita and he suggested to his son that he could find work at the Union Tool plant. "Al" Curler did. He was employed there for 10 years in charge of the foundry as night foreman. He was highly complimented for his services, especially during war-time, and when the Union tool plant was engaged in rushing out government orders. After leaving his position with the tool plant, Mr. Curler engaged in the pool and billiard hall business at 1211 El Prado for the next decade.

He was born in Los Angeles and educated in San Francisco. As a youth he was employed by transfer companies in Los Angeles and San Diego. He was survived by his widow, Mrs. Laella Curler; two sons, Albert E. and Fred H.; his mother, Mrs. Emma W. Curler, of San Francisco; his father, F. H. Curler of Los Angeles; a brother, Robert W. Curler of El Monte and a sister, Miss Marcia Curler of Los Angeles.

First Flight Letter is on P.O. Display

Twenty years ago this week in Reading, Pa., a young school girl received a letter. Young school girls have been receiving letters for years and still do but this particular missive is now worth more than \$25 and is on display at the Torrance post office.

It was mailed May 15, 1918, and was included in the first shipment of air mail in U. S. history. Mrs. Marie A. Boas-Benson who lives at 720-B Anapola was the recipient and she has treasured it for the past two decades.

This newspaper story about that first air mail letter is not the first it has caused. The day Marie Boas received it a reporter called to interview the girl whose "boy friend" in Washington, D. C., flew his communication thru the air in that first flight trip to New York from the nation's capital by way of Philadelphia.

Prophetic Paragraph
"You better keep that letter, young lady," the reporter said, "some day it will be valuable." The newspaper's prediction came true five years ago when Marie Boas, now Mrs. Benson, learned that letters bearing the distinctive first flight cachet of May 15, 1918, were catalogued at \$25 each.

There is one prophetic paragraph in Mrs. Benson's letter that is worthy of reproduction: "Am going to try to give this note a ride in an aeroplane on the opening day of the air mail service which should be tomorrow, principally for the novelty of the thing and incidentally hurry it along some. Thought maybe you would like to be able to say in his or her aerial limousine, that you received a letter... in that way when aeroplanes were first used to carry mail."

Improved Mail Service Goes In Effect Today

Providing an improved mail service for local residents, industries and business firms, an additional incoming mail train being arriving here today at 1 o'clock in the morning from Los Angeles, allowing for an afternoon delivery.

The outgoing mail train which formerly left here at 6:14 p. m., has been advanced to 6:26 p. m. This gives residents and firms a chance to get mail out up to 6:15 when the mail closes.

Why Not Seven Queens?



Four blondes, a brunette, a black-tressed and an auburn-haired maid, ranging from 16 to 18 years, are the chief interest at the high school today. One of them will be crowned Queen of the annual carnival following a procession from the school library to the gym tomorrow night at 7:30. The candidates for Her Majesty, shown above, are: Standing, left to right: Donna Jo McCutcheon, A12, 5 ft. 3 in., age 17, blonde with brown eyes; Martha Hoke, B12, 5 ft. 4 in., age 18, another blonde but with blue eyes; Evelyn Vincent, A11, 5 ft. 1 in., age 17, still another blonde with blue eyes. Sitting, left to right: Ruth Duncan, A12, 5 ft. 4 in., age 17, the fourth blonde whose eyes are blue; Helen Smith, A12, 5 ft. 3 in., age 17, auburn hair, dark brown eyes; Euphrasia Taylor, A11, 5 ft. 3 in., age 16, brown hair, brown eyes, and Georgina Tiffany, B12, 5 ft. 1 in., age 16, black hair, blue eyes.

Air Mail Setting New Record Here

"We're in the vanguard of Southern California cities which are setting new records for air mail patronage this week," Postman Earl Conner jubilantly announced yesterday as National Air Mail Week swung into its closing rush.

"The cooperation of local residents, business, professional and industrial firms has been nothing less than marvelous. We are handling more air mail this week than we have checked in and out in months."

Postmaster Conner returned last Sunday from Elsinore, where he had been undergoing special treatments for a rheumatic ailment, to assist his assistant Lou Deinger in handling the rush of red, white and blue edged envelopes bearing the special cachet for this city (see cut) and for hundreds of other communities throughout the nation.

The Torrance cachet, it could be observed in comparison with other municipal emblems, is one of the most distinctive of all advertising designs now speeding thru the air to destinations in nearly every country on the face of the globe. It is up-to-the-minute—the CBS-KXN radio transmitting tower clearly showing on the outlined map of Torrance area.

Stamp Club Assistants
Postmaster Conner has returned to complete his treatment at the Riverside county spa, confident that his workers here are expeditiously handling the record amount of air mail.

Several thousand of the special "covers" or cacheted envelopes were distributed by mailmen along their routes here Monday morning and additional supplies of the emblem-printed envelopes and air mail stamps are available at many stores and all schools here.

One of the most enthusiastic local groups cooperating with the postoffice department is the (Continued on Page 2-A)

"Honor World War Dead and Aid Living Victims"

—Purpose of Legion Auxiliary's Poppy Day Sale here May 27

Preparations for the observance of Poppy Day, Friday, May 27, are being completed by Bert S. Crossland, Unit of the American Legion Auxiliary. Audie Modglin, president, announced today. Arrangements are being directed by Bess Myers, chairman of the Poppy Day committee, assisted by a large corps of workers. Plaps are being developed to distribute memorial poppies in every part of the city.

"Honor the World War dead and aid the war's living victims, is the meaning of the memorial poppy," said Mrs. Modglin. "The poppy, which bloomed so strikingly among the trenches and battle graves in France and Belgium, became the flower of the dead during the war. Ever since the war it has been worn in all English-speaking countries annually as an individual tribute to the men who gave their lives in the conflict."

"The little red flower takes added significance from the fact that it is made by the war disabled, and that it contributes to the welfare of the disabled men and the dependent families of

U. S. CLAIMS TIDELAND OIL IN CALIFORNIA

Action by the House judiciary committee in approving a resolution Tuesday claiming for the U. S. government submerged oil deposits off the California coast, estimated by some geologists to be worth at least a billion dollars, wrote a new chapter in the voluminous record of claims and counter-claims of ownership of the rich tidelands.

The resolution, which is backed by the Navy and Interior departments, gave oil operators in this state much food for thought this week. The Navy seeks the tidelands to increase its oil reserves. Although vast oil deposits are found under the ocean beds of the Texas and Louisiana coasts, the resolution was limited to California.

This state claimed ownership of the tidelands during the past 20 years by reason of the fact that at the time the state's entry into the union it did not specifically include the beaches. Municipalities fronting on tidewater, especially Long Beach and Huntington Beach, claim proprietary rights by reason of powers claimed to be granted them by the state.

Directs U. S. Suit
The House resolution now claims title to the oil deposits, declares them essential for maintenance of the navy and reserves, and sets aside all deposits as naval oil reserves. It declares that the right of the Federal government to take the oil found under the ocean is "an attribute of sovereignty, paramount and exclusive."

Representative Tolan, Democrat of California, bitterly fought the resolution. He informed the committee that Attorney-General U. S. Webb of this state protested against the proposed action and called attention to the huge drilling operations now being carried on off the California coast.

The resolution would direct the attorney general to bring suit against oil operators who are now taking oil from lands between the low water mark and the three-mile limit. Representative Hobbs, sponsor of the resolution, declared that some 80 companies are now drilling on these submerged lands.

Assistant Secretary of the Navy Charles Edison and Secretary of Interior Ickes both recommended the legislation. Edison, in his report, pointed to shrinking California oil reserves. He declared that it is essential for the navy, in a period of world unrest, to be assured of adequate oil supplies.

Dog Quarantine Upheld; Rules Judged Legal

Back into the dog-house went all canines of Los Angeles city and county yesterday when the California State Board of Health ruled that dog quarantine regulations placed in effect by city and county health officers to prevent the spread of rabies were legal. He therefore sustained a demurrer to the suit which had been brought by the "Tailwagger Foundation" to enjoin officials from enforcing the quarantine regulations.

The judge's action, in effect, threw the case out of court, in as much as he sustained the demurrer without leave to amend. The suit, for the injunction, therefore, cannot be brought to trial.

At the same time Judge Wilson dissolved a temporary restraining order which he had previously issued and which had until today, prohibited city and county officials from enforcing the quarantine regulation. These require that all dogs be confined within an enclosure and taken out only on a leash.

Want New Name for Student Dances

"Student Swing" "Torrance Trip" "Happy Hop." Those are just three of the suggested names for the regular Friday night dances for students sponsored at the Civic Auditorium by the Coordinating Council. A contest is in progress to find a suitable name for the dances and, according to Dale Riley, who announced the prize event, the deadline is Saturday night.

All name entries are to be turned in to him or left in his care at the city hall. A prize will be awarded the writer of the best dance name May 27.

Trouble Awaits Boys Damaging New Residences

Local police are determined to "make an example" of any youngster caught damaging new homes under construction. During the past several weeks several such strictures have been handed by boys wantonly destroying parts of the buildings and local contractors and owners have appealed for additional protection.

Any boy found causing damage to new buildings will be turned over to juvenile authorities for full prosecution. Officers stated this week. Parents are advised to caution their offspring about this malicious form of so-called amusement.

Lomita, Gardena On P. O. List

Lomita and Gardena are included in the list of 16 communities in this area which may secure new postoffice buildings from funds provided in the new spending-lending bill introduced in Congress by the House Appropriations committee this week. It was learned in dispatches from Washington.

Lomita is tabbed for a \$70,000 building and Gardena is on the list for a \$75,000 structure. These are included in some 152 California postoffice buildings in the list of projects eligible for construction under the \$60,000,000 appropriation for new Federal structures.

The Postmaster General and Secretary of the Treasury will select from the list of 152 eligible post office projects those actually to be constructed. Nor is construction to be confined to the list included in the measure, the two department heads having authority to add other projects.

Other postoffices in this area eligible for the new buildings are: Avalon, Balboa, Bellflower, Brea, El Segundo, Garden Grove, Hermosa Beach, Hynes, Laguna Beach, La Habra, Manhattan Beach, Newport Beach, Norwalk and Terminal Island.

Boy Injured in Beach Cliff Fall

A 40-foot fall down the beach cliff one-half mile south of Hollywood Riviera clubhouse Sunday night resulted in a broken wrist, fractured shoulder and collar bones for 10-year-old Neil Johnson of Los Angeles.

The boy was enjoying an outing at Torrance beach with his sister and a cousin and while climbing down the cliff lost his footing. Neil's friends were unable to remove him from where he landed and sent in a call for help to the Redondo police department who notified the local officers.

Percy Bennett, motorcycle officer, responded and with the aid of Redondo police, carried the injured boy a half mile down the beach to where they could get him up to the road. He was rushed to Redondo-Hermosa hospital for treatment and later was removed to his home.

CAIR AERIAL STOLEN
A telescope type radio aerial was stolen from D. McAllister's car last Thursday night, according to police. The owner lives at 1824 Cabrillo.

Higher Percentage of Taxes Paid This Year

Final collections on current taxes disclosed this week that a higher percentage was paid this year than last year, according to H. L. Byram, county tax collector. The exceptionally favorable showing was not expected early in the year, due to adverse business conditions affecting some of the city's larger taxpayers.

Byram announced that 93.40 percent of this year's general levy was collected, as compared with only 92.81 percent of last year's levy. In dollars, the county, on behalf of itself and all but six of the 44 incorporated cities, collected \$108,895,000, as compared with \$97,316,000 a year ago.

MATTOON LEVIES BASIS FOR VITAL TEST SUIT

The payment of a huge sum in delinquent taxes and the return of thousands of pieces of

Oil Hunt Driving South

Lease Scouts Active Near Lomita Line; Field 'Spotty'

"They're going farther south and west!"

This was the word which flashed from property owner to property owner in South Torrance this week as the activities of all lease scouts took command lead in news interest at the scene of the present top-speed deep-sand exploration of the rejuvenated field.

As result of the leasing negotiations, between 10 and 15 plots were "turned" (leased on varying agreements) during the week, according to information reaching The Herald yesterday. Most of the leases were executed for property around 233rd street down from Patton Oil's Meacham Fee lease project which is now down 2,800 feet. Summit has taken over the Frank C. Kelley Wilson well.

Burns Holds Record
Four-Way Oil, located on the third location east of the Meacham, is starting its fourth re-drill job and others in that vicinity are Consolidated Petroleum, which is setting casing at 5,012 feet east of the Patton project, and McDonald and Burns who are drilling two more rebore on 231st and 232nd. Star Petroleum began re-drilling an old well on 233rd this week, as did Dan Copeland on the corner.

Bobby Burns continued to hold the record for the best high gravity producer in the field this week. His well located east of Everett Grubbs' Lyman No. 1 on 231st is pinched down to 500 barrels from better than 600 barrels of 26 plus gravity. Grubbs' well is now down to 3,800 feet.

Other developments in the field this week were: George W. Camp is about ready to bring in his deepened well on Pennsylvania at 231st. The C.C.M.O. developed a leak in the casing at its No. 23 on Sepulveda and accomplished a squeeze job with cement to plug it. Albert Stevenson, a newcomer to the area, is re-drilling at the west end of 233rd.

Field Spotty But Good
Walter Hughes is on the Vicks property on 231st adjoining the Sierra Development's holdings and is re-drilling. Neil H. Anderson sank his bore 2,700 feet during the past 10 days on the southwest corner of 231st and Pennsylvania. McCallister's No. 2 is reported showing some exceptionally favorable-looking cores from the northeast corner of 231st and Pennsylvania.

Altho the South Torrance field has been characterized as one of the most spotty areas in the Southland because of its uncertain production, operators are confident that one of these days (Continued on Page 2-A)

delinquent property to the county assessment rolls may hinge on the outcome of a test suit in the state Supreme Court June 7. The action is to determine whether a property owner may be allowed to pay general taxes without paying the Mattoon Act assessment.

The suit is in a form of a writ of mandate sought by Lee's Inc. theatre owners, against County Treasurer H. L. Byram, who refused to accept taxes tendered on some Culver City property of the company, tendered without the Mattoon Act levy.

In the past 10 years it is estimated that a large part of the property which has gone delinquent, was because of the heavy Mattoon Act taxes. So far the county has refused to split the tax bills and the Mattoon Act levies must be paid along with city, school and county taxes.