TORRANCE HERALD

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New Oregon Capitol Nears Completion

Pride of the state of Oregon is the new $2,500,000 State Capitol at Salem, which was turned over officially to the state June 21. It will be ready for occupancy July 2, is constructed of white Vermont marble, will be topped by a 24-foot bronze statue of an Oregon pioneer.

Palos Verdes Considers Incorporating as City, Barring Non-Residents

The Palos Verdes area would like to incorporate as a sixth class city, bar non-residents from the use of its public parks and recreational facilities and have the county maintain its roads and highways. But County Counsel J. H. O'Connor says it can't be done that way.

W. Harold Kingsley, clerk of the board of trustees of the Palos Verdes school district, wrote to O'Connor asking four questions dealing with the effects of incorporating the Palos Verdes Estates into a sixth class city.

The county could not condemn beach or ocean frontage land for public park or beach use if the land already was being used by a sixth class city for the same purposes, O'Connor replied to the first question.

Must Be One or Other

The second query was whether citizens who are not residents of a sixth class city can be barred from the use of public parks or recreational facilities, and the answer was no.

The third and fourth questions dealt with whether the county could contract with a sixth class city for the maintenance of roads which are not main highways or classified as main highways. The reply was that under the law the county cannot maintain city streets.

If the county takes over city streets and makes them a part of the county highway system, they are not then regarded as city streets, the opinion said.

TAX-DEEDED PROPERTY RENTS LOW

Tax-deeded farm land in Los Angeles county is being rented for five cents an acre per year, while dwellings are being rented for $1 a month in some instances, according to a report on tax-deeded property filed with the board of supervisors today by Hayden Jones, Los Angeles real estate man who has been serving as special agent of the state comptroller.

The glass factory here has been leased for $35 a month for the past 20 months. Another building is being rented for $10 a month. A factory on East Washington boulevard in Los Angeles is leased for $25 a month. In Beverly Hills a factory is being leased for $25 a month.

The old Breakers hotel in Long Beach has been leased for $100 a month, the report disclosed. A hotel in Pasadena has been paying $200 a month for approximately a year. Highest rental noted was $250 for an office building and hotel at Eleventh and Broadway, Los Angeles, paid by the receiver. An entire subdivision in the old Girard townsite is being leased for $50 a month.

THREE-TIME FINE PAYER IS BANISHED

For the fourth time in about as many months, convivial Harold M. O'Leary, 37-year-old switchman who lives at 16461½ Cabrillo, was arrested by local police Monday night for being in an advanced stage of intoxication.

O'Leary has enriched the city treasury at $5 or $10 per drunk on the occasion of his previous arrests—but the penalties appeared no barrier to his fondness for strong drink.

So City Judge Robert Lessing sentenced him to 180 days in the county jail and then suspended that term on condition that he stay out of Torrance for two years.

Imbiber O'Leary promised to clear the city in 20 minutes.

THEFT WAVE CONTINUES

Judging from police reports there was no lessening this week of the wave of petty thefts that have been occurring here during the past several months. Pilferings-of-the-week were:

A new toilet bowl, sometime Sunday night, from a house under construction by Neess and Langton at 708 Acacia. Valued at $40, the bowl was taken out of the front door, which was left wide open, after the thieves broke into the recently completed residence thru a front window.

A new tire, last Wednesday night, from Ed Hien's service station. A hose was also cut.

A pair of headlights, between 8 a. m., and 4 p. m., last Saturday, from Thomas Charuhas' parked car in front of the National Supply plant on Carson street. Charuhas lives at 1027 Amapola.

A one and one-half horsepower motor and 50 feet of rope, Sunday, from C. J. Fahy's crate shed at 182nd and Western.

Two amber fog lights and the radiator grill from Harriett Leech's Ford, sometime after midnight last Saturday. The equipment was valued at $30. Mrs. Leech lives at 1630 Amapola, where the car was parked.

A gas tank drained of its motor fuel, Saturday night, from a car belonging to Neil Whitney at 2068 220th.

And a prowler was reported seen at 1828 Gramercy last Thursday night, trying to open doors and peek in windows.

COORDINATORS PLAN FOURTH CELEBRATION

The "grand and glorious Fourth" will be celebrated in Torrance in the "good, old-fashioned way," according to President John E. Miller of the Coordinating Council.

At the Council's session Monday night in the city hall it was decided to sponsor a day-long program at the city park and a free public dance in the Civic Auditorium on the night of the Fourth of July.

"We want all residents of Torrance who intend to stay home and be safe to join us at the city park for a picnic-program that may be enjoyed without driving for miles in heavy traffic," he said this week.

Prizes to Winners

The July 4 observance will begin with a community picnic at noon under the shady park pergolas and continue in the afternoon with a free baseball game between the Torrance-Lomita Merchants and some other outstanding Southland ball club in the city field.

This will be followed by a program of races and special events for which prizes are to be awarded by the Coordinators.

The evening dance in the Civic Auditorium will be open to all without charge and President Miller said efforts are now being made to obtain a fine orchestra to provide the music.

Week's Building Totals $10,415

Building permits issued here during the past week totaled $10,415, according to records at the city engineer's office. The permits were for the following construction projects:

Mrs. Edith A. Robertson of Gardena is having a concrete milk house built and a dairy barn remodeled off Arlington avenue in North Torrance for $1,000. Paul Mesplow is remodeling his dairy barn at 17014 Crenshaw at a cost of $1,000. William Youksstetter of Huntington Park is repairing his building at 1920 Border, the work amounting to $490.

Victor H. Johnson of Los Angeles is building a second $800 three-room frame house on the northeast corner of Beech and Sierra.

The Hansco Oil company of Long Beach is placing two 1,500-barrel oil tanks costing $350 each at 2372 227th; the Silver Strand Oil company of Long Beach is erecting a wooden oil derrick at 2470 233rd for $5,000; and the Summit Oil company of Long Beach is placing two 1,000-barrel oil tanks, costing $400 each, at 2341 233rd.

Joe Pullman is adding a 10 by 14-foot bedroom to his house at 2015 Plaza del Amo, the work costing $300; E. W. Blackwood of Los Angeles is erecting a double frame garage costing $150 at 2930 La Fresa avenue in North Torrance and Mrs. Mary Harder is erecting a double frame garage at her home, 2605 Carson street, for $175.

AT CONVENTION

James J. O'Toole of this city, candidate for state assembly from this district, is attending the state convention of the Disabled Veterans of America at San Jose this week.

Schools Releasing Pupils Tomorrow for Vacation

GRADUATION HERE TONITE

The annual commencement program for Torrance high school graduates of the Summer class of 1938 at the Civic Auditorium tonight at 8 o'clock will open with the traditional procession of cap-and-gowned young men and women. Admission to this affair will be limited to those having guest tickets.

Rev. C. M. Northrup is to give the invocation and the program will consist of talks and musical numbers by students. Mrs. John Dunn Moore (nee Dona Jo McCutchen), accompanied by Doris Jean Kresse will sing and a quartet, composed of Dorothy Jean Craig, Richard Miller, Mary Moore and John Disario, are to present several numbers. The Senior chorus will be heard in Rimsky-Korsokoy's "Song of India."

Memorial for Teacher

Three orations are programmed: Harry Bell will speak on "Why Have Vocational Guidance," Wilbur Franklin on "Vocational Opportunities in Agriculture," and Peggy Olson on "The Constitution—Its Heart and Soul."

The Madrigal Singers, directed by Mrs. Margaret Eischen, will sing O'Hara's "I Have a Rendezvous With Life." The presentations are then scheduled to follow, these including: scholarship honors by Miss Irene Mills, Ephebian memberships by Miss Elizabeth Parks, vice-principal; the George Arakawa cup and the class of Summer, 1938, by Weston Leech. An appreciation in the form of a memorial to the late Grace Holcomb Granger, beloved local teacher, is to be made by Lorain Hill.

Doors to Close Until Sept. 12

With the issuance of report cards tomorrow morning to all students in Torrance and Lomita schools, the 1937-38 term will come to a close and vacation will begin. The new term is to start next Sept. 12.

Tonight at 8 o'clock the annual commencement exercises honoring the largest class ever to graduate from Torrance high school 72 will be held in the Civic Auditorium. Admission to this program will be by ticket only and the entertainment will feature student speakers and singers with Principal Thomas Elson presenting the diplomas.

Three schools held advancement programs this afternoon. One hundred and four Narbonne Junior high school students received certificates from Miss Clementina de Forest Griffin, principal, during exercises at the high school auditorium in Lomita. Fern Avenue school here advanced 24 boys and girls into Torrance Junior high and the Orange Street school in Lomita sent a class of 16 into Narbonne Junior high.

Revive Greek Legends

The final day of the term tomorrow will see three elementary schools concluding programs. A musical fantasy, "The Golden Apple," based on ancient Greek myths will be staged at the Torrance Elementary school auditorium at 1 o'clock by the A6 class of 66 pupils who are to advance into Torrance Junior high school. This is open to the public without charge.

Another program based on Greek legends, "A Greek Dream," is to be presented at the Lomita Elementary school auditorium at 1:30 by 35 boys and girls of the A6 class. Parents and

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AWARDS ARE PRESENTED

A feature of the annual awards assembly at the high school this morning, when outstanding students were honored for their efforts during the past term was the presentation of the California Bankers' association certificate of merit to Joe Bay by J. W. Post of the Torrance National Bank. Bay was given this award for his excellent work for the Future Farmers of America unit in the local school.

Letters and certificates for athletic participation were presented. Those receiving block "T's" for varsity track work were: Bill Stewart, Eugene Hatter, Addison Smith, Earl Lock, Lee Kirkpatrick, Teruzo Hata, Bob Klink, Bill Nagel, Lee Stecker, Joe Kalina, Lloyd Beadle, Bob Long, Max Coast, Louie Briganti, John Hall and Gerald Grubb.

The following received letters for varsity softball participation: John Schmidt, Harold Trezise, Charles Grubb, Emil Schimmick, Junior Richardson, John Batovsky and Roland Andrews.

The managerial staff was also presented with letters Kenneth Russell and Pedro Pina for B softball, Ted Yoshinobu, Masa Ikezoe, Bill Parton, Richard Miller, Jr., Haruka Yoshinobu, Bob Sterling and Kenneth Russell for the C track team.

A special honor award was given Clara Brewster, Martha Hoke, Doris Kresse, Peggy Olson and Alice West for service in physical education. Claude Mitchell, Don Seematter, Polly Eartlett and Clara Brewster received recognition for halls patrolling and Bernard Friedman was cited for the Aviation club.

COUNCIL MEETS TUESDAY

The city council will convene next Tuesday evening for a regular session.

ELECTED

DR. ALDEN W. SMITH
. . . telling not his policy

Chamber Board Picks Officers for 1938-39

Meeting Monday afternoon, the board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce elected Dr. Alden W. Smith, proprietor of Howard's jewelry store and an optometrist, president of the civic group for the coming year. Earl Brunner, president of the Mayfair Creamery, was re-elected first vice-president; Sam Levy, department store owner, was chosen second vice-president; Sherwood McIntyre, C. C. M. O. superintendent, was re-elected treasurer, and L. J. Gilmeister was retained as secretary-manager.

The new officers will take over their duties July 1. Shortly after accepting the presidency, Dr. Smith drafted a letter to the city council outlining the major objectives of the chamber for the coming year. This will be read at the council's session next Tuesday night. However, the new chamber leader, who has been in business here for the past eight years, declared that:

"Telling about a lot of things we hope to accomplish before all the groundwork has been laid is not my policy. I hope to be of service to the city in such a way as to prove the chamber's value to every resident. But neither the chamber nor I can do without the cooperation of every citizen, every business man, professional man and industrialist. It is this cooperation I seek for the sole purpose of bettering our community."

Dr. Smith is past president of the Kiwanis club and Torrance Retail Merchants' association and also is a former member of the Civil Service Commission.

Man Falls to Death From Rig

The first fatal accident to occur in the South Torrance oil field happened Tuesday afternoon when Mike Beck, 56-year-old Long Beach resident, plunged 90 feet to his death from a derrick over the old Calridge Oil company well at 3300 235th street.

Beck's body ricocheted from a piece of timber that was being lowered from the 124-foot derrick and plunged into the adjoining oil sump. Workmen extricated the still living but unconscious man from the muck and he was rushed to Torrance Memorial hospital where he died 50 minutes later at 2:15 p. m.

No inquest will be held. An autopsy was performed yesterday. The funeral service is scheduled for tomorrow at Sawtelle.

Mr. Beck was working on the old rig without a safety belt, removing the old ladder and lowering its two-by-four sections to the ground by means of a block and tackle to Earl B. Arnold, contractor in charge of re-building the derrick. About 60 feet below Mr. Beck and 30 feet from the ground was Allan Kendall, also of long Beach, who was going up the ladder.

Sinks Out of Sight

Kendall told Sergeant Ernest Ashton, who investigated the fatality, that he heard the sound of some timbers crashing down against the derrick. He said he ducked his head and shoulders thru the ladder to protect himself and did not see Mr. Beck's body plunging to the ground.

The victim struck the first catwalk of two by 12-inch planks and hurtled outward, missing the second cat-walk. Then the man's body crashed against the section of the ladder he had just started downward and was thrust out into space, into the sump hole and out of sight.

The back of his head was crushed but Mr. Beck was still alive when hauled out of the mass of mud, oil and water and taken to the hospital. There, despite all medical aid, he collapsed and died. Mr. Beck had recently moved to 1818 East Third street, Long Beach, with his wife and family. He was a powerfully built man whose appearance was that of a much younger worker.

Benstead Loses Toes

He was employed by the Calridge Oil company of Long Beach which is repairing the derrick—the farthest south in the field—for re-drilling to the 5,000 foot high-gravity oil strata.

Another accident in the field this week cost Victor E. Benstead, 44, of 1621 Beech street, two toes on his left foot and a third one was lacerated and fractured. The injury occurred Tuesday morning on the rotary table of a C.C.M.O. well on Sepulveda boulevard.

Benstead was treated at Torrance Memorial hospital and then taken to the Santa Fe hospital in Los Angeles for further attention.

Buyers' Group to Dine Here, Visit Plant

Members of the Purchasing Agents' Association of Los Angeles are to be guests of the Columbia Steel company tonight at a buffet supper and visit to the local plant. Arrangements for the gathering here were completed yesterday by the steel company, Plant Visitation committee of the Association and the Chamber of Commerce.

Supper is to be served at the Columbia Steel restaurant at 7 o'clock and the trip thru the plant to view the operation of the new modernized equipment will follow, according to Superintendent E. M. Barber.

Ask PWA Funds for Co. Courthouse

Funds for what is contemplated as Los Angeles county's most pretentious governmental structure are being sought today, following approval by the board of application for PWA aid in building a new $9,000,000 court house somewhere in the Civic Center.

NEW CBS-KNX TRANSMITTER STATION IS BUSY PLACE HERE

L. SHEPARD and F. O. DELLINGER
. . . they're speeding construction, installation

With a score or more of carpenters, painters and expert electricians on the job, construction and installation of the new quarter-million dollar KNX-CBS transmitter station at 190th street and Hawthorne boulevard in Torrance is making fast progress. When it is completed and landscaped, the broadcasting plant is certain to become one of the showplaces of the city.

"We have not set any definite time for the opening," L. Shepard, Columbia Broadcasting company transmitter supervisor who will be in charge of the station, told The Herald this week. "However, we expect to be ready to start sending out KNX-CBS programs which will originate in Columbia Square, Hollywood, or other CBS studios, sometime in September."

F. O. Dellinger, construction superintendent for the William Simpson Construction company, is directing the actual building operations while Shepard is supervising the installation of all new equipment valued at more than $200,000. The station's aerial tower, soaring 510 feet in the air, is ready for use. It has been painted in red and white bands, equipped with red lights to warn air traffic and has a set of red flags, each six feet square, located on the guy wires.

No actual broadcasting will be done from the transmitter station but it will be open every day to visitors. A glass enclosed walk runs around the center of the station overlooking the power equipment and switchboards below. One room, to the right of the main entrance, will be Shepard's office while other rooms left of the entrance will be for storage of equipment, a laboratory whose walls and door are sheathed in ray-resisting lead; and a living apartment.

Paved roadways have been laid leading to the station, which is some 150 feet off Hawthorne avenue.

D and B Bring in 'Wild-Cat'

Presaging a new oil field development, the D and B Oil company of Pasadena brought in its wild-cat well at 253rd and Vermont last Sunday night and pinched back the production to 512 barrels, according to a report given The Herald yesterday by O. H. Wopschall, president of the firm.

"Our first well is a distinct success," he said, "and we will start another in the near vicinity within a few weeks. Our company has 100 acres under lease in the apex area that is potentially the next big exploration zone."

The D and B well is cutting less than one percent water, is between 29 and 30 degrees without a trace of sulphur. It is down to 5,275 feet.

Local Student Receives Degree

Mrs. Neal Whitney, nee Helen Veelik, formerly of San Pedro and now a local resident, received a Bachelor of Education degree from U.C.L.A., June 11. Mrs. Whitney is the wife of a former carrier boy for The Herald.

Peace Officers Coming Here

Arrangements are being made by local police officers and city officials to entertain a large crowd for the dinner and show to be held by the Peace Officers Civil Service Association of California next Thursday night, June 30, at the Civic Auditorium.

Capt. John Stroh, president of the association, Police Chief G. M. Calder, Mayor William H. Tolson, members of the city council, police and fire departments will be hosts. Speakers on the program will include Supervisor Herbert C. Legg, Louise Ward Watkins and Judge Charles W. Frick.

Teachers Tell Vacation Plans

Teachers at the Torrance Elementary school who will conclude their term's work tomorrow are looking forward to summer vacation with keen anticipation. Among the plans for the next three months for some of the instructors are:

A visit to see her parents and brother by Mrs. Helen Berry; attendance at University of California at Berkeley by Mrs. Nell Bradford; attendance at National Education Association convention by Mrs. Eva May Burns; attendance at summer school by Miss Volney Henderson; travel in Europe by Miss Marion Crittenden; attendance at University of Southern California and a trip to Canada by H. H. Hayward.

Transcontinental motor trip by Miss Le Ella Murphy; attendance at summer school at U.S.C. by Mrs. Ruth Pipkin; attendance at both U.S.C. and U.C.L.A. summer schools by Mrs. Edna Russell; motor tour to Yellowstone by Mrs. Fannie Schneider; attendance at U. C. L. A. by Mrs. Alice Woolsey; motor tour of eastern United States by Mrs. Juliet Young; motor tour of Yosemite by Mrs. Clara Pierce; trout fishing in the High Sierras by Principal Merle Helbach.

Mrs. Texa B. Williams is to spend the first half of the summer in the Clear Lake region of California, 150 miles from San Francisco among the Pomo Indians. She is gathering additional material for her book of folk tales soon to be published. She is also to do research supplementary to some legends of Sir Francis Drake, of his visit to that country in 1579. These stories—folk-tales and history—have been obtained from Indian myth-tellers.

Miss Bertha Metzger, writer of poetry, and folk-tales of many lands, who has resided in Torrance this winter, is assisting Mrs. Williams in editing this material, and will accompany her to Pomo Indian land. Mrs. Williams expects to spend the latter part of the summer in Washington, D. C., and other eastern localities.

Brooks Will Speak at Convention

One of the features of the business sessions of the 14th annual convention of the California Newspaper Advertising Managers' association at the Biltmore hotel in Los Angeles will be an address by Ray Brooks, The Herald's advertising manager. He will speak before the convention on a technical problem of advertising Saturday afternoon.

The convention starts Friday and will conclude Sunday. Mrs. Brooks will participate in the entertainment program arranged by the association for wives of the delegates.

Supervisors Seek Reduction of Relief Load

What, if anything, can the county do about indigents on relief here who have relatives in other states able and willing to support them?

This is the question which the board of supervisors this week asked the county counsel to answer in an opinion which will determine future policy.

Many persons on relief refuse to leave the state to accept homes with relatives in other states, even though these relatives agree to provide homes for them. The department of charities cited numerous specific instances, precipitating the board's request for an opinion.

URGE INDIGENTS NOT TO COME HERE

Los Angeles county supervisors have instructed the All-Year Club of Southern California, to whom they annually entrust some $250,000 to advertise Los Angeles county, to spend some of it urging dependent people not to come to California.

The instruction to the club's manager, Don Thomas, was "to give very definite emphasis to the expenditure of a portion of the funds in special advertising in the 'dust bowl' area and in other sections of the country which are sending large numbers of misguided people to California under the impression they are going to receive either relief or employment here."