



Sir Hubert Wilkins, of the impeccable goatee, is greeted in Seattle by Edward B. Williamson, president of the Seattle Aeronautical Society, at Boeing Field. Sir Hubert plans another expedition into the Antarctic with Lincoln Ellsworth, and seeks a physician to accompany them.

## CBS Engineers Render New KNX Transmitter Plant 'Disaster-Proof'

Measures taken by Columbia Broadcasting System technicians to assure continuous operation under any emergency of the new \$350,000 KNX transmitter at Hawthorne and 190th street, have made it practically impossible to cut Los Angeles off from communication with other parts of the country, according to James Middlebrooks, engineer in charge of construction of the new plant.

To withstand earth tremors of any registered intensity, the transmitter house at "Columbia Park" has been built of reinforced concrete in two adjoining units, each designed to "carry" horizontal or vertical shocks.

"It could be rolled over on its side and still hold together," Middlebrooks declares.

Although only one power line of 15,000 volts is required for ordinary transmission, two emergency lines carrying an equal power load are fed into the building. If all three power lines were disrupted, a 185-horsepower gasoline engine could supply power sufficient for broadcast. Two program telephone lines link the transmitter with the CBS studios in Columbia Square, Hollywood. Were both cut off, a receiving set at the transmitter station could pick up programs shortwave from the studio.

Completion of the 50,000-watt transmitter operating in conjunction with Columbia's new Hollywood studios, rounds out one of the biggest construction projects in the history of network radio, and provides the West Coast with its most modern and extensive broadcasting outlet. The new \$1,750,000 studios, covering an entire block in the heart of the movie capital, were designed by William Lee, foremost American architect.

## Three Bands to Swing It Friday Evening in Aud

Take a listen to three bands at the Civic Auditorium tomorrow (Friday) night and help the Coordinating Council decide which organization will get a contract to appear for the next four all-community dances in Torrance.

Here's the way 36 instrumentalists and three vocalists will divide the dance period from 8:30 to 12 midnight—opening the program will be Johnny Hughes and his 12 bandmen plus a talented girl singer, then will come Albert Hines and his dozen players and vocalist and winding up the evening will be Harry Wham's swing symphony of 12 more assorted musicians and a soloist.

There will be no increase in admission prices for this gala affair, according to Vernon Coil of the sponsoring Coordinators. A couple of students can snag for 35 cents, a single student must shell out 20 cents and adults are welcome at 25 cents each.

## Oilmen to Deepen Well in Redondo

Following the theory that a deep sand might underlie the Redondo field the same as it does South Torrance, J. Medill and associates are going to deepen the old Shell Frenger No. 4 well at Gladys and Emerald streets, now bottomed at 3,589 feet.

## MAYOR'S WIFE BETTER

Mrs. William H. Tolson, wife of this city's mayor, is reported making a good recovery at Torrance Memorial hospital where she underwent a major operation July 27.

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## Ballot Preview Going to Voters Late This Week

### DEADLINES TOLD

Next Tuesday, Aug. 9, is the last day to file initiative petitions with the registrar of voters. A total of 186,378 signatures is necessary on petitions to submit initiative measures to the voters at the November general election.

Next Wednesday is the last day to become naturalized or otherwise become a citizen to be able to vote at the November election.

A preview of the Aug. 30 ballot will be given voters through-out the county when Registrar of Voters W. M. Kerr begins the mailing of sample ballots late this week. Under the law Kerr must have mailed a ballot to every registered voter by Aug. 25.

Each registered voter also will receive a card notifying him of the polling place in the precinct in which he resides.

Official tabulation of the total registration in Los Angeles county was being prepared this week by Kerr's department. The previous high mark for the county was eclipsed several days ago, long before all the affidavits had been checked.

Kerr's office will mail a ticket of each political party to the chairman of the county central committee for each party, between Aug. 5 and Aug. 25. Each candidate also will receive a copy of the sample ballot upon which his name appears.

## H. S. Printing Teacher Named

Principal Thomas Elson of the high school announced Tuesday that Charles W. Hamilton has been engaged as printing instructor, succeeding Herbert B. Andrews, for the 1938-39 term. Hamilton will come here from a year's instructorship in printing at San Fernando high school. Previous to his stay in the valley school he was printing instructor for four years at George Washington high school.

Andrews, who is in his 74th year, took a year's sabbatical leave of absence at the close of the spring term, his 11th year as a member of the Torrance high school faculty.

## Warners Feted On Eve of Their Departure North

Testifying to the esteem in which he is held by his fellow-workers at the Columbia Steel plant, Carl S. Warner, who has been named to take charge of all engineering and maintenance of equipment at the Pittsburg (Cal.) Columbia plant, was honored guest at the first of three "farewell dinners" last night.

This tribute was extended by the heads of all Columbia Steel departments and their assistants at the Palos Verdes Golf club. Warner, who will take over his new position Aug. 15, was presented with a sterling silver fruit bowl set. Today Mrs. E. M. Barber, wife of the local plant's general superintendent, gave a luncheon at her Palos Verdes home in honor of Mr. Warner.

Tomorrow night—the popular chief engineer will be special guest of the foremen and leaders of various units in the engineering and maintenance departments at a dinner to be given at the Hollywood Riviera clubhouse. Saturday evening neighbors of the Warners will gather at the Grover C. Whyte home on Post avenue to fetter Mr. and Mrs. Warner at a potluck dinner.

Some small boys playing around a haystack at Redondo beach boulevard and Arlington avenue Sunday afternoon are believed to have started the fire which consumed 10 tons of fodder valued at \$150. The hay was owned by Carl Pursche, farmer in that northern part of the city.

## Small Boys Set Haystack A-Blaze

Another step in Supervisor Leland M. Ford's program calling for governmental ownership of beaches along the Los Angeles county shoreline was taken Tuesday when the Board of Supervisors officially approved the leasing of some 2800 feet of beach immediately adjacent to the west city limits of Torrance in the Redondo area. The lease, amounting to \$6,900 annually, contains an option under which the county may purchase the property, and will run for a ten-year period.

"This lease contract has been before the Board for a period of some two years," Supervisor Ford said, "and is an extremely valuable deal for the county government. Full purchase price of the property will amount to only \$173,000, which we can undertake if, when and as we find ourselves in a position to take advantage of the offer. By entering into the lease, we reserve the right to purchase this valuable coastline strip at any time during the next ten years."

The proposition was made by the Huntington-Redondo company, owners of the property. The owner corporation proposed a lease for five, 10 or 15 years.

Length of frontage involved is 2,888 feet, or about half a mile in the locality known as Clifton-by-the-Sea.

The county will be given no credit or rebate for rentals on the purchase price, however, under the proposal.

The lease was laid before the board members just as they opened hearings on the 1938-39 county budget, which are to be terminated next week. Owing to substantial increases in the county budget as now proposed, it was forecast around the Hall of Records that the tax rate would have to be increased because of the land deal.

Other beach frontage leased or purchased during the past two years include Holdings of the Residential Land Company near Castle Rock, north of Santa Monica.

## Building Shows Gain of 257 Percent; Total for July is \$188,779

With South Torrance oil field derrick construction a major part of the total, \$188,779 worth of new construction—the largest monthly amount since January's record-holder of \$1,811,950—was started here in July, according to the city engineer's office. The building total for the seven months of the year to date is \$2,469,416 as compared to \$964,870 for the same period of 1937 or a gain of better than 257 percent.

New construction here during July, 1937, amounted to \$634,950 which included one building permit for the General Petroleum corporation for a \$620,000 addition to the refinery here.

Last month's building included: six new residences, \$11,850; five private garages, \$975; eight alterations and repair jobs to residences, \$5,050; 31 oil derricks, \$185,000; 12 oil tanks, \$8,454; three alterations and repair jobs to business or industrial structures, \$1,500; and eight new non-residential buildings, \$7,950.

The comparative monthly totals are:

	1938	1937
January	\$1,811,950	\$41,030
February	32,400	11,845
March	154,250	24,155
April	81,225	21,690
May	181,397	204,615
June	119,415	16,585
July	188,779	634,950
Total	\$2,469,416	\$954,870

## AUGUST STARTS OFF STRONG IN BUILDING

Permits for new construction work here issued during the past week totaled \$42,925 of which \$38,700 was for building in the Torrance oil fields. A detailed report on this type of construction will be found with the report on oil activity here published elsewhere on this page. The other permits were as follows:

H. L. Harline, of Welteria, is building a four-room frame house and double garage at 24418 Neece for \$17,500; H. P. Papp, 2020 Andrews, is erecting a sheet iron single garage at 2019 Cabrillo for \$75; Fur Farms, Inc., is building a 19 by 150-foot structure for chinchilla raising at 2701 West 182nd street for \$300; and S. H. Yerlan of Los Angeles, is erecting a five-room stucco house and double garage at 714 Madrid for \$2,100.

## SOUTH BAY CITIES BUILDING BOOMS

South Bay district building maintained its mid-summer boom with Redondo Beach and Hermosa Beach recording slight July advances, while Manhattan Beach, district leader, suffered a small drop as its building permits soared over the half-million dollar mark. New construction there totaled \$47,912 last month as compared to \$52,740 in July, 1937. Building for the year to date in Manhattan Beach amounts to \$512,495, well ahead of the 1937 record of \$455,054.

In Redondo new construction last month totaled \$20,899 and the amount for the past seven months is \$185,521 as compared with \$185,670 for the same period in 1937. Hermosa Beach July building was \$34,034 and the total for the year to date stands at \$216,899 as against \$347,275 for the first seven months of 1937.

## Scouts Going to Camp On Monday

About 20 members of Boy Scout Troop 219 are impatiently awaiting Monday morning when they will leave for a three-day camp at Anaheim Landing. The Kiwanis club, sponsor of the troop, voted \$50 toward the expenses of the Scouts' outing.

## BEACH FRONTAGE NEAR TORRANCE LEASED BY COUNTY SUPERVISORS

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## Oil Boom Gains In Area; More Wells Staked

More companies are entering the new southeast Lomita and Harbor City oil field area to indicate this week that the sector opened by the D and B producer a month ago will soon rival the South Torrance field boom. The latest entrant is the Bandini Petroleum company which announced the closing of a deal for the 55-acre Hollingsworth property south of Lomita boulevard and west of Normandie. This outfit is scheduled to start a well northwest of the D and B producer within 30 days.

The South Torrance deep sand rush continued unabated this week with many new projects under way. Mildon Oil has a derrick up for its No. 1 at the northeast corner of 236th and Pennsylvania and Packard Petroleum's companies are working on two new projects at 235th and 233rd and Pennsylvania.

## Invade Harbor City

Rumors were rife in the Harbor City area that the entire townsite will soon be given over to oil exploration. There was considerable talk of leases extending into the modest business district around which the county community centers. Saxon Petroleum, headed by James W. Lavin, is preparing to drill at the northeast corner of 255th and Normandie. Other work finds the D and B company selecting a site for its third well at the southwest corner of Broadwell and 253rd.

California Star Oil has a derrick erected for its Lermans No. 1 northwest of Lomita boulevard and Marigold. This company intends to drill nine wells in this vicinity. Arthur N. Macerate is preparing to start a well which will offset G. P.'s Pogg No. 9.

## West Ranch Activity

In the Torrance field, E. D. Hopkins has set casing at a depth of 4,956 feet in his Clifton No. 1 at 235th and Pennsylvania and should finish within a few days. Ellexio Oil has a derrick up for its No. 3 at 235th and Pennsylvania and A. A. Douglas is completing a derrick for his No. 1 near the same site. Two more deep sand wells were completed during the week. The heaviest producer is the Lomita Drilling company's No. 2 at 233rd and Pennsylvania, flowing better than 700 barrels of 27 gravity from 5,004 feet. Consolidated Petroleum's No. 2 at the same site is doing 635 barrels of 28 gravity from 4,961 feet.

Forty acres on the Weston ranch property southwest of the Hydral plant were surveyed this week and a five-acre piece has been selected for exploratory work, it was learned. The lease (Continued on Page 5)

## Trio Hurt As Machine Spills

Three local young people were injured late Tuesday night when the car in which they were riding ran off the paved portion of Torrance boulevard near Madonna and turned over when the wheels sank in the soft shoulder of the roadway.

Russell R. Evans of 807 Portola, was driving the "auto east" on the boulevard and about 100 yards east of Madonna ran off the road. With him was Mary Moore, 2340 230th, and Harold Clemmer, 2119 Gramercy. Miss Moore and Clemmer were cut and bruised about their heads but refused medical aid. Evans hurt his back when he fell to the pavement from the car.

## Damages Car to Avoid Collision

To avoid a head-on collision with a car being driven north on Narbonne by Julian D. McIlroy of Santa Maria, William Gasser, 2237 248th, Lomita, skidded into the northwest corner of 229th and Narbonne yesterday and badly damaged his Packard sedan. Gasser had pulled out from behind another car going in the same direction when he saw McIlroy coming toward him.

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## Palos Verdes Sector Considers Annexation to City of Torrance

Definitely opposed to the incorporation of any unit of the great Palos Verdes Estates as a municipality, a group of residents in the Valmonte sector of that suburban area south of Torrance is now circulating petitions asking for annexation to this city.

## Final Contract For H.S. Assembly To Be Awarded

With Duff and Vanderhoogen as the low bidders, award of the contract for completion of the Torrance high school auditorium was expected to be made this week by the Los Angeles board of education.

A low bid of \$30,204 was received from Duff and Vanderhoogen. Thirteen other bids were received, the highest being \$32,490, according to engineers in the office of the Los Angeles board of education.

## Recreation Bond Issue Split in Three Projects

Next November at the general election, in addition to the many propositions and candidates on the state and county ballot, Torrance voters will be asked to make a decision about three proposed bond issues. These will include the extension of the municipal recreation plan which is now before Public Works Administration officials for a grant of 45 percent toward the total cost of the entire project.

The three issues will be (1) whether or not the city will obligate itself for a municipal plunge, 50 by 105 feet in size, equipped with a modern bath house; (2) a municipal recreation building and illuminated tennis courts to be located in the city park; and (3) a recreation building housing library quarters, tennis courts and playground at Welteria.

Mayor William H. Tolson and the special committee named July 26, City Attorney John E. McCall, City Clerk A. H. Bartlett and Acting City Engineer Leonard Young, were to confer with Attorney James L. Beebe of the law firm of O'Melveny, Fuller and Myer, today regarding the proposed bond issues.

The decision to segregate the recreation project into three issues was made in order that local voters could have an opportunity to express themselves on each proposed improvement. Some may be in favor of the entire project, others support two of the three or another group may consider one recreation expansion to be enough at the present time.

The cost of each of the three proposed extensions of the city recreation plan is to be determined at this meeting. The total will be more than \$100,000, it is understood, with the city's share about \$65,000.

## BUNTON FAVORS SMALL PLAYGROUNDS

Rather than see the city encumbered with a bond issue, such as is proposed for a swimming pool, recreation buildings, tennis courts and a playground at Welteria, B. C. Bunton, well-known Torrance realtor, today declared that he would support any move to create small playgrounds in various parts of the city for the use of children.

"Such a playground is badly (Continued on Page 5)

## Window-Glass Workers Plan Beach Picnic

With a number of Torrance residents attending, a meeting of former window glass-workers was held in Redondo's Mandarin ballroom last Sunday afternoon for the purpose of inaugurating an annual window-glass workers' picnic at the beach city.

Charles C. Martin was chosen chairman, A. E. Wilhelm made acting secretary and Fred Vandegrift was elected treasurer. The latter is a former national president of the Window-Glass Workers of America.

Another meeting will be held on Sunday afternoon, Aug. 14, at 2:30 o'clock at the Mandarin ballroom to set a date for the picnic and elect permanent officers. The picnic, it is announced, will be for all glass workers and their families.

## Democrats Plan Big Rally Here for 4 Candidates

Local supporters of four Democratic candidates for as many public offices are arranging a political rally tentatively scheduled for Wednesday night, Aug. 17, in the Civic Auditorium.

The campaigns of John B. Dockweiler for governor, William G. McAdoo for re-election as U. S. senator, Dr. Charles W. McQuarrie of Gardena to Congress from this district, and James J. O'Toole of this city as state assemblyman are to be furthered at this meeting.