RAY BROOKS

SHOP TALK

CHIT & CHAT AND THIS & THAT ABOUT TORRANCE YOU PROBABLY DIDN'T KNOW:

That Ronald Blakeman, whom many will remember as the former prop. of the RB Cut Rate Drug, now has a store in Bellflower and doin' right smart!

That "Buck" Buxton, jovial realtor, tells me that even though the first gallon of aqua pura is sent on its way thru the giant pumps of Parker Dam, it will take that gallon over a year to reach Los Angeles! (It will take that long to fill up the miles of aqueducts, reservoirs, etc.)

That Baker Clara Lewis, prop. of the bakery shop bearing her name, has a giant candle over three feet high burning in her bakery! It is composed of varied colored drippings, has been alight over a year. Customers are beginning to think it a "wishing candle," stick hairpins, pennies, keys and assorted junk in the moist tallow.

That Don Miller, Firestone manager . . . (who, by the by, has been sick abed with a bad cold) . . . announces that his new service manager is one Pete Beville, brought out from Miami at Don's request. Pete, who speaks with a broad southern accent, worked with Don several years at the Miami Firestone station, is as equally at home around flat tires as he is in the swampy Everglades of Florida. He is married, has 3 boys. Oh, yes . . . and a wife!

That Les Prince, Beacon Drug owner, often goes out before breakfast, whips thru several bracing sets of tennis at the high school before opening shop! Wednesday a. m. he and Attorney John Shidler got together, were neither much interested in hard work the rest of the day.

That Welder Jack Barrington has been making mammoth deposits in the local bank recently, proceeds from his booming business in the booming oil fields, has just purchased a new electric welding outfit. Cost: a tidy sum.

That Bill Zachary, Texas Ranger at the City Paint Store, announces that home owners can now paint their houses with Bill's famous Pittsburgh paints and pay the entire bill on FHA's easy monthly installments. A $50 loan requires but $4.39 per month for 1 year; $100 is returned at the rate of $4.59 for 24 months.

That Jack Abramson just recently acquired a new (?) delivery truck for his Torrance Upholstery Co. Not satisfied with his old Reo, Jack can't get out of the obsolete class, buys himself an Erskine.

That Torrance is a sixth class city; that its sidewalks . . . even in the business district . . . are definitely low class, what with devil's grass growing up thru the cracks and high weeds overhanging from vacant lots. There's one spot on Marcelina across from the postoffice where pedestrians are forced to walk almost to the curb.

☆ ☆ ☆

That it would be much better if the city took care of those things.

☆ ☆ ☆

That amiable, "Lone Wolf" Howard Tucker, book-keeper extraordinary at Ed Thompson's home office on Cabrillo (Ed now has three establishments; here, Redondo and Hermosa), finally succumbed, got married the latter part of June to Local Girl Fern Wright in a quick trip to Yuma. Howard, we never thought you'd do it!

☆ ☆ ☆

That, as it must to all cats, Death came last night to our pet kitten Stooge . . . a beautiful cat with long, cream-colored fur.

My wife and I, out for a short walk in the balmy evening weather, were strolling up Cedar, Stooge having followed us and cantering playfully behind. A car whizzed by, brakes screamed for a split instant, and we looked, Stooge was lying in the street, his big, bushy tail slowly moving . . . but only once or twice. He died instantly.

My wife, terribly upset, picked him up and carried him home. He was still warm. Obvious his back was broken. Stooge, who had the soul of a vixen, for once rested in my wife's arms quietly and without chewing her finger or wanting to fight.

I buried him deep in the back lot close to the garage.

Death is a strange and horrible thing to observe, even in a cat.

I'll miss him, too.

Indian Refuses Age Pension

DUNPHY, Nev. (U.P.)—An 87-year-old Shoshone Indian here is not a candidate for a pension and doesn't think too much of palefaces who are. When it was suggested to him that he apply for one, he replied: "Me no Uncle Sam boy. Me like to work"

LAND VALUES UP ONE PERCENT HERE

Some Cities Get Sharp Increases

Land valuations went up, some places sharply, in 18 of the 44 cities in the county this year, according to an analysis of assessed valuation figures released this week by the county assessor. In Torrance the increase amounted to only one percent. The following figures pertain to land only:

Sharpest increase was in El Segundo, where the percentage was 48.28, attributed to oil and mining rights in a new field developed by Standard Oil company. The increase was to $3,106,715, from $2,095,190.

Long Beach was next with 16.31 percent amounting to $11,214,000, due to the discovery of the new harbor district oil field. Huntington Park was next with 12.11 percent, amounting to $890,595, and Alhambra fourth with 11.1 percent. The rest were below 10 percent.

Up Less Than 1 Percent

Other cities whose land valuations were upped this year: Avalon 8.92; Beverly Hills .85 percent; Covina .19; El Segundo 48.28; Hermosa Beach 4.98; Inglewood 1.08; Manhattan Beach 7.36; Montebello 2.02; Redondo Beach 1.16; San Gabriel 5.41; San Marino 3.13; Vernon .76 percent; West Covina 5.61; and Whittier 7:07 percent. Total net increase for land valuations in the 44 cities, after deductions had been made in the other 21 cities, was shown to be $4,654,390. This amounted to a net increase of .48 percent, or just under one-half percent.

Cuts were made in land valuations in the following cities: Arcadia .73 percent; Azusa 1.75; Bell .39; Burbank 2.70; Claremont 3.61; Compton 3.28; Culver City 6:43; El Monte .78; Gardena 1.74; Glendale 2.43; Glendora .93; Hawthorne 8:14; La Verne 3.91 percent;

Los Angeles 1.18 percent; Lynwood 14.68; Maywood .25; Monrovia 2.37; Monterey Park; 3.87; Pasadena 1.15; Pomona .35; San Fernando 1.09; Santa Monica. 66; Sierra Madre 1.26; Signal Hill 5.20; South Gate .29 and South Pasadena 1.90 percent.

Citrus Area Reduced

By areas, increases were made on land in every city in the southwest corner of the county, with the exception of Hawthorne and Gardena. In contrast, the assessor's figures show that land in the cities in the eastern San Gabriel valley, with valuable citrus acreage, were cut this year. The analysis also shows that Huntington Park and Vernon were the only two cities on the east side industrial district and to the southeast to be increased in land values.

The Herald—3 months, 50 cents.

CANDIDATE

JOHN BEARDSLEY
Seeks Superior Court Office

John Beardsley recently was termed by a fellow lawyer "the best composite of legal ability and civil liberties that we have in the law profession."

A consistent protector of personal rights before the bar of justice, he has long been recognized as an outstanding authority on Constitutional Law, particularly with reference to the Bill of Rights. A native of Iowa, where he graduated from the State University, he has practiced law continuously in Los Angeles county for the last 29 years.

Peace Officers Meet August 8

When the California Peace Officers' association meets in Sebastian's new cafe on North La Brea Monday night, Aug. 8, there will be quite a delegation of officers from the Harbor and South Bay districts present, according to reports received here this week.

John H. Stroh, director of public safety here, is president of the association. J. F. T. O'Conner, former Federal comptroller of currency and now campaigning for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination, will speak. Police Chief J. J. Ostoich of Monterey Park will be the official host, assisted by Police Chief Joseph Fritsch of West Covina.

DETOUR

Col'm Under Construction
By BETSY BYRNES

"Plums are purple-red,
Pears amber and brown;
Thud! in the garden-bed
Ripe apples fall down."

Those very descriptive lines are from a poem entitled August Weather, by Katherine Tynan, Irish poet and novelist.

QUESTIONS

What is the correct name for the Ireland of today?

The many neon signs about town have been attracting our attention. What is neon?

Let's see how your spelling is in summer time! One of the following words is misspelled—which one? Assassin, stationery, alright, parliament, lessen.

TODAY'S PROVERB

"One must study to know, know to understand, understand to judge."—Indian.

ANSWERS

Eire is the correct name for the Ireland of today.

Neon is a rare gas which occurs in minute quantities in the atmosphere with helium and argon. It is odorless and tasteless and (this may surprise you!) colorless. In a glass tube, with electric current passing through it, neon gives a bright, red-orange glow.

"Alright" is the misspelled word. In fact, there is no such word. You must use two words. All right, remember that!

ADIOS

"There was an Old Man in a boat
Who said, "I'm afloat! I'm afloat!"
When they said, "No, you ain't!"
He was ready to faint,
That unhappy Old Man in a boat."

—Lear.

Barlow to Direct Sheriff's Campaign in Torrance Area

E. H. Barlow of the Barlow Oil Tool company has been placed in charge of the Torrance area to promote the candidacy of Sheriff E. W. Biscailuz for reelection. The entire 68th assembly district is now organized in behalf of the Sheriff and plans are laid for a vigorous campaign in his behalf.

Union Service Series Opens Next Sunday Night at Civic Auditorium

Noted Quartet to Sing; Public Bid to Attend

First of the summer series of union services at the Civic Auditorium will be held next Sunday evening, Aug. 7, starting at 7:30 o'clock. The Central Evangelical church quartet has arranged a special program of old-time hymns and some new secular music for the initial inter-denominational meeting.

Rev. Harry G. Banks, pastor of the Methodist church, will preach and the presiding chairman will be Rev. E. W. Matz of the Central Evangelical church. "A Modern Christian Crusade" will be Rev. Banks' topic for the initial union sermon.

All residents of Torrance and vicinity are cordially invited to attend the union services which will be held every Sunday evening to and including Sept. 4.

The Evangelical quartet has won much commendation for its work and the group will probably appear at other union meetings after the first service next Sunday.

All four local men are accomplished singers, Curtiss having been a member of the famed Ellis choral club of Los Angeles for 10 years.

"AMAZEMENT" LASTS LONG TIME . . . This group, the Central Evangelical church quartet, is the outstanding male vocal organization in Torrance. It is composed of (shown left to right) Carl Pisel, first tenor; Gus Kinney, bass; Charles Curtiss, second tenor, and Dr. W. J. Neelands, baritone. According to Curtiss, secretary of the Dominguez Land corporation, he and Dr. Neelands formed the quartet some 15 years ago to "sing for our own amazement." Pisel, Torrance Dairy worker, and Kinney, employed at the Coast Insulating company, have succeeded Carleton Bell and City Judge Robert Lessing as members of the quartet.

Lawn Mower Runs Itself

MILLERSVILLE, Pa. (U.P.)—Alvin Lodge has completed an invention that will bring cheers from boys throughout the nation—a remote control lawn mower that allows the operator to sit on the front porch while the grass is cut.

Masonic Club to Meet Monday

The first regular meeting of the Torrance Masonic club will be held at Masonic temple Monday evening, Aug. 8, at 7:30 p. m. All Masons, whether members or not, are cordially invited to attend.

The business session will be preceded by something novel in the way of entertainment. A large attendance is desired.

One Inning; 32 Runs

BARNVILLE, O. (U.P.)—Thirty-two runs were scored in one inning of a girls' baseball game here.