

## EMERALD OIL'S BARTO NO. 2 FLOWS GUSHER

At 1:30 this afternoon, Emerald Oil's Barto No. 2, on 232nd west of Narbonne was being gun-perforated. With a roar that was heard thruout the South Torrance field it came in a 1,500-barrel gusher. The blasting oil sprayed the crown block and automobiles parked 50 yards away. It was finally brought under control by oil-sodden workers. The well had been on production for the past 10 days from 5,100 feet but was gradually slowing up. No estimate has been made of the new production as result of the gusher.

While the well was shooting oil above the crown-block, estimated at a flow of more than 70 barrels an hour, hundreds of oil workers and visitors at the field thronged to the scene of the area's first gusher since the field was revived more than two years ago.

Drillers said that the gun-perforation job "must have struck a big pocket in the deep-sands." They worked frantically to bring the well under control.

But it was 15 minutes or more before the spouting oil was curbed and finally shut off. No estimate could be made of the gas pressure behind the gusher. The Emerald company was one of the first to enter the South Torrance field after the deep-sands were opened up.

## Local Men on 125-Mile Hike Over Six Passes of Snow-Bound Sierras

Carrying Alaskan-type packs weighing 60 pounds each, two local men are hiking over the High Sierras this week, traversing country that has not been visited by any person since last fall. They are Dr. R. A. Bingham, well-known dentist, and Don Mitchell, mining engineer son of Tom Mitchell.

They began their 125-mile trek Sunday from Huntington Lake and expect to come out of the mountains at Lone Pine and be home next Wednesday, Aug. 24. Enroute along the John Muir trail they will fish and Dr. Bingham will take many pictures because that is his hobby. They will cross six passes in the High Sierras, four of them over 12,000 feet and the other two having an altitude of 13,300 feet.

Dr. Bingham and Mitchell will round Mt. Whitney, whose 14,500 feet is the highest land in the United States, and follow the south fork of the San Joaquin river. They will cross all three forks of the King river and then tramp over the divide to Kern river.

There is plenty of snow in this region, according to rangers, and no stock has been allowed over the high passes yet this year. The local men expect to be the first over several of the grades.

Before they left, the dentist and engineer said they believed they could hike about 15 miles a day. Mitchell intended to study rock formations and the geology of the Sierras along the route while Dr. Bingham takes pictures. They will be completely out of touch with the rest of the world most of the way; no ranger stations being located in the area which is said to be the highest and wildest of the Sierras.

Both Dr. Bingham and Mitchell are experienced hikers and woodsmen, the dentist having made a number of such trips in California, Oregon and Washington and the engineer having toured the state of Colorado on foot.

## Armed Bandit Robs Station Owner of \$27 Last Night

One man armed with a nickel-plated revolver and driving a car police learned was stolen, held up and robbed George Pearson of \$27 at the Richfield service station, 1149 Torrance boulevard, about 8 o'clock last night. Pearson gave police an excellent description of the bandit who drove into the station, obtained a full tank of gas and when Pearson came to collect, shoved the revolver across the Buick coupe's door at the service station owner. The bandit backed Pearson into the station, forced him to open the cash register, scooped up the contents, drove out Cabrio and disappeared.

## Officials Going to State Convention

Members of the city council, city clerk, city engineer, and city attorney will attend sessions of the state convention of the League of Municipalities, to be held at Santa Barbara Sept. 6-9. Expenses for the trip will be paid by the city, as authorized by action of the council Tuesday night.

## \$50,000 Worth of Mink Arrive at Local Farm

A new industry was ushered into Torrance late last week to the accompaniment of squeals, chirps or barks or whatever sound \$50,000 worth of live mink make on being transferred from their traveling cages in a special refrigerated express car to pens at the Fur Farms, Inc., on 182nd street between Western and Cypress streets.

The mink yawned and squinted at the strange California sun beneath which they will raise next winter's crop of fur coats. They were the first of a lot of a \$200,000 shipment to Torrance from the Westchester Fur Farms in Garland, Maine. The 26 highly bred animals will be used for breeding purposes.

The eel-like aristocrats of the fur-bearing world were literally wet-nursed across the continent by Railway Express Agency employees, getting their fresh, cool water twice daily, and their four ounces of lean, ground beef every afternoon precisely at 5 o'clock.

Establish Auction Center Cans of brine were kept near the cages in which the slender-bodied weasels were quartered, assuring that the temperature of the express car would never rise higher than 70 degrees. The press company employees watched the litter day and night, seeing to it that they didn't upset their drinking fountains.

A wet mink, according to A. P. Croft, foreman, if confined in a cage, will develop pneumonia within a few hours and die. All of the animals arrived in excellent condition, it is understood. The North Torrance and Inglewood-Centennial district has become one of the most important fur-raising sections of the nation. One of the country's biggest fur companies has established an auction center near the city limits.

The mink arriving last week were bred by Gertrude E. Fox, widow of Dr. Frederick E. Fox, who died in South America of malaria while searching for Paul Redfern, aviator lost in the wilds of the Amazon. Her partner in the industry is John Jacob Astor Chandler, great-grandson of the pioneer fur dealer of the American Northwest. On arrival in Los Angeles, the animals were transferred at once in a refrigerated truck to the North-Torrance breeding farm where they will be scientifically mated to produce perfectly matched pelts.

## Mattoon Act Topic for No. Torrance Meeting Tomorrow

All property owners interested in relieving their land from the burden of Alondra Park Mattoon act assessments should attend the meeting to be held at the community hall on Pier Avenue in North Redondo tomorrow (Friday) night at 8 o'clock. Supervisor Leland Ford will speak in regard to the effect the Mattoon act has had on Alondra Park and adjoining territory. Members of the North Torrance Improvement association are vitally interested in this matter and are urging relief from burdensome taxes.

Leonard Young, acting city engineer, and A. H. Bartlett, city clerk, were delegated Tuesday night by the city council to attend this session. The city's cooperation has been requested by the North-Torrance civic group in an effort to wipe out the piled up Mattoon act assessments now barring the Alondra Park district from development.

## Wittenberg Named State Senator

Charles F. Wittenberg, prominent Nevada mining operator and business man who was married to Olive Lee of this city last April, was appointed a Nevada state senator this week to succeed Senator William Marsh, who died several months ago. Wittenberg, who resides with his wife in Tonopah, will serve until the 1940 general election.

## Unbreakable Lamp Globes Purchased

Broken lamp globes on Torrance boulevard will be replaced with unbreakable equipment due to the action of the city council Tuesday night in appropriating \$83 plus tax for the purchase of six globes.

## Wind, 5; Hirshon, 0 Breeze Beats Grid Star In Tower Passing Stunt

When a football falls 490 feet, it isn't going too fast to be caught, providing the football player who plans to catch it can get anywhere near it. That's the opinion of Hal Hirshon, UCLA grid star, after trying to make such a catch Monday morning.

Hirshon wasn't able to run as fast as the wind blew—in every direction—when he experimented with receiving a 160 yard pass from the top of the new KNX transmitter tower in Torrance.

About 800 spectators drove to 190th street and Hawthorne avenue to watch the UCLA star race with the wind. The first ball tossed from the top of the tower by Steeplejack Bill Gonyea dropped straight for about 200 feet and then started sailing east in the grip of a wind which Gonyea estimated to be blowing about 20-miles-an-hour. Hirshon stood at the spot that ball hit and waited to catch the second. The second one was blown far to the south.

Cameras followed Pigskin The nearest Hirshon could get to one of the falling footballs was about 10 yards, so erratic was the action of the wind that changed the ball's flight several times during each fall. Hirshon earned a cheer from the crowd by his valiant effort, particularly when he skidded through a ditch full of water in pursuing one of the zig-zagging spheroids.

The crowd of spectators, most of whom remained in their cars parked along 190th street and Hawthorne avenue adjoining the new transmitter station watched the 26-minute ascent of Steeplejack Gonyea with his bag of footballs and a small movie camera. Gonyea followed the course of several of the balls from the top of the tower while newsreel men ground away from (Continued on Page 4-A)

## N. S. Attorneys Fight Ruling By N. L. R. B.

National Supply company attorneys in Los Angeles were preparing an appeal this week to a ruling by Alvin Rockwell, National Labor Relations board trial examiner, that an asserted "company" union be dissolved at the local plant. Officials here declared that any "dissolution" of the employees association would have to come from the group itself.

The association, it was pointed out, has not been under the control of the company for several years and it operates as a separate association, incorporated under a state charter. The employees' group was incorporated July 1, 1937, and has a membership of about 600 of the National Supply's hourly personnel. Ralph L. Paddock is president.

Discharges Held Legal The order by the Labor Relations board came as the aftermath of attempts by the Steel Workers' Organizing Committee (C.I.O. affiliate) to force reinstatement of three men discharged last April. In this, Examiner Rockwell ruled the company was within its right to discharge the men for lack of work and because of asserted inattention to duty by one of the three.

The employees' group is a veteran association of National Supply company workers and more than a year ago won an election contested by the SWOC to become the legally recognized bargaining agency with the company.

## "TORRANCE ON THE AIR!" Postpone KNX-CBS Festivities Here for Week; Souvenir Edition is Also Delayed

Because KNX-CBS officials announced this week that the opening and dedication of the new \$350,000 transmitter station here must be postponed about a week from the tentative celebration date of Sept. 10 (as reported last week), The Herald is also delaying the publication of its special souvenir edition, "Torrance On the Air" to coincide with the plant festivities. This additional time will permit The Herald to include more news stories and pictures, especially the latter, in the issue which will commemorate the entry of the radio plant in the city. D. W. Thornburgh, general manager of CBS in the West, late today stated that Friday, September 16, had been definitely set as the date for the dedication of the transmitter and network broadcast from the gala dinner to be held in the Civic Auditorium which will permit staging one of the most outstanding CBS national programs in Torrance that night.

## Officials Expect PWA Approval of Park Project

Having received the project numbers and all forms necessary to launching the work, city officials are confident that their application for a Public Works Administration grant of 45 percent toward the cost of the proposed expansion of city recreation facilities will be approved by authorities in Washington, D. C.

"We have every reason to believe that our request for an appropriation of \$44,562 toward the cost of the \$99,030 recreation project will be formally approved within a few days," City Clerk A. N. Bartlett said.

A special municipal election is scheduled for Sept. 20 when local voters will be asked to decide whether or not they favor one, two, all three or none of the bond issues to construct the following recreation facilities:

A municipal plunge and bathhouse in the city park at a cost of \$33,000 of which the city would pay \$29,699 and the PWA award a grant of \$24,299, or 45 percent of the total;

Erection of recreation and community buildings and construction of four illuminated tennis courts in the city park at a cost of \$32,837 of which the city's share would be \$18,061 while the PWA would supply the remaining \$14,776. Last week's issue of The Herald incorrectly reported that the tennis courts were linked to the municipal plunge-bath-house bond issue. Mayor William H. Tolson corrected this account yesterday when he said the PWA projects combine the two recreation buildings and the tennis courts.

The third question to come before local voters concerns the issuance of \$6,708 in bonds to pay the city's share of the estimated cost of a Walteria recreation-library building, one tennis court and a playground. The total cost of this project would be \$12,195, of which the PWA is asked for a \$5,487 grant.

## Building Total for August Is \$180,500 Here

Building permits—15 of them for new wooden oil derricks in the South Torrance field—issued here during the past week totaled \$80,050. The total new construction here so far this month amounts to \$180,500 as compared to \$41,175 for the entire month of August in 1937. The construction total for the year to date is \$2,649,916. Last year the first eight months (including all of August) saw new building amounting to only \$996,045 started here.

For locations of new oil derricks started during the past week see the report on oil activities elsewhere on this page. This week's permits included one to the Crown Oil and Refining corporation for oil topping and cleaning plant at 1900 Vine avenue in the Santa Fe industrial tract, \$3,500; repairs to C. C. M. O's No. 18 rig at 2301 Sepulveda, \$1,500; and Gus Newman for a single frame garage at 2148 237th street, \$50.

## Vacation Ending In 25 Days

In just 25 more days summer vacation will be over for school children and they will troop back to classrooms for the beginning of the 1938-39 term. The schools will re-open on Monday morning, Sept. 12.



490 Ft. Up!



HE MISSED 'EM

HAL HIRSHON, is shown here waiting for Bill Gonyea, steeplejack on top of the KNX-CBS tower, to throw the footballs at him. His wait was in vain—the wind playfully spoiled the game.

## Lomita Oil Area Taking Lead in Production Here

With 70 wells actually completed and 50 others in various stages of drilling, the Lomita area of the South Torrance field continues to be the liveliest area in the Los Angeles oil basin. There are still on file with the State Oil and Gas division some 140 applications for permits to either drill new wells or deepen old ones in the Lomita area.

Almost every week someone completes a well in that sector which ranges close to 900 barrels per day but the water content of most of the wells, it is reported, runs at least 10 percent and the decline appears to offset a great deal of new production.

Deep zone production in the South Torrance field continues to show a decline. Present total production is estimated at 12,687 barrels a day from 87 wells, an average of 146 barrels per well, according to reports from sources considered authentic. Two weeks ago the average was reported around 174 barrels per well.

Harbor City Active In the D and B area of Harbor City there are eight projects under way and one well producing at the present time. Five of these projects are actually drilling, two are locations and another is setting boilers. Practically all are on the same section. The one producer is the D and B No. 1 discovery well of that sector.

The other wells are R. R. Busch Oil company's No. 1 drilling; California Star Oil company's Lerman No. 1, and the O'Brien No. 1, both drilling; Caminal company, Ltd., Torrance No. 1-1, location; General Petroleum corporation's Poggi No. 9, drilling; Isco Petroleum corporation's Extension No. 1, drilling; J. L. O'Donnell's No. 43, setting pipe, and Bandini Petroleum location for Harbor City, northeast of Lomita boulevard and Western avenue.

In the South Torrance field, Cal-Oak Oil finished its No. 1 this week for an estimated 475 barrels of 26.9 gravity cutting 0.1 percent. This project is located one-half block east of Pennsylvania on 234th in an area where many good completions have been accomplished within recent months.

Drilling in this field is at present centered south of 234th street and west of Pennsylvania with considerable activity going on about one block east of Pennsylvania. Completions during the past week were: Wilton Oil's No. 5, for 75 barrels; Kleau and Ford's No. 1, beamed back to 135 barrels; and Peters Royalties No. 1, which is now producing 140 barrels on a restricted flow from 5,002 feet.

Elctico Oil has staked location for its Airey No. 4 southwest of 235th and Pennsylvania. Kovell Oil has selected a site for its No. 4 southeast of 235th and Pennsylvania. E. E. Fairchild has staked location for No. 34-1 southeast from the intersection of 234th and Pennsylvania. It has taken a site southwest of Lomita boulevard and Marigold.

Imperial Gypsum and Oil is said about to complete its No. 2 from 5,060 feet on the southeast corner of 29th and Narbonne. E. D. Hopkins has staked location for his Caltrero No. 1 on the southwest corner of 235th and Pennsylvania.

Plan Absorption Plant It was learned this week that the Inglewood Gasoline company plans to erect an absorption plant half-way between the South Torrance field and the new Lomita extension. Plans call for lines to both areas. Earlier completions this week were registered by Charles T. McCowan, Jr., who brought in the Linds No. 1 on 228th east of Pennsylvania, for 175 barrels of 26.5 gravity from 5,165 feet. Day and Dilley finished the Washburn No. 1 for 185 barrels from 5,175 feet. Southwest of 236th and Eshelman Marley and Losch have a foundation for a well.

Standard Oil has made locations for two more wells on the Marble lease, No. 1-14 and No. 2-7. Lomita Drilling has completed its Hogan No. 1 for a yield of 246 barrels of 25.4 gravity cutting 7.2 percent from 4,985 feet at 234th and Pennsylvania. Packard Petroleum is preparing to complete its Lomita No. 3 from 4,908 feet and Jones (Continued on Page 2-A)

## Steep Gutters Eliminated

Gone with the dusty streets of a previous era are the teeth-jarring survivals of the day when steep gutters across street intersections were necessary to drain flood waters here. Since Torrance escaped the inundation that swept other parts of Southern California in recent years it was decided to eradicate the ditches.

William Gascoigne, street superintendent, is nearing the completion of this job. Water carrying capacity of the open drains will not be restricted by the improvement, according to Leonard Young, acting city engineer, who surveyed the street intersections before the humps and bumps were smoothed out. This consisted of making wide ditches out of narrow ones.

First street to be improved—and the worst motorist-jarrier of the lot—was Torrance boulevard. Other streets where steep gutters have been leveled include Post, Cravens, Plaza del Amo and Arlington.

## Supply Workers and Friends to Hold Picnic Sunday

Employees of the National Supply company are planning a basket picnic for their families Sunday, Aug. 21. The outing will be held at Griffith Park, Los Angeles, starting at 10 o'clock. Ice cream will be served free to all employees and their families and there will be a number of special attractions such as ball games, horseshoe pitching contests and races. Those attending are expected to provide their own basket lunches.