



Brig. Gen. George E. Leach, Minneapolis mayor and president of the National Guard Association, left, discusses the latest European war crisis with Brig. Gen. Fred M. Waterbury, right, secretary of the association, in San Francisco at the national convention of the association.

## City Engineer Suggests P.E. Give Up Cabrillo Avenue Line Here

A suggestion that the Pacific Electric railway company abandon its Cabrillo Avenue line through Torrance was made before Railway Commission Examiner A. F. Ager, by Leonard J. Young, acting city engineer of Torrance at a hearing late last week.

At the conclusion of the hearing, the commission's examiner took the matter under advisement. He did not announce any definite date for the findings.

Engineer Young's suggestion came during the conference over the P. E.'s proposed abandonment of passenger and freight service between Torrance and San Pedro.

**Detrimental Dust Clouds**  
Young told the examiner that the Cabrillo avenue line's right-of-way was unpaved, and because of that, for about nine months of the year, discomforting clouds of dust followed each train. These dust clouds, Young said, were held detrimental to business by Torrance merchants.

Young said that since Border avenue was but a block away from the Cabrillo avenue line he did not think traffic on the latter line justified maintenance of two lines so closely parallel. However, Examiner Ager ruled that such matters should be taken up at a separate hearing.

Resuming the hearing on the proposed abandonment of the P. E. service between Torrance and San Pedro, H. O. Marler, passenger traffic manager of the P. E., testified that in 18 trips during an 18 hour day, only 91 passengers were served by the line they proposed to abandon. He testified that the P. E. is losing \$5,143 a year by operating the line.

**Harbor City Would Suffer**  
If, however, he testified, the line be abandoned, traffic diverted to a parallel line of their system would show an increase of \$3,850 in income and saving due to such a move. He admitted that Harbor City was the only community acutely affected by such a proposed plan.

Mrs. Lena M. Preston, postmaster of Harbor City, testified that if the P. E. abandonment plan is adopted, her community of about 3,000 will have only one bus service a day. As alternative, however, she said they could walk a half a mile, or more to a bus line. She testified that high fares and irregular service had curtailed use of trains and busses by Harbor City citizens.

## Democrats Plan Campaign Tactics

Democrats will inaugurate their campaign in the 68th Assembly district by holding a meeting at the Charles Dana high school Friday evening for the purpose of selecting committees, campaign managers, and other officers. Headquarters are to be established at San Pedro, Wilmington, Torrance and Lomita.

At a meeting of the Democratic Central committee, in Gardena Monday night, Cornelius Kelly of the 67th district was elected campaign manager of the 17th Congressional district. A manager of the 68th Assembly district will be selected at the meeting Friday night. All those interested in the success of Democratic candidates at the polls in November are urged to attend this session.

## Lomita Park Improvement Fund Granted

An appropriation of \$3,500 has been made by the County Forestry department for use in improving Lomita's county park on Eshelman avenue and work is expected to start within a few days, according to word received by H. H. Halliday, Lomita Chamber of Commerce secretary. Completion of the first phase of the park creation program is expected by the first of next year.

The Lomita park was purchased by the board of supervisors about a year ago but nothing until late last week had been done about its improvement. Halliday asserted that the Forestry department's work will probably include landscaping and erection of several small buildings.

Lomita sponsors of the project express hope that a baseball field and extensive playground equipment would be included in the plans for development of the tract.

## Local Boys Win Fair Awards

The poultry judging team of Torrance high school brought home some ribbons from the contest at the county fair last Saturday. The local team, composed of Milton Carlson, Marshall Condon and Thomas Zumwalt, was highest of 18 teams. Judging Rhode Island hens, and third high in judging Leghorns. Milton Carlson was high individual in judging Reds, and Condon was third with Leghorns. Zumwalt had prepared to judge livestock, but joined the other two to make up a poultry team and made the second high team score.

Members of the local chapter of Future Farmers of America have done well in other activities at Pomona this year. Robert Benigar's New Zealand white doe with litter was awarded first place. Akira Nakamura's green lima beans also took a blue ribbon, while Masaharu Hata's sweet potatoes were awarded second place. Leslie Hedrick and Condon are taking some chickens to the poultry show during the last week of the fair. The feature booth portraying a plant nursery as a chapter activity received the fourth award. There are ten feature booths entered by different Future Farmer chapters in the southland designed to show some phase of scientific agriculture that is being stressed in the classroom.

The fair activity which probably attracts the most popular interest is the egg production contest. This contest runs thru the entire fair period so it will not be concluded until Sunday night. This year Leslie Hedrick's Australorps are representing the Torrance chapter, and at mid-contest stand third, close behind Perris and Chaffey.

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## FACTORY FROLIC PLANS DRAWN

### Fire and Explosion Wrecks Cafe Here Early Tuesday

#### Estimate Damage More Than \$5,000

An exploding ammonia drum attached to a ton and one-half capacity refrigerator and ice-making machine contributed the major damage to a \$5,000 fire which gutted Daniels cafe and portions of the Torrance Relief Society's headquarters and an adjoining vacant garage building at 1825-27-29 Cabrillo avenue at daybreak Tuesday morning.

His eyes still smarting from the powerful ammonia fumes which prevented firemen from entering the blazing cafe building, Director John Stroh of the public safety department investigated the motor attached to the refrigerator and found what he believed was the cause of the city's worst fire in several years.

"The belt to the motor shows that it was slipping and evidently caused friction which ignited something near it," Stroh said. The fire was making headway in the rear of the cafe kitchen when it was discovered by police on patrol about 4:25 a. m. The officers saw the flames spurting from vents in the rear of the cafe structure and raced to the fire station to sound the alarm.

**Firemen Endangered**  
As the first fire truck was pulling out of headquarters, the ammonia tank—believed to have been about two-thirds full—exploded. The blast aroused many Torrance residents. It was a sharp concussion which blew out the plate glass windows at the front of the cafe, shot the flames through the kitchen and up to the roof. Aided by a slight wind, the draft created by the blasted out rear openings and the shattered windows quickly put the fire out of control.

A second fire truck and more men were on the scene after Engineer Jay Benner had surveyed the conflagration and saw the need for salvage tarpaulins to cover the counters and booths and continue the fight against the spreading flames. These were racing along the unbroken space between the cafe ceiling and the second floor and from the eating place thru the ceiling to the former Buick garage quarters.

It took a good hour and a half's work by 10 firemen using 85 feet of ladders and 1,600 feet of hose to finally extinguish the fire. Engineer Benner and Fireman McConville, who had donned gas masks to fight the blaze from the upstairs hallway by directing their hose under the floor and along the ceiling structure.

## Output Gains in Local Oil Fields, Report

Total deep zone production for the South Torrance, Lomita and Harbor City fields is now 15,456 barrels from 126 wells, according to a report from the state division of oil and gas production. This compares with a total of 13,898 barrels from 109 wells in the area two weeks ago. The completion of the J. E. Pettijohn No. 1 well this week on 238th street about two blocks east of Pennsylvania, which is flowing 600 barrels of 25.2 gravity cutting two percent was the outstanding feature of the South Torrance activity.

Pumping an unestimated yield, Del Amo Oil has finished Donbo No. 1 east of Pennsylvania on 237th from 4,900 feet. This well is on the edge of the structure, being one-half block north of Young and Bryans' project which missed the oil sand entirely. Freeman Holding has re-completed Baxter No. 1 on Pennsylvania south of 238th for an unestimated yield from 4,870 feet.

On 235th street, west of Pennsylvania, A. A. Douglas is completing Beaudette No. 1 from 4,950 feet. Southeast of 235th and Narbonne Rogers and Edwards are preparing to deepen the old Equitable No. 1. In the old Torrance field, adjacent to

### Property Owners Demand Residential Restrictions

Declaring they have become apprehensive concerning the future of their property because a Los Angeles man has been permitted to erect two three-room frame houses costing \$800 each on a lot at the corner of Beech and Sierra streets, residents living north of Torrance boulevard and on those two streets, Cedar and Acacia street petitioned the city council to zone their district against multiple dwellings.

That immediate attention will be given the demand of the petitioning property owners was indicated by Mayor William H. Tolson and city councilmen. The mayor said that the request would be incorporated in the city-wide zoning ordinance which is now being rushed to completion. There will be several hearings on this measure but it will be adopted as quickly as possible.

Tolson said. He referred the petition to Leonard Young, acting city engineer, and City Attorney John E. McCall who will change the status of the district from "unrestricted" to "Class A" which will limit future construction there to single family dwellings. Announcement is expected at the next council meeting of the first hearing on the zoning ordinance.

"We are convinced," the Cedar-Beech-Acacia-Sierra street property owners declared in their petition, "that if building is permitted to continue unrestricted we shall suffer individually in loss of value to our present homesteads and the city of Torrance will suffer generally in the lowering of the former high standard of home building."

**Concerned for Future**  
Signed by all but two property owners in the district, the statement pointed out that this standard has been adhered to by the undersigned in a desire to make this, the youngest residential district in the city, a pleasant and slightly community in which to live.

Residents of that area are highly indignant over the asserted cheap type of multiple houses which Victor H. Johnson of Los Angeles has been in the process of building since last June. They are concerned lest he or others erect other such structures in the vicinity to reduce property values there and point out that nearly every resident in the district owns his or her home which cost on the average better than \$3,800 to construct.

"We believe that your honorable body should take such necessary zoning measures as are required to protect various sections of Torrance from low cost, multiple dwellings which have been and will be constructed without respect to the general standard of the particular district in which they are located," the petition continued.

**Signers Listed**  
"We urge you to take this action as soon as is convenient in the interest of this city of which we are justly proud and which we hope to be able to continue to enjoy."

The petition was signed by (Continued on Page 4)

## CITY AND U.S.C. MAY JOIN IN TAPPING ANCIENT MOUND

A veritable treasure-house of ancient civilizations 25,000 or 30,000 years old may be excavated soon near Hollywood Riviera under the direction of U.S.C. department of archeology experts if the site is found within city limits, permission is obtained from the owner of the property and WPA approval for the labor.

Dr. A. O. Bowdin of U.S.C. in a brief appearance before the city council Tuesday night declared that the large mound near the ocean is believed to contain evidence of people who came to America from the Orient via the Behring Strait thousands of years ago. He asked the council to sponsor a \$10,000 WPA project for the work "in the name of scientific advancement."

Mayor William H. Tolson and other councilmen appeared keenly interested in the proposal, especially because it would cost the city nothing to sponsor the project and all discoveries would become the property of Torrance. Leonard Young, acting city engineer, was asked to determine at once if the mound site is within city limits and City Attorney John E. McCall was requested to investigate the legal status of the project.

**Surprising Discoveries**  
According to Dr. Bowdin, the mound site is about a mile long, has only been "scratched" and yet the relics found have so intrigued archeologists that they are ready to assert the site is "as old as any trace of civilization on the entire Pacific Coast."

Some minor excavations made during the past two or three years have resulted in surprising discoveries of traces that the surrounding area had been peopled by about four different prehistoric tribes.

"But excavation of such a site is a big job and a costly one," the U.S.C. professor declared. "And the university cannot undertake it alone. I think the city of Torrance could get a WPA project to provide the labor—about 25 men would be needed for pick-and-shovel work—and we would be willing to supply the job. It would take about six months of hard work to thoroughly explore the area."

Dr. Bowdin said he was "positive we'll find something very interesting." He said the venture would be of no profit to him or the university and the city would receive all of the relics of material uncovered to do with what it liked. The only interest he of the university would have in the project would be "to advance man's knowledge of man" and to give students an opportunity to study archeological excavation.

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### Highway Group Assembles Here Tonight at 6:30



W. A. CURL

On account of the fire which damaged Daniels cafe early Tuesday morning, the Southwest District Highway association will hold its dinner meeting tonight at 6:30 o'clock at the Christian church. President W. A. Curl of Hawthorne will preside.

According to Leonard Young, acting city engineer who is secretary of the association, L. J. Gilmeister, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, will speak on highway needs for this area; a representative of the Automobile Club will discuss the November ballot proposition No. 3 regarding non-diversion of the state gasoline tax fund, and the association will consider uniting behind a movement to obtain the extension, widening and improvement of Crenshaw boulevard south thru Torrance.

### Petition Asks for Poker Games

A petition signed by 34 men and women stating that "we the undersigned business-men and residents of Torrance believing that local business will be stimulated thereby, are in favor of an ordinance permitting legal card games," was referred to the ordinance committee by the city council Tuesday night.

An application by Bert M. Sharon to operate legal poker games here was filed pending a report from the committee which is now studying the issue which has been bobbing up in council sessions for the past several months.

To date the council has consistently refused to adopt a licensing ordinance or grant permits for the games.

### Garbage Disposal Plant Proposed

Declaring that he believed the city should undertake a study of a project that would result in the acquisition of a municipally-owned and operated garbage and refuse disposal plant, Councilman James Hitchcock this week urged an investigation of the procedure necessary to start a special fund for this enterprise.

His suggestion that the city attorney be authorized to undertake a survey was approved by the city council Tuesday night. Hitchcock said he believed the city could save considerable money by operating a garbage and refuse disposal plant at the city dump. At the present time such service is costing the city \$1 a load, he said.

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## Aid of All Groups in City Sought to Make Civic Event a Success

Everything from a bon fire to a fashion show in the form of free community entertainment has been tentatively arranged by local organizations cooperating with the Torrance Coordinating Council for the city's first annual Factory Frolic, Friday and Saturday, Oct. 28 and 29, according to reports received by President John E. (Jack) Miller at an enthusiastic meeting Monday night.

### World's Slowest Auto Race to be Frolic Feature

How slow will your car move in high gear?

If it can creep along at about 5 miles an hour without "going dead" you've a good chance to win one of the awards to be presented the victors in the "world's slowest auto race"—a feature of the coming Torrance Factory Frolic, Oct. 28-29.

The Torrance C.I.O. lodge has undertaken to sponsor this feature of the Frolic. Entries are to be taken in the near future—so check up on your machine and get it ready to imitate a turtle!

## BEACH CITIES ENDORSE ALL BOND ISSUES

Bond issues fared far better last week and this in Redondo, Hermosa and Manhattan Beaches than the proposal to vote bonds for additional recreation facilities here on Sept. 20. Redondo Beach voters endorsed four bond issues, Manhattan Beach electors approved seven and Hermosa Beach citizens adopted one.

The three communities voted a total of \$790,576 in bonds to launch a building and improvement program amounting to \$1,548,954—the balance being contributed by Federal PWA grants. Here are the various projects and the amounts voted:

**IN REDONDO BEACH:** Tuesday by a vote of 3,380 to 526 voters approved the construction of a breakwater costing \$524,454 of which the bond issue was for \$300,000 with the Federal government supplying \$224,454. This is regarded as the first improvement in the development of a proposed pleasure harbor at the nearby beach community.

By a vote of 2,730 to 1,068, Redondo voters also endorsed a \$197,000 building program for the construction of municipal auditoriums in Redondo and North Redondo. The bond issue for this project totaled \$125,000. The Federal government grant amounts to \$72,000.

Redondo Beach school electors also carried a bond issue for \$125,000 for the erection of a new school building, a municipal building and a combination auditorium-cafeteria at the Grant school. The Federal PWA grant toward this project is \$120,576. The bond vote was 768 to 209.

**IN MANHATTAN BEACH:** Monday by the narrowest of margins, voters approved a \$404,000 civic development program when participating funds of \$142,000 were voted. The bond issue, when added to Federal appropriations of \$262,000, will be used to construct a municipal auditorium, reconstruct the city hall, build and equip a fire station and a recreation park and widen and improve three streets.

**IN HERMOSA:** By a vote of 818 "yes" to 399 "no" the school system was authorized to go ahead with immediate preparations for an expansion program totaling \$178,924. The Federal government has already earmarked an \$80,424 appropriation for this work. The bond issue, which passed by the narrow margin of only six votes, was for \$98,500.

### Principals Hold Conference Here

Twenty-three school principals and supervisors of this area held a conference with Assistant Superintendent Robert Hill, successor of Warren C. Conrad, at the Torrance Elementary school yesterday morning. They discussed curriculum and administration problems.

There will be music, parades, scores of exhibits, dances, special competitive events and concessions to transform the business district of Torrance into a carnival setting of gaiety and fun. There will be all the features of Halloween—which comes on the following Monday—without the usual damage and every resident of Torrance and vicinity is urged to reserve that weekend—the last in October—for Factory Frolicking.

The churches of the city will unite on Sunday evening, Oct. 30, for a union service in the Civic Auditorium and pastors have agreed to devote their morning sermons to the theme of Torrance's industrial and communal welfare.

**Urges Prompt Replies**  
"We are making every effort to plan a Factory Frolic which will launch a community festivity that will be worthy of continuing in years to come," President Miller declares. "But to do the job right, to gain the interest of all residents in this city-wide event, we must have the co-operation of every organized group in Torrance. We want them to participate in the various parades, to operate concessions, to install exhibits of any kind that suits their fancy."

"Letters have been sent all city groups describing what they can do to make the Factory Frolic a success. We want answers to those letters, telling us what each group is going to do in the way of operating a concession or preparing floats and exhibits, as soon as possible so that we can work out any conflicts that may arise over two or more groups wanting to sell the same merchandise or staging the same kind of exhibit."

**Costumes and Queens**  
At the Tuesday night meeting in the city court room it was decided that costumes for men will consist of bib overalls, blue work shirt and shop cap with "Torrance Factory Frolic" imprinted on the headband. All women of this city will be asked to wear blue and white checkered aprons and attractive head-dresses with the same headbands. The men's garb will cost about \$1.16 while the women's aprons and caps will sell for about 35 cents. These costumes, Miller said, are to be worn throughout the week of the Frolic.

To publicize the civic event, an automobile caravan parade will make a tour of surrounding cities Tuesday afternoon, Oct. 25. All residents who can are urged to join this procession. Banners will be furnished for the cars.

Mayor William H. Tolson has written officials in 10 nearby cities and communities, inviting the entry of floats and representative young girls who will be known as "Queens" for the gala comedy parade to be held Saturday, Oct. 29. There will be no Torrance entry in the "Queen contest" and prizes of \$25, \$15 and \$10 will be awarded winners in this event. Cities invited to send their "Queens" here were Redondo Beach, Gardena, Hermosa Beach, Inglewood, Hawthorne, Manhattan Beach, El Segundo, Harbor City, Lomita and Wilmington.

**Saturday Big Day**  
The business district of the city, where all of the main events, exhibits and concessions will be located, is to be attractively decorated and illuminated for the two days and nights. President George Peckham of the Torrance Retail Merchants' association is in charge of this phase of the Frolic and also is head of the automobile advertising parade stunt.

Principal event of Friday afternoon, Oct. 28, will be the football game between Torrance and Banning high schools at the Torrance field. In the evening the regular students' dance will be held in the Civic Auditorium as well as special events downtown Saturday, Oct. 29, will be the (Continued on Page 4)