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Remains of Mammoth Beast Uncovered at Reservoir Site Here

AGE-OLD RELIC . . . Here are S. J. Dickey (right), General Petroleum's vice president in charge of manufacturing, and Fred Isaacs, superintendent of G. P. refineries and a Torrance resident, examining a portion of a Mammoth tusk uncovered with many other fossils on the site of the new 11-acre reservoir in North Torrance for the storage of oil.

An entrancing story of 25,000 to 100,000 years ago in Southern California has just been revealed with the discovery of many parts of tusks, teeth and various bones of these animals by workmen excavating for a great 11-acre storage reservoir on the refinery property of General Petroleum Corporation in Torrance.

Tales of the age when much of North America was covered with ice and snow, and when the ice sheet spread over Torrance-Gardena land now occupied by farms, homes and industrial plants, the remains have been classified by university scientists as those of Mammoths that roamed this country in large numbers. Similar specimens have been uncovered at many other places, including LaBrea pits in western Los Angeles.

Standing 12 feet high at the shoulders, with tusks about eight feet in length and with teeth measuring a foot in length the Mammoths were strange and terrifying creatures, as indicated by descriptions of scientists who examined the articles uncovered at the General Petroleum property. These specialists include Dr. L. H. Miller, professor of Biology at U. C. L. A.; Prof. Chester Stock, of California Institute of Technology, division of geological sciences; and James Kimball of General's geological department.

In the great excavation, which is being made for the holding of two and a half million barrels of oil—oil is one of the largest pits ever dug in the West, marine shells were found that definitely establish the fact that the ocean was located at this point, now several miles from the shore line of the Pacifec. It is the statement of scientists that much of the land of the Torrance-Gardena area was covered with water and that the Palos Verdes district was an island in the sea.

A number of the specimens just discovered have been taken to the U. C. L. A. geological department for exhibition and study.

Vocation Service at Library Here

Do you want to know how to build an automobile trailer? Do you want to learn about modern petroleum refining processes? Or do you have other different problems in the fields of science and industry which could perhaps be solved by the advice of the thousands of experts available to you through the resources of your local library?

Mrs. Dorothy Jamison, librarian of the Torrance Public Library at 1335 Post avenue, announces that Eugene D. Hart technical reference librarian of the Los Angeles County Public Library, will be present from 7 to 9 p. m. Monday, Jan. 9. Hart will assist patrons who may have particular interests or needs in the fields of science and industry.

The technical reference department of the County Library answers thousands of requests each year from patrons of county library branches for information on the many and varied phases of such subjects as agriculture, engineering, medicine, building and business. It has supplied the needs of a great many county residents for dependable, useful information about their various problems and interests. All borrowers who have practical problems in their occupation or avocations are urged to take advantage of Hart's visits.

Fire Station Gets Correct Name On New Sign

For the first time since it was completed in August, 1926, the fire station on Cravens avenue now bears its correct name.

It is "Torrance Fire Station No. 1."

A new Neon-illuminated sign, exactly the same as other building markers identifying the Civic Center structures, was installed on its front facade yesterday.

Station No. 1 was recently redecorated to conform in color —cream and green—with the other municipal buildings and the new sign is the last improvement to go on it.

POLICE BUSY CURBING '39 CELEBRANTS

As 1938 drew to a close last week, police officers were kept busy but they did not have a single occupant of the jail to feed with a New Year's dinner. Six arrests were made for intoxication Saturday and Sunday, one of the excessive drinkers being a woman. All but one received the usual $5 fine, the exception being a man who was given a $50 fine which was suspended for two years on condition that he remains out of Torrance.

Other arrests as the old year died were: Edward Young, 25, Long Beach oil worker, and W. E. Flury, 24, Long Beach welder, arrested at 235th and Eshelman Dec. 30 for assault and battery and intoxication. Young was given 60 days in the county jail while Flury had 85 days of his 90-day sentence suspended on condition that he would leave the county. After serving two days he was released early in the afternoon of New Year's Day.

Carl W. Dunn, 40, mechanic residing at 2517 Eldorado, was arrested Dec. 29 for driving while intoxicated at Torrance boulevard and Cravens. Seventy-five days of his 90-day county jail sentence was suspended.

For being intoxicated, disturbing the peace and violation of probation, Romie Thompson, 24, laborer living at 1426 Carson street, was sentenced to 180 days in the county jail as an aftermath of a family quarrel.

Charges of assault and battery placed against George Wheelwright, 19, of San Pedro, following a disturbance Dec. 25 near the Civic Auditorium, were dismissed Tuesday at the request of the plantiff, Zeddie W. Masters, 22, of 2223 Lomita boulevard. Masters was arrested Christmas Day, charged with being intoxicated and disturbing the peace. He plead guilty and was fined $10 for being intoxicated and $50 or 25 days, suspended for two years, for the other count.

Joe Penoncelli, 25, of Huntington Park, is scheduled to appear before City Judge Robert Lessing next Wednesday, Jan. 11, to answer a charge of driving while intoxicated. He was arrested early New Year's morning after he had driven his car up against a house on Emerald street.

'38 BANNER YEAR HERE FOR BUILDING

Nineteen thirty-eight was an all-time banner year for new construction in Torrance with building permits totalling $3,143,873 for a gain of 195 percent more than last year's $1,066,057. The past year's construction was 295 percent, according to records compiled at the city engineer's office.

Residential building kept pace with industrial construction, there being 75 new homes erected at a cost of $155,750 as compared with 55 houses built in 1937 for $116,995. One of the reasons for the record-breaking year was the South Torrance deep sand oil boom which led operators to erect 153 dericks in that active area.

December construction totaled $68,155 as compared with $23,690 for the 12th month of 1937. The annual building totals for the past 17 years have been:

1938	$3,143,873
1937	1,066,057
1936	453,978
1935	204,895
1934	138,807
1933	637,811
1932	789,898
1931	102,690
1930	417,887
1929	606,428
1928	1,668,979
1927	2,119,923
1926	457,788
1925	357,605
1924	1,092,260
1923	1,873,295
1922	333,680

In addition to the 75 new homes and the 153 oil derricks erected in 1938, the building development included the following projects: 56 private garages, 42 alteration or addition jobs to residences, 39 industrial buildings, 33 alterations or additions to industrial plants, 40 oil tanks, four school buildings, two office buildings, two signs, a trailer camp, radio antenna tower, service station, church and a shed.

Here are the comparative monthly building totals for 1938 and 1937:

Month	1938	1937
January	$1,811,950	$ 41,030
February	32,400	11,845
March	154,250	24,155
April	81,225	21,690
May	81,397	204,615
June	119,415	16,585
July	188,779	634,950
August	241,257	41,175
September	70,322	21,436
October	91,208	17,626
November	203,515	7,260
December	68,155	23,690
Totals	$3,143,873	$1,066,057

Lomita Postal Receipts Show Good Increase

A gain of more than seven percent over the gross postal receipts for 1937, which in turn had gained 18 percent over 1936, was reported yesterday by Postmaster Birda Paddock of the Lomita postoffice as she completed her 1938 report.

More than $160,000 in money orders were sold during last year to place that part of the postal business more than 25 percent over the 1936 volume when the Lomita office was declared second class.

When Christmas Met New Year's

—Torrance Herald Photo.

Here are the Christmas and New Year's babies who were born at Torrance Memorial hospital. At the left Mrs. Erma Blakely is holding Duane St. Clair Cooke, who was born New Year's Day. At the right Miss Goldie Gordanier is shown with Dale Orville Woods, Jr., who arrived Christmas Day.

Christmas met New Year 1939 rather informally Tuesday morning when Master Dale Orville Woods, Jr., who was born Dec. 25 to Mr. and Mrs. Dale O. Woods of Hermosa Beach, posed with Master Duane St. Clair Cooke, who was the first baby of the New Year in the entire Harbor District area.

He was born at 2:43 New Year's afternoon to Mr. and Mrs. Bert Cooke of 1103 Portola avenue at Torrance Memorial hospital. Father Cooke is employed at the Columbia Steel plant.

Young Master Woods had just been returned to his crib in the hospital nursery from a late breakfast when The Herald's photographer hove on the scene and, with the assistance of Miss Goldie Gordanier and Mrs. Erma Blakely, nurses at the hospital, introduced him to Master Cooke.

"Goo!" murmured the New Year infant.

But Master Christmas had nothing to say . . . he was sound asleep.

"They're both splendid babies," the nurses said in chorus.

Theatre Building Is Sold Here

Indicating its faith in Torrance and intention to continue operation of the Torrance theatre for some time to come, the M and M Enterprises, Inc., have purchased the Torrance Auditorium building at Sartori and Marcelina avenues, it was announced yesterday. The purchase price was not revealed.

Built in 1920, the Auditorium property is one of the city's landmarks. In addition to the theatre, it houses the present office of the Dominguez Land company and Christy's Cafe. The M and M Enterprises corporation is controlled by H. H. Milstein and Albert Mellinkoff, who purchased the Torrance theatre equipment and lease several years ago.

No changes in the structure are contemplated at the present time, the purchasing firm stated. The M and M concern is now

(Continued from Page 6)

Japanese First '39 Auto Victim

A 23-year-old Japanese, Sam Mayeda of Terminal Island, was fatally injured Saturday night at Carson street and Normandie avenue to become the Harbor District's first 1939 auto crash casualty. He succumbed at 12:15 p. m., Sunday at Torrance Memorial hospital. As result of the accident, John H. Carlson, 51, of El Monte, was booked by San Pedro police on a felony charge of driving while intoxicated.

The coroner's jury brought in a verdict yesterday afternoon that the fatal accident was due to Carlson's negligence. A representative of the district attorney's office said that a manslaughter charge would be placed against the El Montean immediately.

In the side-swipe-head-on collision, James Yumoto, 36, driver and companion of Mayeda, was critically injured, the officers

(Continued on Page 4)

Council Makes Stroh Permanent Head of Police, Fire Depts.

With the adoption of two resolutions and a motion, the city council Tuesday night concluded re-organization of the police and fire departments that was begun six months ago and ratified the expulsion of Captain A. D. Stevenson from the fire department by the trial board of the Civil Service commission.

Because John Stroh's six-months' probationary term as director of the Public Safety (police and fire) department ended Jan. 1, the council had to either (1) make his ofice permanent or (2) return to the former department ratings of fire chief and police chief.

By resolution Stroh was named chief of the police department and director of Public Safety, thus filling both head offices in the two departments. The council's resolution specifically gave him supervision over the fire department and all duties ordinarily performed by the chief of that department. His salary will remain at its present figure—$225 per month. He will not come under Civil Service.

JOHN STROH
. . . man of lengthy title

Longest Moniker

The motion adopted raised Captain John E. McMaster, a member of the fire department since 1925, to acting chief as of Jan. 1. He was given a six months' leave of absence from his former rating under Civil Service. This provision was inserted in the motion to protect his status under Civil Service in event a change is made June 30.

Judgment of the Civil Service trial board that Stevenson, former fire chief, be expelled from the fire department as of Nov. 7, 1938, was ratified by the council in a resolution. This reviewed Stevenson's suspension by Director Stroh on Oct. 30, the filing of charges of absence without leave from duty and noncooperation, and the trial hearing granted him Dec. 20.

With his new title, that of police chief, Stroh becomes the holder of the longest moniker in the city administration. It is Chief of Police and Director of Public Safety.

Fireman 14 Years

Acting Fire Chief McMaster has been a resident of this city since 1919 when he came to California from Pennsylvania. Altho he was born in Nova Scotia, Canada, his parents were American citizens.

He became a volunteer fireman in 1925, a member of the regular department in July, 1931, and was elevated to a captaincy in 1933. He lives with his wife and son, J. E. McMaster, Jr., at 916 Cota. He also has two daughters, Ruth of Los Angeles, and Mrs. Beldon Lidyard of San Diego.

Coordinators to Name '39 Frolic Group Monday

"We hope every organization in the city will have representatives at our Coordinating Council meeting next Monday night, Jan. 9, when an executive committee to direct the 1939 Factory Frolic will be chosen," President John E. Miller said today.

The Council had planned to start work on the second annual community festivities several week ago but postponed the selection of the executive body because too few organizations were represented. The meeting will start at 7:30 o'clock in the city courtroom in the city hall.

MOTORISTS THRONGING PLATE OFFICE

By their patronage of the branch office of the Department of Motor Vehicles, located at 1601 Gramercy (corner of Cabrillo), motorists of Torrance and all surrounding cities proved this week that they appreciated the opportunity of obtaining their 1939 auto license plates in Torrance.

Up to the office's closing time yesterday at 5 o'clock, close to 700 motorists had been accommodated at the local office. The first day's total was 410. There were about 25 persons in line when the office opened Monday morning at 9 o'clock.

F. C. Bechtel, custodian at Manual Arts high school who lives at 1626 Amapola, was the first "customer." Next in line was James J. Kane, 2315 Evans Court, Lomita. R. D. O'Connor of San Pedro was third, Mrs. Charles F. Johnson of Gardena was fourth, Mrs. Irene Davis of 1103 Madrid was fifth and Mrs. Bonnie Corder of 20612 North Elliott street was sixth.

Under the supervision of Manager Leonard E. Tristram of Los Angeles, the branch office is open every day except Sunday from 9 a. m., to 5 p. m. Tristram is being assisted by G. D. Adair of Redondo Beach, cashier; W. F. Samarin of Los Angeles, rate clerk, and Mrs. Waltena Weigman of Huntington Park, typist.

The license plate bureau will continue to serve motorists in this area thru Feb. 4. Applicants for new plates must bring their postcard notices of 1939 fees, their "white slips" of registration or "pink slips" of ownership if they have acquired full possession of their machines during the past year.

Harbor Chambers Plan Gala Meet

Officers and directors of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce are making every effort to have a record attendance at the annual installation meeting of the Harbor District Chambers in the Civic Auditorium a week from tonight, Thursday, Jan. 12.

They are contacting all organizations associated with the Harbor District group and all Torrance Chamber members and asking that reservations be sent to Secretary L. J. Gilmeister not later than Tuesday noon, Jan. 10.

An excellent dinner is assured at the regular price of 75 cents. Entertainment features will include a concert by the Torrance Municipal band during the dinner hour, vocal and instrumental selections from musical comedy and light opera will follow.

J. Mortimer Clark, state real estate commissioner, will give the main address on "Outlook for Southern California Real Estate" and W. S. Rosecrans, president of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce will be the installing officer. The new president of the Harbor District Chambers will be Louis H. Hamilton of Walnut Park, who succeeds Judge Irving P. Austin of Compton.

Masons Schedule Dinner-Meet Friday

New officers, headed by Jess M. Reddington as worsnipful master, having been installed by the Torrance Masonic lodge No. 447, F. & A. M., last Friday night, the new year will be launched with a 6:30 o'clock dinner meeting tomorrow (Friday) night for all members and visiting Masons.

The new officers will appreciate a large attendance for this session, Reddington said today. A feature of the installation was an inspirational address by Samuel Burke, past grand master, on Masonry from its inception to the 33rd degree.

Work Begins on MWD Reservoir in Palos Verdes Hills

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FIRST WATER TO START 392-MILE TRIP SATURDAY

Heavy construction machinery was being moved to the Palos Verdes hills today preparatory to the start of work on the new 100-acre foot storage reservoir for the Metropolitan Water District, following award of the contract to the W. E. Hall Company of Alhambra.

Award of the contract was made to the low bidder, the Daley Corporation of San Diego, which had submitted a bid of $484,258 for the project, as compared with the second low bid of $588,960 submitted by the Hall firm.

Following the opening of bids two weeks ago, officials of the Daley Corporation informed the district that an error had been made in its bid and that the firm would lose money if the district insisted that it take the contract at that figure.

Basich Brothers High

General Manager Frank E. Weymouth recommended that all bids be rejected and new bids called for. This was voted down

(Continued on Page 2)

On Saturday, Jan. 7, the intake pumping plant on the giant Colorado River Aqueduct will be placed in regular operation by the Metropolitan Water District. This will mark the fruition of one of the greatest construction jobs in engineering history—the building of the $200,000,000 aqueduct that is to deliver Colorado River water to Torrance and 12 other cities of the District.

At that time the first water will be diverted from the Colorado River and started on its 392-mile journey across the state of California. Most of the city council and a number of other Torrance officials are planning on attending the celebration at the intake pumping plant. They will leave early Saturday morning.

C. T. Rippy of this city and other members of the District's Board of Directors hailed the announcement as the consummation of 15 years of engineering plans and six years of construc-

(Continued on Page 2)

Engineers Study Lateral Bids

It will cost $336,316 to construct the laterals of the MWD to serve the three cities of Torrance, Long Beach and Compton on the basis of the low bid received late last week by the district's board of directors.

The Western Pipe and Steel company submitted the low bid, based on the use of welded steel plate, with gunite exterior and concrete mortar interior. United Concrete Pipe company of Torrance submitted the second low bid, at $374,928, based on the use of pre-cast lok-joint pipe. Engineers for the district will decide within the next week which material will be the cheapest in the long run, based on experiments with installations already made in other sections of the country.

Construction of the laterals that are to extend southerly from the high-pressure feeder line along Foothill boulevard near Glendora will be undertaken shortly, this lateral to serve the three Orange county cities who are members of the district—Santa, Fullerton and Anaheim.