

GUNMEN ROB LOMITA NIGHTSPOT

HERE'S HOW MAYOR VISIONS FLOW OF TRAFFIC THRU CITY IF HIGHWAYS ARE WIDENED

Police Check Leads to Mexican Bandits



Los Angeles deputy sheriffs named this man "The Lone Ranger" when he appeared at the Hall of Justice in this mask and demanded permission to see Mrs. Laura Beckstrom, 28, said to be a wealthy Reno woman who was under medical observation. Unmasked, he was identified as Eddies Goodwin, described as a Bay, Okla., cement mixer and professional hitch-hiker. He said he had been hitch-hiking with Mrs. Beckstrom, and fled when she became hysterical.

MWD Launches Huge Project in This Area

Providing Metropolitan Aqueduct connections for Torrance, Long Beach, Compton and the Los Angeles harbor district, a \$3,500,000 construction program will be under way within the next six weeks.

Including 21 miles of pipe lines and a reservoir in the Palos Verdes Hills, the work will employ approximately 1,000 men and is to be completed during 1939.

First work on this section of the 392-mile Metropolitan Aqueduct system started Monday when construction crews began operations on the site of the reservoir, located at the intersection of Narbonne avenue and Palos Verdes Hills.

The pipe line system will be an extension of the line now under construction from Eagle Rock Canyon to 98th and Washington streets in Los Angeles. Known as the Palos Verdes feeder, this line will deliver Metropolitan Aqueduct water to Los Angeles as well as the three cities in the southwestern part of the Water District area.

Lomita School May Get Pupils from P. V. Project

Whether children who would live at the proposed new county housing authority project at Palos Verdes shall attend school in the Los Angeles city or the Palos Verdes district is scheduled to be decided at next Tuesday's meeting of the board of supervisors.

Officials of the Los Angeles district are understood to be willing to annex the 277-acre homes site to their district, while Palos Verdes district trustees are perfectly willing to let it go.

A. R. Clifton, county schools superintendent, approved the plan to transfer the area, stating that he believed it would be to the advantage of the children who would live in the area. The 277-acre site is contiguous to the Los Angeles district and much closer to the Orange Street school in Lomita than either of the Palos Verdes district schools.

LEGG, NEW WPA CHIEF FOR S. C., TAKES OFFICE FEB. 1

Herbert C. Legg, chief of the Works Progress Administration for Southern California, was scheduled to return from Washington this week following conference with C. Francis C. Harrington, new national head of the WPA. Legg, appointed late last week, will receive \$7,500 annually. He will assume active charge of all WPA work in Southern California on Feb. 1.

Legg formerly directed engineering work in Utah before coming to California in 1923. His first venture in politics was when he was elected to represent the eastern side of the county on the board of supervisors in 1934. He did not seek re-election as supervisor, but instead sought the Democratic nomination for governor.

Since last December, he has been mentioned as a possible appointee to several state offices, including that of director of public works. The present position was said to have been offered him some time ago, but was turned down after Col. Donald H. Connolly, army engineer whom he succeeds, and once made plans to return to active duty several weeks ago.

HERBERT C. LEGG returns to Lomita

DRANK TOO MUCH Four men and one woman were arrested here for intoxication since last Friday, according to police records.

The accompanying map, sketched by acting City Engineer Leonard Young, shows the flow of traffic through Torrance if Mayor William H. Tolson's plan for the improvement of Cabrillo avenue and Torrance boulevard is adopted.

The street improvements, as explained by Mayor Tolson before a group of representative citizens last week, calls for the following:

1. Paving of Cabrillo avenue from curb-to-curb between Border avenue and Plaza del Amo, which will make a broad roadway, 80 feet wide.

In order to do this, it will be necessary to re-imburse the Pacific Electric railway for removing its present tracks and re-laying girder rails, which will cost approximately \$38,000.

However, the Pacific Electric is willing to permit the city to do this work if the city believes it can do the job for less money, according to Mayor Tolson.

Below Plaza del Amo, the paving would be of rock-and-sill construction and 30 feet wide.

It will also be necessary to acquire a right-of-way thru the Kettler property to connect with the present pavement on Harbor avenue, and thence to State Highway No. 101 to the harbor or Redondo Beach.

2. Paving of Torrance boulevard from curb to curb between 21st and 23rd streets, which is the point where the present two narrow roadways converge.

The exact method to be adopted for separating the right and left lanes of traffic on Torrance boulevard has not been decided.

Some favor leaving a narrow strip with curbs on each side to eliminate the removal of trees in the present center parking.

Others claim the trees are either dead or dying and should be removed and either an elevated concrete viaduct or a center crossing checked off to prohibit crossing over to the opposite side of the street between intersections.

Besides these two long sought street improvements, Mayor Tolson proposed four other projects, as follows:

3. Construction of adequate but inexpensive recreation buildings at the Municipal Park.

4. Tennis Courts at Municipal Park at least four courts.

5. Construction of joint library and recreation building at Waverly.

Insurances of permits for five new wooden oil derricks in South Torrance, the week's building construction total was \$34,540, according to records at the city engineer's office. Building permits were issued to the Gold Seal Tank corporation for a 1,000- and a 2,000-barrel steel oil tank at 1950 238th, \$1,840; and to Mr. and Mrs. Grant Reed for a five-room frame house and a garage double garage at 175 Via Los Miradores in Hollywood Riviera, \$5,300.

Anderson and Associates for an oil derrick at 1908 237th, \$5,000; A. & L. Oil company for a derrick at 2008 237th, \$5,000; Alford Oil company for a derrick at 1971 238th, \$5,000, and the Ba-Kell Oil company for derricks at 1908 237th and 22800 Pennsylvania, \$10,000. Charles J. Ellis is erecting a moved-in five-room residence and building a garage at 23730 Pennsylvania for \$2,300 and A. G. Solomon is remodeling porches and repairing underpinning to a residence at 1781 Gramercy for \$300.

EDITS YOUNG BOOK George Moran, former editor-in-chief of the Torrance high school annual, is current editor of the War-U-Gar, Compton junior college year-book.

6. Erection of modern pistol range to replace one washed out by recent rains at site of old brick yard.

Preliminary estimates of the cost of the Cabrillo avenue and Torrance boulevard improvements indicate that the cost to the average home owner in Torrance would not average over \$1.32 per year over a 15-year period.

Advocates of the Torrance boulevard improvement point out the necessity of a proper approach to the city, particularly in view of the ultimate extension of Crenshaw boulevard which would intersect with Torrance boulevard at what is now known as Cedar street.

If traffic from Crenshaw boulevard could be routed thru Torrance via Torrance boulevard and Cravens to connect with Carson street, this city would have a long needed east-to-west main boulevard, it is claimed.

Those active in the improvement and extension of Cabrillo avenue likewise point to advantages of securing a main north-and-south highway thru Torrance.

They argue that most of the present traffic on Western avenue terminates at Torrance, but if this highway were opened up to connect with State Highway No. 101, much traffic would be routed thru Torrance.

This city has long suffered by being off the beaten path and few outsiders know of its advantages from a residential as well as business standpoint because they never have occasion to drive through Torrance.

Thru boulevards would attract tourists and others who may turn to build or live. It is claimed by those favoring the proposed street improvements.

Mayor Tolson said this week that he had received many inquiries from interested residents concerning the proposed improvement program. However, he is desirous of obtaining more reactions to the plan and invites others to either contact him or write their opinions of the various items to the city council.

If enough interest is shown, the city engineering department will be asked to submit accurate estimates of the costs of the various projects. Then the council will undertake a thorough study of the program with a view to submitting it to the people.

'MARCH OF DIMES' UNDER WAY HERE WITH TWO CONTESTS FOR MOST BUTTON SALES

Ten-Cent Donations Asked for Fighting Infantile Paralysis

Are you wearing a "Fight Infantile Paralysis" label button?

If you're not then the scores of local volunteers, salesmen and saleswomen for the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis have somehow overlooked you and your family.

But the "March of Dimes" is still in full swing and you can assist in this great humanitarian movement by contributing your dimes thru Jan. 30. The button sale is taking the place of the President's Ball in Torrance this year.

Incidentally, there are two distinct contests being waged locally for the purpose of selling at least 5,000 of the red, white and blue buttons: Coy Farquhar, chairman of the Lomita campaign, has challenged Postmaster Earl Conner, local chairman, to see which community—Torrance or Lomita—can raise the most.

(Continued on Page 2-A)

DeMOLAY RITES OPEN TO PUBLIC ON JANUARY 28

An event of more than usual interest in this community will be the institution of Torrance chapter, Order of DeMolay and installation of its first officers by Charles Emory Wright, active member of the Grand Council of the Order of DeMolay for Southern California, Saturday, Jan. 28, at 8 o'clock in the Masonic temple. The public is invited to attend.

How Paralysis Fund Will Be Shared and Used Told by State Chairman

As general chairman for California, Joseph M. Schneek, noted motion picture tycoon, this week outlined to Postmaster Earl Conner these uses to which money raised by the "March of Dimes" will be put:

"The National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis will use its half of the fund to continue research and epidemic relief activities. The other half will be turned over to the sectional advisory committee to spend for the correction of physical impairments and for vocational rehabilitation of those suffering after-effects of the disease.

The first problem is to determine how extensive this work may be. A survey is now being made in California for which the National Foundation has allocated \$7,000. Some 900 cases have already been marked for exhaustive investigation and more will be added as they are found.

This survey will not only find out what treatment has been given these cases, but to follow out complete case histories. From this, the comparative efficacy of various treatments can be studied. Another important ob-

He Asked for It

So Here is The Herald's Comment on Mayor's Program

When Mayor William H. Tolson outlined his program of civic improvements last week before a group of 28 prominent citizens, representing almost as many organizations, he frankly invited discussion for the purpose of ascertaining public reaction to his plans. So we are giving our humble opinions as follows:

While The Herald is in hearty accord with all the general objectives listed by the Mayor, we do not favor the Mayor's method of financing the various projects.

Admittedly, the most important as well as the most costly items on Mayor Tolson's program are the Cabrillo avenue and Torrance boulevard improvements. For this reason we believe it would be wise to limit the suggested bond issue to the amount required to do these two major jobs, and to finance the recreation buildings, tennis courts and pistol range out of the general fund.

Contrary to the impression of many, Mayor Tolson did NOT, nor does The Herald, recommend the building of a public plunge.

The city which boasts an assessed valuation of over \$21,000,000 should be well able to pay for such relatively small improvements as tennis courts, pistol range and inexpensive shelters for children to play in without incurring bonded indebtedness. Then, too, the very fact that these smaller projects are included with the street improvements may tend to weaken the vote on the bond issue and thus jeopardize the paving and extension of these important arteries, which are so vital to civic development.

While definite figures are not available, a conservative estimate made this week by the city engineering department reveals that the cost of improving both Cabrillo avenue and Torrance boulevard will not average more than \$1.32 per year for 15 years to the average home owner in Torrance. And who wouldn't pay 11 cents per month to get these two streets put in proper shape?

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Board Member Seeks Re-Election

Who announced his candidacy for re-election as a member of the Los Angeles Board of Education last week. The election is April 4. Becker will run as an independent candidate and not as a member of any ticket or slate, he said.

Elected for the first time four years ago with a total approximate vote of 275,000, the San Pedro man led all candidates by about 25,000 votes.

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Descriptions of the holdup pair have tallied with those of two other Mexican gunmen who have committed a number of pistol-point robberies in Los Angeles and vicinity during the past several weeks, according to Lieut. J. B. Kelly, who is handling the investigation for the sheriff's department from the Vermont avenue sub-station.

Discount Window Report

"We have several leads that deputies are checking on this afternoon," he said. Kelly declared reports that one of the bandits was wounded by Ella Della Glackum, 30, of Hawthorne, who is authorized as a special officer, had been discounted.

"As yet no police station or sheriff's office has been notified by any doctor or hospital of a gun-shot victim applying for aid within the past 24 hours," he pointed out. "And doctors and hospitals are most cooperative in reporting such cases."

When the Mexicans appeared at the Paradise Inn shortly after 1 o'clock Wednesday morning, one shouted at a group of patrons: "Everybody put up their hands and lie on the floor!"

Till, Patron Robbed Those who complied were Desloris Schaffer, owner of the establishment; William Marlow, bartender; Edmund E. Birge of Manhattan Beach; William Tolliver, soldier stationed at Ft. MacArthur, San Pedro, and Edna Strand, 2040 Wilmington-Redondo road, Lomita, an employee.

Marlow was ordered to get up and open the cash register, from which one bandit scooped up \$30. Birge was prodded by the other bandit and forced to hand over \$35 while he was lying on the floor.

About that time, according to reports given deputy sheriffs, Jack O. Futral, a private patrolman living in Hawthorne, appeared at the place. On entering he saw the people lying on the floor and believed it was "some kind of a game they were playing."

Soldier Grapples Bandit But he soon learned different. One of the Mexicans shoved his gun at him, forced Futral to lie down with the others and the other bandit then took the soldier's 45-caliber service revolver.

When a bandit approached Soldier Tolliver, the Army man seized the gun and the two struggled until the other bandit fired two shots into the wall and an automatic music box, then struck Tolliver on the head with his gun.

Seconds later one of the robbers seized Mrs. Strand about the waist and used her as a shield as he backed toward the door, calling out to the other victims: "Anybody who shoots is going to shoot this woman."

That is true. Mrs. Strand screamed: "Please let me go—I've not three babies at home!" The bandit released her as he reached the door. A luncheon table set for a party of four, with a motor and waited for his partner.

Meanwhile Patrolman Futral's partner, William Glackum, had heard the shots and had run to the door of the inn. As the second Mexican rushed out, she fired with her 26-caliber automatic pistol. She told deputy sheriffs she believed she wounded him in the shoulder.

One of the bandits left his hat behind in the inn.

PRINCIPALS MEETING Torrance and Gardena principals will meet at the Fern Avenue school next Wednesday morning, Jan. 25, for a conference with Supervisor Robert H. Lane.

The principals will be served by the school of the meeting.

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