

# TORRANCE HERALD

25th YEAR—No. 23.

SECTION A

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## Husband Held for Attempt to Slay Young Wife on Beach Road

### GARDENA GIRL MAY LOSE EYESIGHT

Charged with assault with a deadly weapon with intent to murder his bride of four months, an expectant mother who is now recovering from two gunshot wounds in the Redondo-Hermosa hospital, Benjamin Franklin Hunt, 34, Culver City, was bound over to the superior court following preliminary hearing Tuesday morning in City Judge Robert Lessing's court.

Mrs. Katherine Hunt, pretty 20-year-old brunette, who was shot by her estranged husband late last Thursday afternoon in Hollywood Riviera, may lose the sight of her right eye. Hunt, who has been unable to put up \$5,000 bail, will have his arraignment in Department 41 of the superior court June 22.

It was indicated by Hunt's attorney, William A. Sherwin of Los Angeles, that the jut-jawed, talkative defendant may plead not guilty by reason of insanity when the case comes to trial. He had revealed to Officer Percy Bennett that eight years ago he served five years in a Virginia institution for the mentally deranged, that his mother had been an inmate there for many years and he also has two aunts and two uncles in the same institution.

#### Can't Find Revolver

Hunt was arrested last Thursday night by Wishire police officers at his home after a broadcast had been sent out to all authorities in the county to pick him up for investigation of the Hollywood Riviera shooting that occurred about 3:15 p. m. Mrs. Hunt had been staying with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John W. Frye of 1245 Redondo Beach boulevard, Gardena, for the past month after she left her husband.

He was returned to Torrance by Officer Tom Perkins and detectives from the Culver City and Los Angeles police departments. Outside of an inclination to garrulosity, he showed no undue concern over his act.

Hunt, who asserted he had been married and divorced twice before and was the father of a 12-year-old daughter by his first wife, used a .38 calibre nickel-plated revolver, belonging to the service station where he worked, in his attack on his third wife. He said he threw the weapon away after firing only one shot but police, despite three attempts

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## N. S. Employees Elect Fred Bacon; C. I. O. Claims Plant Jurisdiction

### Association Picks New Officers and Plans Picnic

Fred O. Bacon was elected president of the Employees Association of Workers at the National Supply plant here Monday evening. Bacon is employed in the Tool Room at the local factory. He succeeds Edward T. Curran as of June 1 and will serve for one year.

Other new officers of the Employees Association, which has been recognized for the third year as the collective bargaining agency for all National Supply workers, are: J. J. White of the assembly department, vice-president; Earl B. Smith of the Maintenance department, re-elected secretary; and William D. Dierick of the Stores department, treasurer.

The executive committee, which handles all grievances for the entire plant and serves as the workers' contact group with the management, is composed of President Bacon, chairman; Philip Dierick of the Mining department and L. L. Babcock of the Maintenance department.

Plan Picnic June 25  
According to Secretary Smith, the association is composed of about 80 percent of the National Supply workers. It has enjoyed successful relationship with the

### SWOC Charges Said Substantiated; Oral Hearing June 16

Exceptions to certain statements made by representatives of the National Supply Company Employees Association as reported in last week's Herald, are set forth in a letter received this morning from Ken Hunter, representative of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee at Los Angeles. At the request of the C. I. O. official, we are quoting from his letter as follows:

"National Supply Lodge 1623 of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee of the CIO covers the jurisdiction of the National Supply employees. The SWOC filed charges last year against the company for supporting a company union—the employees organization you refer to. These charges were substantiated by the trial examiners report following a three weeks trial before the National Labor Relations Board. The Labor Board at Washington has scheduled oral argument in this case for June 16, 1939, at Washington. 'Thanking you for the space to give our side of the story, I am

Very truly yours,  
(Signed) KEN HUNTER  
Representative SWOC"

## Oil Worker Dies of Injuries

Struck by a falling beam at the Treasure Oil company rig at Manchester avenue and Belgay road last Saturday, Tilden I. Putman, 35, of 1430 West 221st street, died of injuries Sunday night at a Santa Monica hospital.

He was survived by a widow, Mrs. Lena Putman; an eight-year-old daughter, Mary Louise; his mother-in-law, Mrs. Mary Litaker of 1015 Cota avenue, and a sister-in-law, Mrs. M. A. Griffin of 1445 1/2 West 228th street.

A native of Whittier, Putman had lived in this city for the past four years.

Funeral service was held at Stone and Myers' Mortuary this afternoon. Interment was at Roosevelt Memorial Park.

#### SENIOR FROM JUNE 14

With a 10-piece orchestra supplying the music, the annual Senior Prom will be held at Narbonne high school gymnasium next Wednesday night, June 14. A special program of entertainment will be given by Al Gorman, radio star.

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## Three Flag Day Events Scheduled Here on June 14

For the first time in many years, there will be a three-fold observance of Flag Day in Torrance next Wednesday, June 14.

A special committee, headed by City Judge Robert Lessing, has arranged for this community-wide tribute to the American Emblem and all it stands for. Every resident of the city is urged to attend and participate in as many of the events as possible.

### Prisoners Cost County 76 Cents a Day Each

It cost 76 cents a day for every man "guest" at the county jail last year, according to the county auditor's office. The average daily cost was reduced seven cents a meal from the previous year.

Population of the county jail increased considerably over the previous year, however, the audit showing that there were 20,250 men booked, as compared with 17,797 for the previous year. There also were 1566 women as compared with 1,326 the year before.

## Human Bones Found Lying In Ditch Here

Twelve bleached bones, apparently from a human leg, were found Tuesday afternoon wrapped in an old newspaper lying in a ditch off Highway 101 about a block north of Hillsworth street.

The grisly find was turned over to Police Chief John Stroh who notified the sheriff's office who sent deputies here to take the bones to County Autopsy Surgeon Frank R. Webb for examination.

Chief Stroh said the bones appeared to include pelvis, hip and leg remains. No foot bones were found. They were wrapped in a Long Beach newspaper that bore a Feb. 10 dateline.

Investigation revealed that it rained in this district on that date but the sand under the package appeared to be dry, indicating that the bones were hidden after the storm.

"I don't think the road workers' discovery will lead to anything like a 'torso murder,'" Stroh said. "Probably the bones were hidden in the ditch by some one connected with a surgeon's office. Any investigation will be conducted by the sheriff's office."

## Factory Frolic Directors Named

Election of a board of nine directors and agreement that the second annual Factory Frolic should be held the latter part of September for a period of three days marked the meeting held last night by representatives of nearly a score of organizations interested in continuing the community event.

The board that will have charge of the 1939 celebration is composed of John E. Miller, delegate at large; Mrs. Ethel Seale, Job's Daughters' Mothers; E. E. Murchison, Kiwanis club; Dale Riley, recreation department; Harry Abramson, Merchants' association; Robert Deiningner, American Legion; Mrs. Flora Wright, A. O. U. W.; Thomas Wilkes, Moose lodge, and Fay Parks, Rotary club.

Judge Robert Lessing presided and Carl E. Marsteller served as acting secretary at the meeting. Several suggestions were made concerning how funds should be raised to defray the Frolic's expenses but no action was taken. This matter will be left to the board of directors.

Dr. O. E. Fossum volunteered to issue letters of notification of meetings until the board is properly organized.

#### TO TALK ON PATENTS

Carlos Stratton, president of Huntington Park Rotary club, will address the Torrance Rotary club tonight. He is a patent attorney and his remarks will discuss patent laws.

#### Time and Space Overcome

ST. LOUIS (U.P.)—Two brothers who separated 34 years ago in Cape Town, South Africa, have been reunited.

The observance of the flag's 125th anniversary will begin with a public program at 1:45 o'clock in the high school assembly hall. At 7 p. m., a new flag will be dedicated at the Methodist church during a native state rally. And at 8:15 p. m., there will be a community patriotic program in the Civic Auditorium.

#### Parade to Auditorium

Preceding the final evening meeting, it is planned to have the municipal band in El Prado park with color guards and others and march to the Civic Auditorium. The massed colors will be paraded there and the salute to the flag will be led by Boy Scouts.

Heads of all organizations having colors are urged to contact Judge Lessing at once to have representation in the short parade.

Judge Lessing said today that the committee would like groups—especially foreign-born citizens affiliated with nationality organizations—participate in this parade to show their allegiance to the flag.

A color guard has been requested from Ft. McArthur and the Sons of Legion will also have a unit in the procession, which should start about 8 o'clock.

#### Interesting Speakers

Principal Thomas Elson invites the public to the high school program that will be given in the new assembly hall at 1:45 o'clock next Wednesday afternoon. This gathering of students and adults will hear an address by Dr. Frances D. Blakelee of Los Angeles. Now in his 94th year, Dr. Blakelee has become noted for his unusual speaking ability.

He is one of the very last of those who saw and shook hands with Abraham Lincoln. He was present in Washington during the last days of the martyred president and witnessed the grand parade following the Civil War when hundreds of battle flags were paraded before the various Federal army divisions disbanded.

The dedication of a new flag at the Methodist church at 7 o'clock will be another Flag Day observance. The speaker at this meeting will be Dr. Ralph Lee of Long Beach. He was with the Canadian Y.M.C.A. during the World War and will speak of the modern mission of the flags of America and Britain in the world.

#### Doan Plans Program

Judge Lessing will preside at the Civic Auditorium assembly, that will start at 8:15, after the Methodist church gathering adjourns. Commander Lyle Doan is arranging for a patriotic speaker and other entertainment.

Members of the Flag Day committee include Mayor William H. Tolson, Doan, Mrs. Flora Wright, Rev. Harry G. Banks and Earl Conner.

#### Urge Flag Display

In heartily endorsing the community plans for Flag Day's observance, Mayor William H. Tolson said: "In these days of world-wide turmoil, with subversive forces and influences striving to discredit and even destroy the ideals and institutions symbolized by our country's flag, we, as loyal Americans, should answer this challenge by displaying and paying tribute to that flag."

"I urge all residents and business firms to display our flag next Wednesday and invite everyone to attend the three functions planned for that day."

"We have a great heritage to share and a great nation as our home and we must do all we can to preserve our rights and liberties. Patriotic programs can do much to preserve our faith in American government," Tolson concluded.

Refugees Learn Basic English  
SYDNEY, N. S. W. (U.P.)—European refugees entering Australia are being taught English.



REVIEWS IN THE NEWS . . . Evidence of increasing goodwill-making activities of U. S. and other western hemisphere nations are these two military reviews. The man in silk top hat is His Excellency, General Anastasio Somoza, president of Nicaragua, as he was greeted with military honors at the Presidio of San Francisco by Major General Albert J. Bowley, right. At left is Colonel Thomas A. Perry. In top photo Brigadier General George C. Marshall, soon to become chief of staff of U. S. Army, reviews Brazilian troops at Fort Sao Joao, Rio de Janeiro, on South American tour.

## Alondra Park Tax Delinquencies Bar FHA Building Loans

How to secure FHA approval on building loans on property located within the Alondra Park assessment district where tax delinquencies are pyramiding because of the current strike was the problem discussed for two hours yesterday afternoon at the Gardena Valley Chamber of Commerce. Participating in the discussion were Mayor William H. Tolson, L. J. Gilmeister and Grover C. Whyte of Torrance; Mayor Wayne Bogart, Pat MacDonnell and Lewis Guild of Gardena, and Mike Tellison, city attorney of Culver City.

MacDonnell, who is secretary of the Gardena Chamber of Commerce, called the conference following receipt of information from Federal Housing Administration officials that no FHA loans could be approved in the Alondra Park assessment district because of the mounting delinquencies in assessment payments. He stated that such an attitude was hampering development of the district and read a letter from Stewart McDonald, FHA administrator in Washington.

McDonald pointed out "with the increasing delinquency a greater portion of the tax burden is shifted to those owners who do pay and may become so great as to cause mortgage defaults and foreclosure. A condition of this kind, moreover seriously depreciates property values and may even destroy the marketability of real estate which is an important factor to be considered in insuring long term mortgages on a sound basis."

#### Quick Tax Solution Sought

The FHA chief administrator further stated he was "very much interested in seeing this special assessment tax problem solved, and it is to be hoped that residents of the improvement district will be successful in having the present indebtedness adjusted downward and refunded on a basis which will permit the Federal Housing Administration to insure loans on properties located therein as existing conditions now prevent our doing under the law."

Secretary MacDonnell stated that he couldn't understand why all FHA loans in the Alondra Park district were rejected when other Acquisition and Improvement (Mattoon Act) districts were on a recently approved list published by the Federal Housing Administration. Tax delinquencies in these other A. & I. districts run from zero to 72 percent, MacDonnell explained, which nearly approaches the present 10 percent delinquency in the Alondra Park district.

However, it was the opinion of others at the conference that little could be done to get the FHA to change its ruling bar.

(Continued on Page 3-A)

## Lake Made By Parker Dam Is Named 'Havasu'

The Southwest in general and Southern California in particular had a new lake yesterday. Lake Havasu, the "Lake of the Blue Waters."

Official confirmation was received yesterday by The Metropolitan Water District from the office of Secretary of the Interior Ickes stating that the Indian name of Lake Havasu had been adopted as the designation for the body of water created by Parker Dam.

Extending upstream for fifty miles from the point where the Colorado River is blocked by Parker Dam, Lake Havasu is the sparkling blue reservoir from which water is pumped into the 392-mile Metropolitan Aqueduct to be carried to Torrance and 12 other cities on the coastal plain of Southern California.

## Five Going to "Boys' State"

Five local boys are anticipating a week's intensive study of state, county and city government at the annual Boys' State gathering at the state fair grounds in Sacramento, June 24 to July 1. This event, sponsored by the American Legion, attracts boys from all over California who meet and live together while organizing and conducting a model government.

The Torrance youths who will attend and their sponsoring bodies are: Dean Barkdull, 16, of 1621 Beech, captain of the Sons of Legion, sent by the local Legion post; Marvin Lee, 16, 1228 Arlington, Legion and Auxiliary; James Dowell, 16, Kiwanis club; George Peckham, Jr., 16, 1518 Post, Rotary club, and Van Ness Barnard, 16, 2553 Sonoma, Coordinating Council.

All but Lee are juniors in high school. Lee is a Senior B. They were selected for their scholastic standings, physical condition and general leadership in school affairs. The quintet will leave here on the evening of June 23 and will have all of their expenses, estimated at about \$35 per boy, paid by the sponsoring organizations.