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SECTION A

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INSPECTS FUTURE AIR BIRDS ... With the Federal Government pushing ahead its vigorous program of training young and capable fliers for her "sleek war birds," foreign aviation authorities are beginning to take more than a casual interest in United States plans for her future in the air. Assistant Chief of Army Air Corps in charge of training, Brig. Gen. B. K. Young, is shown inspecting the first 37 neophytes undergoing training at the Army Air Corps training school at Grand Central Air Terminal, in Glendale. With him is Captain Edwin M. Day (right) commandant of the school.

MAY USE GAS TAX FUNDS TO IMPROVE CABRILLO

Attacking the problem of transforming Cabrillo avenue from its present divided traffic lane appearance into a modern paved-from-curb-to-curb thoroughfare, on a different front, the City-Wide Improvement Association Monday night asked for a conference on the Cabrillo project with the city council's finance committee.

The association, according to President Robert J. Deininger, intends to urge the council group to improve Cabrillo at once with the aid of state gasoline tax funds. Because the Pacific Electric railway has offered to relinquish its right-of-way and permit removal of its tracks on the street, at what is considered a fair price, the improvement group believes that Cabrillo can be modernized out of gas tax funds without necessity of forming an assessment district.

Deininger appointed J. O. Bishop, H. M. Roberts, Ed Thompson and Earl Conner to join him in meeting with the council's finance committee Wednesday, Aug. 2, to go into the project. If the city group agrees to use gas tax funds for the work, the improvement can be started at once and probably the street would be completed early this fall.

Mayor William H. Tolson attended the City-Wide Improvement association's meeting Monday night and reviewed the recent negotiations with President O. A. Smith of the Pacific Electric. He held that the city could obtain the Cabrillo right-of-way and remove the electric lines, tracks and overhead wiring system from the station to Plaza del Amo for approximately \$12,000.

The association was asked to investigate possibility of extending Carson street across the Long Beach flood control channel but decided to bring its Torrance program to completion before attempting to secure improvements outside city limits.

GOURD CLUB ORGANIZED

One of the latest recreational clubs to be formed here is the Gourd club, organized by Mrs. Cora B. Bohrer, craft instructor at the Arlington avenue recreation center. Its young members are now hunting gourds and developing new uses for them. Some of the best will probably be displayed with the Recreation center's exhibit at this fall's Factory Frolic. Awards are to be given at the close of the summer for the most unusual gourd products, Mrs. Bohrer said.

Handcraft classes at the center are now in their fifth year. Instruction is offered youthful craftsmen in copper work, oil painting, leather working and glass painting. Assisting Mrs. Bohrer are Mrs. Elaine Shepherd and Betty Carpenter.

Garbo Satisfied With Rolling Hills Privacy

If she doesn't change her mind and if the present closely-guarded privacy of the tract is maintained, Greta Garbo, famed screen star, will carry out her intentions of building a "retreat" at Rolling Hills in the very near future.

The glamorous Swedish actress has spent a number of weekends with friends already residing in Rolling Hills and she has made a number of brief visits to the acreage she recently purchased. Garbo's property is located near the site owned by Paul Muni, another film luminary who is said to have given up his San Fernando Valley ranch because of the inroads of curiosity seekers. Garbo likes Rolling Hills and particularly the guarded gates and vigilant watchmen who allow no one in the tract who does not live there or has no legitimate business mission to transact with residents. She believes that the nearby terrain offers the seclusion she has sought ever since gaining screen fame.

County Moves to Block Tax Refund Suits

County attorneys are preparing a writ of prohibition which they believe will prevent 77 tax refund suits asking more than \$3,000,000 from ever coming to trial next December in Los Angeles county superior court, by virtue of new legislation that will become effective next Sept. 19.

The 77 complaints, representing some 1,500 of the largest taxpayers in the county, both corporations and individuals, was set for trial Dec. 4 by Superior Judge Robert H. Scott late last week. The 77 complaints also were consolidated into three cases by the court, because of their similarity.

Two bills passed by the last Legislature and signed by Governor Culbert Olson make it unnecessary for the county to refund any portion of taxes already collected, when the tax money has been spent for the purposes for which it was raised, and where it was spent to cut down the levy that would otherwise have been necessary the following year.

Validity of these two legislative acts will be tested when the writ of prohibition is sought after Sept. 19, to prevent the 77 suits from going to trial as scheduled, it was explained.

SPORT STARS MAY LIVE IN ROLLING HILLS

A report from New York that Mrs. Helen Wills Moody, famed tennis star, and Aidan Roark, British polo player, would be married in California about Aug. 15, stirred the interest of Rolling Hills residents this week.

Roark, it was said, intends to give up polo and become master of the Rolling Hills Hunt club. The couple would live in the nearby hillside residential area, it was indicated.

Previous marriages by both Mrs. Moody and Roark ended in the divorce courts, Mrs. Moody getting a decree from a California broker in Reno in 1937 and Roark's marriage ended in a California court after three years. Roark was painfully injured during the American-British polo series in June. His brother, Pat, was killed during a California polo game several months ago.

SHOP BUILDING FOR NARBONNE

Bids on construction of a two-unit shop building to be erected at Narbonne high school in Lomita are to be opened by the board of education August 3. The addition will be located west of the present shop building at the north side of the school grounds and directly north of the boys' gymnasium.

Principal John L. Abbott stated this week that full senior high school shop equipment will be installed. Narbonne's shops have approximately junior high school equipment at the present time. Classes will be opened at the beginning of the fall term in the old shop building because the new structure will not be completed until late in the fall.

The building will be approximately 60 by 60 feet in size, constructed of reinforced stucco with a cement floor.

Walteria Guild Hears Attorney at Dinner-Meet

City Attorney John E. McCall was one of the principal speakers at the regular meeting of the Walteria Entertainment Guild and Civic association last night. One of the subjects under consideration was the location of the proposed new Walteria library building.

A pot-luck supper, with coffee served by the Guild, preceded the meeting.

Police Sergeant Pulls a Penner, Plans Dinner

Notation on police report sheet of Sunday night: "Sergeant Schumacher now thinks he is Joe Penner. Came to station with a Mallard duck. 'Anyone wishing a duck dinner, invite the Sgt—he'll furnish the duck.'"

Legion and Sons to Install Officers Next Tuesday Night



Torrance Herald Photo.
BOB LEWELLEN, JR.
... starts with convention

Building Takes Needed Spurt During Week

Building permits took a mid-summer spurt during the past week that was badly needed to bring this city's construction total up from its slump. However, the building figure is still considerably below the total at this time last year.

Among the permits issued from the city engineer's office this week were:

Jim McReynolds of the C. C. M. O. camp is erecting a 10-room frame stucco double residence and double garage at 1225 Acacia for \$6,200; Southern California Drilling is installing four steel oil tanks at 1845 Sepulveda boulevard, 2211 236th, 2220 233rd and 2150 233rd, for a total cost of \$2,750.

James Lewis is building a 20 by 20 corrugated iron warehouse at 3735 Newton street, for \$100. W. J. Ross is making alterations at 1724 Arlington, consisting of adding a bay window and putting more windows in the kitchen for \$50. Mrs. Bessie Myers has started construction of a 10-room, two-story, two-family stucco residence and double garage at 1417 Post avenue. This structure will cost approximately \$7,200.

C. T. Rippey will build three houses on the triangular lot he recently purchased at Post avenue and Carson street. The improvement will cost about \$7,100. There will be a five-room house at 1640 Post, a five-room dwelling at 1630 Post and a four-room house at 2217 Carson.

S. Masaki is installing a 280-gallon gasoline tank and pump at 3931 Huntington street, for \$75, and H. Masuda is putting in a 550-gallon gasoline tank and pump on Highway 101 west of Hawthorne boulevard for \$90.

DETAILS ON GAMES
See page 5-A for complete report on state tournament ball games here.

Pencil Portraits of Prominent Personalities

Sketched by **ELIZABETH LOSEY**

Now in his 15th year as a resident and dentist in Torrance, Dr. O. E. Fossum has been identified with civic and fraternal affairs of the city.

A graduate of University of Minnesota's College of Dentistry, Dr. Fossum came to Torrance in February, 1921, to continue his practice here. He had previously served an eastern practice for about seven years.

In 1923 he had a successful term as master of the local Masonic lodge. He is also a charter member of the Kiwanis club. For the past two years he has been an efficient secretary-treasurer of the Coordinating Council and has been a member of the committee that has charge of the Friday night student dances in the Civic Auditorium.

At the present time he is secretary-treasurer for the second annual Factory Frolic to be staged here in September. His wife, Mrs. Hazel Fossum, has long been active in the Eastern

Plan Joint Ceremonies

In a combined installation ceremony, Bernard F. Peterson of Lomita will become the 18th commander of the Bert S. Crossland American Legion post of this city and Robert Lewellen, Jr., will be inducted as the fifth captain of the local Sons of Legion squadron at the Legion clubhouse next Tuesday night, Aug. 5.

This will be the first time that the two organizations will join for the program that starts a new year for each one. Peterson will succeed Lyle C. Doan as head of the post while young Lewellen takes over the junior group from Dean Barkdull.

The American Legion Auxiliary held its installation dinner-meeting Tuesday night. A report of this affair is published elsewhere in today's Herald. Both Commander-elect Peterson and Captain-elect Lewellen will represent their respective post and squadron at the state Legion convention to be held in Oakland, Aug. 12 to 16.

Aides To Be Installed

Other new officers of the Legion post are W. W. Rowland, first vice-commander; Jack Kemp, second vice-commander; James R. Wilkes, chaplain; C. E. Youngken and H. C. Bender, sergeants-at-arms; L. G. Barkdull, service officer, and Thomas T. Babbitt, historian. Members of the executive board will be George Thompson, William H. Stanger and Lyle Doan.

Delegates to state convention will be F. B. Boyle, Alex McPhail, J. E. McCall and the incoming commander. Alternates will be Charles Smith, Paul Findley, Ray Bogue and Ed Bird.

Sons of Legion officers include Leland Bender, adjutant; Arthur Peterson, first lieutenant; Bobby O'Toole, second lieutenant; Paul Smith, finance officer; David Babcock, chaplain; Sam Intermill, historian; James O'Toole, sergeant-at-arms; Marvin Lee, service officer. Members of the executive board will be Bernard Peterson, Gerald Grubb and Dean Barkdull.

City Buildings to Get 'Facials'

Painters are at work on the exterior of the Public Library building, first of the civic structures to undergo "facials" for their improvement. Weather cracks in the stucco are being filled and exterior openings trimmed in the attractive green that has identified the civic center buildings.

Attending C. C. Meet at Stanford

L. J. Gilmeister, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, left Sunday morning to attend the week-long sessions of the Western division of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce at Stanford University. He expects to return from Palo Alto Saturday morning.

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Torrance Herald Photo.
B. F. PETERSON
... commander No. 18

Survey Ordered for Western's Extension

First encouraging move toward eventual extension of Western avenue thru Torrance to Lomita boulevard was made Monday afternoon at the request by a Harbor district committee of the Los Angeles city board of public works. The committee group obtained a commitment from the Los Angeles board that an immediate survey leading toward acquisition of the necessary right-of-way would be made.

Four Torrance men were members of the committee, appointed by the Harbor District Chamber of Commerce, that contacted Los Angeles City Councilman Hartley and went from his office into a conference on the Western avenue project with the public works board. They were B. C. Buxton, J. C. Smith, Don Findley and President R. R. Smith of the Chamber of Commerce.

Councilman Hartley pledged his cooperation and assistance after hearing the committee, which was headed by Mr. Grow of San Pedro, escorted the group to the public works board session. There the group informed the Los Angeles officials that the right-of-way for part of the route has been obtained and that there are only two sections remaining for acquisition of enough property to provide the necessary 80-foot right-of-way.

Would Donate Land
The city of Torrance, it was pointed out, is willing to stand its share of the cost of securing the Western avenue extension within this community's municipal limits. Most of the right-of-way yet to be obtained lies within Los Angeles city territory.

Word that a number of property owners along the route of the proposed extension are willing to donate the right-of-way providing they are not assessed for the street improvements was given the Los Angeles officials. The public works board agreed that the Western avenue project had been "hanging fire too long" and that something should be done at once to secure this vital improvement.

The board therefore instructed Los Angeles city engineers to make the necessary surveys and start proceedings to secure the remaining rights-of-way to make an 80-foot artery from Torrance boulevard to Lomita boulevard.

Trailer Hits Car, Lima Beans Are Scattered Here

Several tons of lima beans were scattered about the intersection of Hawthorne avenue and 190th street early Tuesday morning as result of a collision between a truck and trailer and a passenger car.

The trailer of the truck operated by Albert Carter of Oxnard assertedly side-swiped the passenger car, driven by Yukimasa Azuma, 17, of this city with his father and another man as passengers.

Young Azuma was driving a sedan east on 190th when the accident occurred. No one was hurt in the crash, police reported.

Aerial Bombs Will Signal 'Air Raiders'

If you hear two aerial bombs explode high over Torrance any time Aug. 1 to 3 inclusive just remember that the U. S. Army's "enemy air raiders" have been reported winging their way in this direction.

If you are a cooperative citizen, Boy Scout, policeman, fireman or industrial executive it's your duty to assist in the air raid defense maneuvers planned as follows:

Report in person to the American Legion clubhouse on Carson street or the central fire station on Cravens avenue. If you have workers employed under you, see that they understand that they would have to shut down all machinery and evacuate the building in event of an actual air raid. And keep off the streets.

No "black out" will be attempted if the "warning" comes at night and no general clearance of all traffic from the streets will be attempted.

The "air raiding" attempts will be made during the first three days next month during three periods—from 8 a. m., to 11 a. m.; 1 p. m., to 4 p. m., and 8 p. m. to 11 p. m. As soon as it is determined that the "raiders" have skirted the city or passed over, a single aerial bomb will be discharged to sound the "all clear" signal.

Police Chief John Stroh and Commander Lyle Doan of the American Legion are in charge of the local defense precautions. It will be their duty to keep an accurate log of all information received concerning the progress of Army Air Corps maneuvers and transmit information on how Torrance people, industries and authorities cooperate in the maneuvers.

Data concerning the flight of "raiding" squadrons will be telephoned here from the Los Angeles Sheriff's office.

Refinery Sales Set New Record

Output of local refineries helped to swell the state's total for the largest sales of gasoline during June of any month in the history of California, the board of equalization office here announced today.

With a total sale of 166,062,425 gallons during June, the tax for the month amounted to \$4,981,872.75, an increase of \$337,645.74, or 7.27 percent over the same month of the previous year.

Resale of gasoline previously taxed and exempt sales to the Federal government or in interstate or foreign commerce accounts for the following figures: General Petroleum Corporation of California, total, \$3,988,948 gallons, taxable sales, 16,271,439; Lomita Gasoline Company, total sales, 1,567,871 gallons, taxable sales, none; Los Nietos Producing & Refining Co., total sales, 2,761,746 gallons, taxable sales, 946,144 gallons.

The Norwalk Company, total sales, 1,456,877 gallons, taxable sales, 1,237,989 gallons; Richfield Oil Corporation, total sales, 21,493,263 gallons, taxable sales, 18,853,825; Torrance Refining Company, total sales, 347,542 gallons, taxable sales, 347,542 gallons.

Physician's Bag Stolen from Car

Dr. A. P. Stevenson reported the theft of his physician's bag to police early Sunday morning. The grip, containing his surgical and medical instruments and some drugs, was stolen from his car while it was parked in his garage Saturday night. Its value was set at \$125.

Protest Meet Called for School Tax Jump

Local taxpayers are urged by officials of the California Taxpayers' association to attend the public hearing the night of August 2 in Polytechnic high school, Los Angeles, and protest the proposed increase of 17 cents in the tax rate of the Los Angeles city school district.

Although the school population has declined, the association statement declared, the tentative budget of \$44,154,024 shows an increase of \$3,776,519.

Items now listed in the budget which the association urges be eliminated include: salary restorations, \$1,150,000; automatic increase, \$599,000; administration, \$77,000; teaching positions, \$71,000; other expense of instruction, \$150,000; operation of school plants, \$175,000; auxiliary agencies, \$100,000; maintenance of school plant, \$203,832 and reserves, \$100,000.

Council Has Variety of Business

A miscellany of municipal business—everything from an invitation to ride in a parade to buying a typewriter—confronted the city council at its Tuesday night session. There was more variety of civic matters before the board this week than there has been for several months so the meeting was considerably longer than usual.

Two resolutions were adopted. One approved the Chamber of Commerce budget for 1939-40 and renewed the contract with that organization for advertising and promotion of the city. The other authorized an application to the WPA to renew the present recreation project here under the new WPA supervision.

City Auditor C. J. Rambo submitted his annual audit of municipal accounts for the fiscal year ending June 30 and Councilman George V. Powell received a leave of absence for the month of August. With City Electrician Oscar Butterfield he will attend the State Electrical Inspectors' convention in San Francisco, Aug. 14 to 17 with all expenses paid.

Inspect Parkway Project
Members of the city council and other executive officers of the city were authorized to attend the sessions of the California State League of Municipalities in Oakland, Sept. 18 to 21 inclusive with expenses paid. Three overhead lights will be installed in Walteria, the illumination having been requested by the Civic association of that community.

Appropriations voted totaled \$1,932.40. This sum will be expended as follows: \$1,191.56 for the purchase of rock, oil and granite for street repaving, \$56 for traffic paint, \$130 for replacement of an ornamental light standard at Martina and Carson, wrecked by a motorist; \$91.92 for a tapping machine for the water department, \$79.57 for a new typewriter for the same department, \$222.48 for 24 new water meters and \$160.87 for rock and oiling Greenwood avenue.

The council as a whole was to inspect the proposed planting and improvement of the parkway on Madrid avenue north of Torrance boulevard this week before taking action on this project. Residents and property owners requested this improvement by petition several weeks ago.

Opposes Patchwork
Use of the Civic Auditorium was granted the Torrance Factory Frolic committee from Sept. 26 to Oct. 2. This will give the group staging the second annual community celebration two days to install displays and exhibits in the City building and two days to clear it after the Frolic is over.

Stating that the city should not allow owners of several old houses in his neighborhood on Cedar avenue to "patch them up" because the buildings were a detriment to the district, Thomas Babbitt of 1416 Cedar, urged the council in a lengthy letter to make an immediate survey of the neighborhood. He described the buildings as "shacks" and pointed out that property owners in the 1400 block on that street were "trying" to improve vacant lots because of the low-class houses there.

Babbitt strongly advised action at once on the matter rather than shut it off to some future committee or group for investigation, pointing out that owners of some of the decrepit buildings intended to "fix them up a little" right away. The communication was referred to the city building inspector and planning

(Continued on Page 3-A)