

SHOP TALK

by
RAY
BROOKS

PEOPLE IN GLASS HOUSES

Warmed up both mentally and physically this week end is Mgr. Jim Rahl and the rest of the boys at the Sartori Ave. Safeway store. Ever since the new store went up, the boys... and the customers... suffered from cold tootsies & chattering teeth, to say nothing of blue schnozzolas & frost bitten ears. All this is merely history now because this week the Company sent out some carpenters & glaziers, glassed in the entire front. They left a door, however, thru which the many customers will pass, chunk in many dimes to make the registers ring.

CAMERA CONFUSION

Bill Husbands, The Kodak Kid who knows a thing or two about cameras, and Richard "Blitzkrieg" Brunswick, Swiss watchmaker at Howard's Jewelers, tangled one eve during the Christmas season in the jewelry store with Richard attempting to sell Bill a "Triple Distilled Lens" for his camera! Now we've heard of left-handed monkey wrenches, key hooks and paper stretchers, but so help us a "triple distilled lens" leaves us stunned, not to say a bit incredulous. If Richard was as convincing in his sales argument as he is when you take in your watch which he blandly says is stalled not because of any mechanical reasons but purely because of some mysterious physical characteristic the wearer possesses... then we will admit that perhaps Bill Husbands placed his order for that lens!

CARD SHARP KENNY

Quick of mind is Kenny Ruffell, shoe repairman on Carson street. Kenny recently bought a book of card tricks, amazes & stupefies you with miraculous manipulations, has some mighty fine tricks up his cobbler's smock. In the rest of his spare time Kenny is studying foot correction, has already made many pairs of arch supports for local people, is learning more & more as he goes along.

THE MYSTERIOUS CASE OF THE RED TRUCK

On a dark & windy night a week or so ago, Harry Abramson & wife Sabina, were fighting their way through a howling storm from far off Redondo. As they neared their home, silent now except for the eerie creak & crash of a loose shutter and the mournful wail of a dog, they observed, in a piercing beam of their headlights a Red Truck, very much like their own, yet parked half way out in the street. Swaying wildly on their rusty hinges, the garage doors, wide open, banged & wailed in the howling gusts of wind.

"Truck ahoy," shouted Harry, a bit taken aback.

But his call was lost in the storm; the garage doors and the wind drowning out all other sound.

"Well," says Sabina, "why don't you investigate?"

With a heart of stone Harry, thus challenged, crept cautiously from his car, peeked into the cab of the truck. There on the seat, as calm as two cucumbers, sat a mysterious fellow, unknown to Harry.

"What ho!" said Harry. "What are you doing here?"

Whereupon the chap insisted

that Harry help him push the truck into the garage, it having stalled.

After some to-do Harry off hand mentioned that this was his truck and How Come? To this the fellow said that he had been in a pool hall down in Torrance Town and a fellow named "Scotty," who worked for the National Home Appliance Co., had asked him to take the truck home for him, the latter having taken on

too much grape juice.

"But I have no employee named 'Scotty,'" said Harry.

"Well, then, you should hire one," says the fellow.

Harry could see that this was getting them, absolutely nowhere. So he takes the man's name & address, sends him home, runs the truck in the garage, reports the matter to the local constabulary. In typical Sherlock Holmes fashion, the law descends on the

"Public Notices" "Public Notices"

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

SEALED PROPOSALS will be received at the office of the City Clerk, City Hall, City of Torrance, California, until 8:00 o'clock P.M., on January 23rd, 1940, at which time they will be publicly opened and read, for performing work as follows:

Furnish all material and labor for the construction and installation of a 1' x 4' concrete, rail-top box culvert.

Estimated Length..... 60 ft.

Work embraced herein shall be done in accordance with plans and specifications furnished by the City of Torrance, identified as Plan P-14, dated December 7, 1939, and in accordance with the appropriate provisions of construction details, Sections 10 to 72, inclusive, of the specifications entitled "State of California, Department of Public Works, Division of Highways, Standard Specifications, January 1935", insofar as the same may apply.

No bid will be received unless it is made on a proposal form furnished by the City Engineer. Each bid must be accompanied by cash, certified or cashier's check, or bidder's bond, made payable to the City of Torrance, for an amount equal to at least ten (10) per cent of the amount bid, such guaranty to be forfeited should the bidder to whom the contract is awarded fail to enter into the contract.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 1770 of the Labor Code, the City Council has ascertained the general prevailing rate of wages applicable to the work to be done as follows:

Classification:	
Boiler operator (finishing high type pavement, including subgrade for same).....	\$1.00 per hour
Asphalt Plant Engineer.....	1.10 "
Asphalt Mechanical Finisher operator.....	1.00 "
Blade Grader operator (finish work).....	1.00 "
Intermediate Grade Labor	
Truck driver (less than 4 cubic yards water level capacity).....	0.68 "
Truck driver (4 cubic yards water level capacity or more).....	0.75 "
Oiler.....	0.82 "
Roller operator.....	0.82 "
Blacksmith.....	0.82 "
Subgrade Finisher operator.....	0.82 "
Sloper.....	0.75 "
Asphalt Plant Dryerman or Fireman.....	0.90 "
Header-board man.....	0.75 "
Mechanic (trouble shooter).....	0.88 "
Unskilled Labor	
Laborer.....	0.60 "
Teamster.....	0.60 "
Handyman (roundabout).....	0.60 "
Watchman.....	0.60 "
Guard.....	0.60 "
Flagman.....	0.60 "

The minimum wage paid to all skilled labor, for which rates are not shown above, shall be not less than \$1.00 per hour.

The minimum wage paid to all intermediate labor, for which rates are not shown above, shall be not less than 68 cents per hour.

The minimum wage paid to all unskilled labor for which rates are not shown above, shall be not less than 60 cents per hour.

All bids are to be compared on the basis of the City Engineer's estimate of the quantities of work to be done.

No bid will be accepted from a Contractor who has not been licensed in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 791, Statutes of 1929, as amended.

Plans may be seen, and forms of proposal, bonds, contract and specifications may be obtained at the office of the City Engineer, City Hall, Torrance, California.

The special attention of prospective bidders is called to the "Proposal Requirements and Conditions" annexed to the blank form of proposal, for full directions as to bidding, etc.

The City of Torrance reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

CITY OF TORRANCE

A. H. Bartlett, City Clerk.

Dated January 10th, 1940.
Jan. 11-18

No. Torrance Gets 90-Day Zoning Delay From Planning Commission

Continued from Page 1

hold additional public hearings on the matter.

Assured of Time

The only criticism tossed at the proposed zoning measure, which will cover the entire city, came from North Torrance residents and Anthony Zamperini of 2028 Gramercy who protested putting the corner of Sonoma and Hickory, which he owns, into the single family zone when the property across Sonoma is left open as agricultural land and permitting oil development.

Not a single resident or property owner in the original city area, Hollywood Riviera or Waverly spoke out at the hearing Monday night.

Mrs. Lela Gonner, secretary of the North Torrance Improvement Association, addressed two letters to the Commission. These reported that a meeting of all residents of that district was held Dec. 28, following the zoning hearing of Dec. 11, and that those present favored some form of zoning after Commissioner John Salm had assured them restrictions against oil development "would be stricken out."

Councilmen James Hitchcock and George V. Powell, Mrs. Gonner wrote, also assured North Torrance constituents that the city council would allow them "ample time to decide what they wanted before the zoning ordinance was finally adopted."

County Farm Accommodates 2,755 Patients

There are 17 persons at Rancho Los Amigos, the county's poor farm at Hondo, who have been there 20 years or more and that have been there 15 years or more, according to a report from William R. Harri-man, superintendent, now on file with the Board of Supervisors.

The report covering the fiscal year ending June 30 showed 2,755 patients at the institution on that date of which 1,889 were men and 866 were women. There were 3,030,804 meals served during the year at an average cost of \$0.87. It cost an average of \$1.11 per day to maintain each patient at the institution, the report showed.

Mysterious Man a few days later, chucks him in the town clink in default of \$500 bond.

Yesterday the Mysterious Case of the Red Truck came before the court, was dismissed for lack of something or other... probably evidence. Nobody could decide whether the truck was going north or south, or was entering or leaving the garage... or whether maybe there WAS a man named "Scotty" working at the National Home Appliance.

Habeus corpus... corpus delicti... E Pluribus Unum... pro bono publico...

Then on Jan. 5 another meeting was held in North Torrance for property owners only. Mrs. Gonner reported. At that time it was decided to ask for the 90-day extension "because we need that much time to decide what to do."

North Torrance residents, her letter continued, should have greater part in the zoning proceedings.

Kenneth W. Sampson, advisor from the Los Angeles Regional Planning Commission to the Torrance body, suggested that the Commission should not create a precedent of allowing further extensions for other portions of the city by submitting to the North Torrance request. He said that during the forthcoming three months, all sections of the city should arrive at a definite decision regarding the zoning plan and be prepared when the next public hearing is held to submit

a final answer one way or the other.

Those from North Torrance who participated in the discussion, most of whom brought up the Alondra Park assessment district as a reason for not desiring "any more strings attached to our property," were A. C. Hurd, H. Gonner, H. W. Douglas and Mrs. Gonner. Others who gave their opinions to the Commission were Bert Allen, 2721 West Carson, Tom Wilkes and Zamperini.

Members of the Commission present at the hearing were Chairman McGuire, W. A. Felker, Robert J. Deininger, J. W. Crowther, John Salm, City Engineer Leonard Young and his assistant, Glenn Jain and Secretary Charles Curtiss. W. A. Bradford took down the comments expressed for transcription into the record.

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