

## Airport in Lomita Area Proposed by Co. in Master Plan

Establishment of new airports in Lomita-Walteria area and Palos Verdes, and development of existing flying fields serving Gardena Valley, Hawthorne, and Wilmington was recommended to the Civil Aeronautics Authority in Washington this week in anticipation of the banning of training and private flying activities at Los Angeles Municipal airport.

Development of a new airport in the Lomita-Walteria area at an estimated cost of \$265,000 for land and \$245,830 for improvements is in the special report on a master plan of airports for Los Angeles county enroute upon instructions from the board of supervisors.

The site proposed is along the north side of Highway 101, extending as far north as Lomita boulevard, west to Hawthorne boulevard, with a jog inland to Madison street at 238th street, and extending as far east as the oil storage tanks.

"When Los Angeles Municipal airport becomes a transport terminal almost all of the private and student flying activities will have to be moved," the report stated. "At least one fairly large airport, to accommodate these flyers, should be provided in the Redondo Beach-Torrance-Manhattan Beach district."

**Follows Long Study**  
"There also is a need for a taxi and private flying airport to serve the harbor, San Pedro and Wilmington. The present Wilmington airport is proposed in the master plan for improvement to meet part of this need, but prospects of this relatively expensive development are somewhat uncertain," the report added.

"A site in Lomita, within 10 or 15 minutes drive from all of the communities, is proposed in the master plan for a Class Two feeder airport, but with area sufficient to allow for storage of planes and for manufacturing."

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## Seek Revival of Interest in Scouting Here

Seeking to revitalize the Boy Scout program in this district, a new committee of leaders is now being formed in preparation for a meeting of Scouters from more than 20 cities and communities in the Civic Auditorium Tuesday evening, Feb. 27.

At that time Wes H. Klusman, national camping director for the Boy Scouts of America, will be present to outline the summer program of recreational events for Scouts. Klusman has been in the movement for many years and is well qualified to present a program that will build up troops and adult interest.

Of recent years Scouting has not been given the attention it deserves and now, under direction of John Long, new district commissioner; Ray Begue, district chairman, and Dr. R. A. Bingham, vice-chairman, it is hoped by the faithful few Scouters here that other men can find the time to give to the movement now celebrating its 30th anniversary.

All committee members have been invited to the Torrancia meeting Feb. 27. These will include men from Torrancia, Lomita, Harbor City, Walteria, Keystone, San Pedro, Wilmington, Gardena, Hawthorne, Lennox, Inglewood and all the beach communities. Commissioner Long is assistant city electrician in Torrancia.

## Carol Nothern of Lomita Leads Week's Herald-News Rhymesters

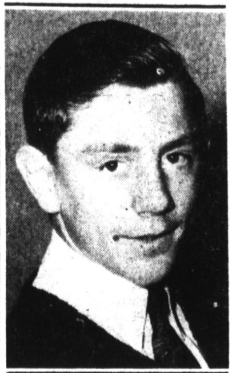
Carol Nothern, 1929 257th street, Lomita, was judged first prize winner in the Want Ads Rhymes Contest for this week by a jury headed by Miss Elizabeth Parks, acting-principal of the Torrancia high school. Miss Nothern will kindly call at the Herald-News office in Torrancia for her prize of \$1. Her contribution was based on the following Herald-News Want Ad:

**BENNIE'S SHOE SHOP**  
Shoe Rebuilding and repairing of all kinds. Reasonable prices and expert work at all times. Next door to Lomita Theatre, Lomita.

The rhyme:  
"Shoes about to fall apart?  
Like to save some pennies?  
Your worn-out shoes to town you'll trot!  
And have them rebuilt at Bennie's."

**Second Prize Winner**  
Irene I. Guth, 1913 Cabrillo avenue wins second prize of two tickets to the Torrancia theatre.

## Student Prexy



Torrancia Herald Photo.  
**GEORGE O. WALLS**  
Wyoming boy makes good

A young man who is taking his elected office very seriously these days is George O. Walls, who is president of the Junior high school student body.

From now until summer vacation, George is going to be pretty busy—what with studies, conducting student body meetings and serving as senior usher at the Grand theatre. But George can do it. Affable, active and energetic, he began earning his spending money a year or so ago when he was one of The Herald's carrier boys.

Prexy Walls came from Casper, Wyoming (where he was born) to Torrancia three years ago with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Walls of 1727 Martine avenue. He is in the A3 class and is taking a business course to prepare for a career as a theatre manager.

Altho he has chosen this field because of his interest in the present job, George admits that aviation is his "big hobby" and he reads everything he can get on that subject.

## Alondra Park Debt Aid Seen

Alondra Park special assessment district was 78 per cent delinquent on the first payment of the current tax bill, it was disclosed at a recent meeting of the Inglewood Realty Board.

County supervisors and property owners have paid in a total of \$1,036,000 in principal and interest on bonds of the Alondra Park Mattoon Act area since its inception in 1927 and yet they still owe a balance of \$650,000 or more, than half the original debt of \$1,014,963.20, with seven per cent interest to be paid for 11 more years.

A substantial allocation for relief of the floundering special assessment district, A. & I. No. 28, was indicated by Supervisor Oscar Hauge and County Surveyor Alfred Jones at the Realty Board's meeting. The Alondra Park Special Assessment Relief committee was invited to the session.

Please call at the Herald-News office for your tickets, Miss Guth.

The ad:  
**FRESH FISH DAILY**  
at "Dinky's"  
**DINKY FISH MARKET**  
Established since 1911  
230th Street & Normandie Ave.  
The rhyme:

"Now, if you could only know  
How fish helps your brain to grow.  
Then to Dinky's you would go.  
Every other day or so."

**Third Prize Winner**  
Morton Miller of Torrancia is winner of two tickets to the Torrancia theatre. Please call at the Herald-News office for them, Mr. Miller.

The ad:  
**RADIO SERVICE**  
All makes, tubes, parts. We meet all prices. Satisfaction guaranteed.

**DE BRA RADIO CO.,**  
Since 1923  
1509 Cabrillo, Torrancia 97-W  
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## No Local Action On Project for Sewer Addition

Altho the County Sanitation District has included two local sewer projects in a "blanket" application for a WPA project, local authorities have not given any commitment or undertaken the sponsorship of the improvements, it was learned this week.

Extension of the Torrancia trunk line up Plaza del Amo to Carson, over Carson to Cedar avenue to Torrancia boulevard, at an estimated cost of \$11,800, and construction of a lateral system with house connections serving the West Torrancia and Vista Highland tract area, costing \$135,200, are among the nine projects submitted to the Works Progress Administration for allocations to take care of labor and materials.

Extension of the trunk line involves installing 1,800 feet of five-inch vitrified clay pipe, 2,847 feet of 10-inch pipe and appurtenant installations and construction work, according to the project prospectus. The lateral system, as proposed by the County Sanitation District engineers, calls for laying 20,500 feet of eight-inch pipe, 11,200 feet of house connections and repaving work.

The matter of sponsoring the local project, particularly the extension of house connections, has not come before the city council as yet. No survey has been made of the area by the local city engineer.

## McGuire Seeks Re-Election

Mayor William H. Tolson was the first of the incumbent city councilmen whose terms are expiring to announce his candidacy for re-election but Councilman Tom McGuire was the first to file his nomination petition for another four-year term.

McGuire has his qualifying statement accepted Tuesday noon by City Clerk A. H. Bartlett. He was elected to office in 1936 and has served as chairman of the city finance committee and chairman of the City Planning Commission.

"I am seeking re-election on the basis of my past record of service to the city and have but one pledge to make: I will work for anything that means continued progress for Torrancia," he said. "My experience in municipal administration during the last four years should be worth something to the voters who desire a representative whose past service is his best qualification for support."

McGuire has been a resident of Torrancia for 17 years, coming here from Gary, Indiana. He is a native of that state and attended the University of Illinois.

Since coming to Torrancia he has been associated with the National Supply Company and for the past six years has been in personnel and employment work for that firm here. He is married and lives at 1411 Beech avenue.

## Rotarians and Ladies to Tour Col. Steel Plant

Following a dinner meeting, which will include a brief program of songs by Floyd Jones and a 15-minute song-lead by Ray Casey, Rotarians and their wives will tour the Columbia Steel plant tonight under guidance of Superintendent and Mrs. Henry Lintner. Because Washington's birthday, a holiday, falls next Thursday, Feb. 22, the service club will not meet that night. An inter-city meeting is programmed at Redondo Beach Rotary club Tuesday, Feb. 20.

## RAIN TOTAL RISES

Raising the season's rainfall to 13.96 inches, the storm Wednesday amounted to 51 of an inch, according to the gauge atop the fire department garage. A year ago at this time the rain total was 11.12 inches.

## WHEELS STOLEN

Two wheels and tires were stolen from a car parked in the wash shed at the rear and south of the Plymouth-De Soto garage here Friday night. According to police reports the value of the equipment was \$20.

## Trio in Council Race as 'Slate'



**GRANT BARKDULL**  
... their combined residence

## Policies Given in Statement

One of the most complete platforms ever drafted by a group of municipal election candidates was announced this week simultaneously with the entry of Grant Barkdull, Lew M. Fernley and Wallace H. Gilbert as a "slate" for the three city council positions which will be decided at the April 9 election.

They formulated their declaration of policies "so that there may be no misunderstanding concerning our reasons for running for the offices or of our intentions after election." Gilbert is the senior member of the trio, both in regard to age and political experience. A member of the city's first council, mayor in 1923, he has been a resident of Torrancia since 1920.

Gilbert, now a well-known insurance broker, was employed as a Pacific Electric timekeeper 20 years ago and he was elected to the city council in 1921, one of the first five men to serve the city. Since then he has taken keen interest in municipal affairs and was a candidate in 1938.

## Vital Interest in City

Lew M. Fernley is paymaster at the Columbia Steel plant. He has been a Torrancia resident since 1928, coming here from Salt Lake City. He is a native of Utah and was educated in Beaver grammar and high school and attended Murdock Academy in that city. Prior to coming here and being employed at the Columbia Steel plant, he served the company in its coal division at Salt Lake City. Married, he has two children, Robert Don, 20, and Constance Ann, 16, and lives at 1552 Post avenue.

Grant Barkdull entered business as a retail meat dealer here 15 years ago, coming to Torrancia from Long Beach where he worked for five years. He is a native of Idaho and served in the U. S. Army during the World War. Barkdull has been

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**WALLACE H. GILBERT**  
... in Torrancia

## Platform Has Nine Planks

A resume of the platform on which the Barkdull-Fernley-Gilbert "slate" is basing its claim to local voters' support in the coming municipal election reveals the following points:

**"GOOD GOVERNMENT:** The duty of those who are chosen to administer the affairs of the city in such a manner that at the end of each fiscal year the business will show a profit. It is our pledge to provide this administration, subjecting all personal consideration to the greater interest of the whole community.

**"COMPLETE FINANCIAL STATEMENT:** A full and complete report of the financial condition of the city should be published at least once each year showing in words and figures easily understood just how each tax dollar has been spent.

**"LABOR AND BUSINESS:** There is no logical reason why the city cannot exist in the same community with complete harmony. It is essential that these interests work side by side with an eye to the future of the city as a whole. Nor should the people of these areas be denied the right of equal representation in the councils of administration.

**"WALTERIA AND NO. TORRANCE:** These areas should be developed regardless of the amount of taxes they pay but rather with an eye to the future of the city as a whole. Nor should the people of these areas be denied the right of equal representation in the councils of administration.

## Pastor's Sermon Interrupted by Unusual Testimonial Here

Members of the First Christian church here long known that Rev. Frank T. Porter's sermons "carry a punch" but not until Sunday morning did they realize just how much of a jolt they can get out of attending his church and listening to his messages.

Rev. Porter was basing his sermon that morning on a familiar aspect of chemistry. He pointed out that chemists can add certain ingredients to fluids until a saturation point is reached and then a drastic change occurs, it crystallizes, explodes or changes completely.

"We can take that in our daily lives. We can pile up physical excesses until sometime during a man's life he begins to go down hill and then he goes down fast.

Likewise," continued the pastor, "we can see it happen in a home. Bickering, arguments and ill-temper can pile up on a family until there is a breaking point.

"It also applies to nations—countries go along accumulating trouble, enemies within and without, debt and disorder and then there comes a shake-up."

At that point the Sunday morning earthquake shook the church—as it did all buildings in this area.

Rev. Porter quickly resumed his sermon, saying:  
"My friends, I've preached a good many sermons but this is the first time I've ever had good old Mother Earth herself present such an apt and timely testimonial!"

The blast, accompanied by 100-foot flames and intermittent spurts of pyrotechnics, left little that might aid investigating officials. All that remained of the plant, largest of its kind in the West, were charred fragments

## Civil Service Rules Under Political Fire At City Council Meet

Even a stranger in Torrancia would have been aware of the fact that a municipal election was in the offing merely by listening to the comments and opinions expressed at city council meeting Tuesday night. Councilmen were obviously "speaking for the record" in a number of instances while two members of the audience were voluble in their recently-assumed roles of guardians of the public weal and welfare.

However, the discussion launched by Attorney Albert Isen did bring out some details of civil service operations which might not have been generally understood. These concerned (1) an unannounced meeting of the city council, Civil Service Board and a number of city employees in the council chamber Monday night; (2) the manner in which the age limit set by the board assertedly bars a number of volunteer firemen from taking the examinations Feb. 24 for the appointment list to permanent positions and, (3) the fact that

the new civil service ordinance is under consideration.

The civil service examination in question will be held Saturday, Feb. 24, to create an eligibility list for five classifications in the Torrancia Police and Fire departments: Fire and Police recruits and promotional for Fire Captain, Police Captain and Police Sergeant.

Benefits Await Election  
More than 50 papers of application were issued to prospective applicants, 38 were filed and not all of these passed the physical examination, Chairman J. O. Bishop of the Civil Service Board revealed yesterday.

Even a "first voter" would have had no difficulty in arriving at the conclusion that the oratory was mostly of the electioneering variety and its benefits could only be determined when the ballots are counted come April 9. Isen was assisted in his comments and questions by Biven M. Prewett, who introduced himself as "the other half of the Gold Dust Twins."

The attorney, who began to make regular appearances at city council sessions shortly after the city purchased the Mack fire pump truck last October, announced he had three subjects to cover when Mayor William H. Tolson invited oral communications Tuesday night.

He expressed the hope that the deficit incurred in operating municipal buses "won't run more than \$10 a day" and demanded to know "if anything at all is being done for any other method of transportation in event the Asbury Rapid Transit System's application for a permit to operate is denied." The mayor replied he had not done anything along that line.

Isen wanted to know if there was any assurance that Asbury would accept a limited or restricted franchise and other details which have been reported by Mayor Tolson in recent weeks. He said "I think some other method (of transportation) should be worked up so we won't be left high and dry if Asbury is de-

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**1 KILLED and 15 Injured in Auto Collisions here to date 1940.**

## Boys Riding Bikes Without Lights Struck

Three persons, one of them a young boy, were injured in two of the three automobile and bicycle collisions reported to police here during the past week. Three boys riding two bikes along Torrance boulevard near Madrona without lights or reflectors Saturday night were involved in one crash in which the motorist was absolved of blame.

Billy Torrance, 13, of 104 Cravens, suffered a foot injury and abrasions on both arms and his back was slightly hurt when he was hit by a car while riding as a passenger on the rear of a bike operated by Bobby Bratton of 1926 Graneray.

Fredrick Wilcox of 2463 Carson street was with the pair on his bicycle. The boys were struck by a car driven by Jack Greenwood of Redondo Beach, who rendered every aid possible and brought the boys and their smashed bikes to their respective homes, according to police reports.

**Intersection Crashes**  
Investigating officers traced skidmarks for 90 feet on the outside lane of traffic on the south side of Torrance boulevard. The boys were said to have been riding on the outside lane with no lights on their wheels. The Torrancia boy was treated at Torrancia Memorial hospital.

In a crash on Hawthorne avenue, between Huntington avenue and 190th street at the crest of a hill Friday noon, Mrs. Edward Montgomery of Redondo was slightly injured. She was riding with her husband. The other machine was operated by Thomas Foley of Compton, whose wife received minor scratches.

A collision at Cravens and Engracia avenues Friday night resulted in no injuries. James Sorenson, 19, of Redondo Beach, at the Columbia Steel plant. (Continued on Page 4-A)

## Curious Crowds Gawp at Fireworks Plant Explosion Scene as Vendors Hawk Wares

And I'm not here to sell this marvelous invention, folks... I'm merely a demonstration engineer who is (What is it, lady? Oh, yes—21 tons of powder blew up) giving you this opportunity to save on your gasoline bill with this super-dynamic (Sure, fella, the explosion was last Thursday night—right over there) power plus attachment that even a child can (No-buddy was killed, lady, but five people were hurt) attach to your motor.

"We've got thousands in service all over (No they don't know how it started, mister, but it was a lulu awright) the country. I'll now give this motor the old U. S. Navy test and show (The damage was more than a hundred thousand, buddy—some blast, I'll tell yuh) how it works."

All and Sunday long, while hundreds of motorists wormed their way off 190th street to the scene of the Golden State Fireworks & Display Company plant explosion, the voluble "demonstrating engineer" interspersed

his sales talk with asides to questioners pressing around his hastily set-up stand.

**Curious Throng Scene**  
Nearby was an ice cream vendor and at the entrance of the roped off area on which 19 one-story buildings were blown flat and burned was a soft-drink stand. Peanuts and popcorn trucks were parked in the vicinity and the Sunday crowds gawked and gaped at the wrecked homes whose occupants said they "felt just like goldfish or side show exhibits."

The Sunday crowds were the largest but all week long, hundreds of curious thronged the scene of the three explosions which were heard as far away as Pasadena and which shattered scores of windows in Hermosa Beach, Inglewood and Hawthorne.

The blast, accompanied by 100-foot flames and intermittent spurts of pyrotechnics, left little that might aid investigating officials. All that remained of the plant, largest of its kind in the West, were charred fragments

of the buildings, blast-battered barrels that contained ingredients for fireworks and flame-twisted pieces of metal. Those were scattered over a blackened acre of the hilltop site of the plant on Stoutenborough Lane.

**Escape Serious Injury**  
While the explosion caused no property damage in Torrancia, hundreds of residents still remember the sharp concussions which shook their homes. One resident, Mrs. George Peckham, happened to see the explosion from the Palos Verdes Country club where she was attending the Triple T dance. More than a minute later the club windows rattled with the concussion.

Mrs. Nettie Denman of 2310 Stoutenborough Lane suffered severe lacerations of the legs when the blast from across the narrow street ripped thru the front of the house and caused ceilings to collapse. She is a former Torrancia resident, pastor of a Spiritualist church, and her husband, Clyde, works at the Columbia Steel plant.

(Continued on Page 4-A)

## A Chance to Make 22 1/2 Times Investment—

—and, it's on oil potentials. The advertiser making this claim is reputedly conservative and invites your most careful investigation! See his ad under classification—

— Lots 84j

## How Would You Like to Make Money in Real Estate? Have you \$300 you

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