



Navy Needs Men To Man Hundreds Of New Vessels

An announcement made public recently by the United States Navy Department, that construction has been started on six 27,000-ton super cruisers, indicates that work on our new "Two-Ocean" Navy has been further accelerated. This brings the total number of new ships ordered since Jan. 1, 1941 to 2,831—with 968 of these ships already under construction.

So coordinated and precise is the current naval shipbuilding program that many months are being cut from the normal building time of American-made warships. This expert planning and new speed in construction of our ships—of 45,000-ton dreadnaughts to small torpedo boats—opens the way for the Navy to accept new qualified men for training at the rate of 12,000 to 15,000 a month.

These men, enlisting in either the regular Navy or the Naval Reserve, will be sent to one of the four Naval Training Stations and may have a chance to go to a Navy Trade School even before assignment to the fleet. During this period they will receive regular Navy pay and the free Navy schooling is valued at hundreds of dollars.

Navy Editor Speaks
"Never in the history of the United States has there been greater opportunity for loyal young Americans to serve their country and build their futures than right now." Secretary of the Navy Knox recently said.

In outlining the many advantages offered by Naval enlistment, Michael Strasser, Navy editor of The Torrance Herald and Lomita News, said today: "It is possible for a bright young man to increase his pay seven times during his first enlistment and he can earn as much as \$324 a month. This monthly figure is actually worth much more when it is remembered that the man has few living expenses and is provided with the finest of medical and dental care.

"You have all your food and lodging, and also your original (Continued on Page 4A)

Committee of 15 to Reorganize Chamber

Fifteen representative citizens, appointed by various organizations throughout the city will be given the task of drafting a new set of by-laws governing future operations of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce. Such was the action taken by more than 40 Chamber members who met Monday evening to discuss re-organization of the civic body.

All important groups, including labor organizations, will be asked to appoint representatives who will draw up a new plan for submission to the entire membership. It was the opinion of those present at Monday's meeting that every effort should be made to enlist active participation of the entire community.

If all groups have an equal voice in drafting policies and conduct of the Chamber, it is felt that united support by the whole community in Chamber activities will be encouraged.

A preliminary organization committee composed of B. C. Buxton, R. J. Deininger, and Hillman R. Lee was appointed by Chamber President Dean L. Sears. It will be the duty of this three-man committee to send out invitations to various groups or organizations to appoint representatives to the Committee of Fifteen.

In opening the discussion on Monday evening, Sears stated that he had visited a number of Chambers in other Southern California cities and had found several of them to be doing a good job. He cited the Bellflower Chamber as a model, stating that it enjoyed the support of the entire community.

Bellflower has a population of 142,000 and an assessed valuation of four million dollars, Sears stated. Its Chamber raises \$6,000 a year by private contributions and has a membership of 200 citizens who give unspared of their energies in support of the entire community. (Continued on Page 4A)

Two Industries Begin Expansion Building Here

With the National Supply Company and Columbia Steel Company contributing the major portion of the advance, building permits issued here during the past two days nearly equalled the total of all the past 11 months. The two big industries took out permits amounting to \$316,000 as they launched expansion programs to accommodate national defense orders.

The National Supply filed plans and specifications for the construction of a corrugated iron forge and machine shop, 97 by 75 feet, costing \$265,000, and a steel frame and galvanized corrugated steel forge shop building, 65 by 160 feet, costing \$16,000. Construction of both large buildings is already under way.

Columbia Steel took out construction permits totalling \$35,000. The expansion at this plant will include a corrugated steel boiler house, 43 by 58 feet, \$5,000; a brick and steel laboratory 35 by 44 feet, \$10,000, and a warehouse extension for the rolling mill, 275 by 54 feet in size and built of corrugated steel, \$20,000.

G. P. Also Expanding
These projects plus other permits-of-the-week raised the total new building for the year to date to \$72,187 as compared to \$309,617 at this time last year. The building permit total for the entire year 1940 amounted to \$421,417. The construction figures here in other years were:

1939	\$5,591,553
1938	3,143,873
1937	1,096,057
1936	453,978

Reports from both the National Supply and Columbia Steel today stated the new buildings will be rushed to completion as rapidly as possible.

Other building permits issued during the week were: General Petroleum refinery, concrete foundation for a 34 by 112-foot wood framing shop building, \$300; S. Mizutani, four-room frame moved-in house and barn at 2150 190th st., \$1,300, and Mrs. Ann Taylor, two-car frame garage at 3736 Newton st., WALTERIA, \$400.

King Endorsed By Democrats For Congress

Assemblyman Cecil King will be given the endorsement as candidate to the U. S. House of Representatives from the 17th Congressional district. If and when Governor Olson decides to call a special election to fill the unexpired term of the late Congressman Lee Geyer. The action was voted Tuesday at the meeting of the district council held in Inglewood, yesterday.

Four candidates appeared at the meeting to present their cases. King received 17 votes, Assemblyman Vincent Thomas of San Pedro received 7 votes, and Hal Blatz of the 46th Assembly district one vote. C. M. Jones of the 67th Assembly district received no votes. A number of other candidates who will no doubt play an important role in the voting, if the election is held, did not attend the district council meeting.

Prior to balloting on the candidates, the Democratic council elected the following officers: E. Edward Lentz, Inglewood, chairman; Robert Hillyer, San Pedro, vice-chairman; Charles Bohart, Los Angeles, secretary.

There was some doubt as to whether the 46th Assembly district, which was annexed to the 17th Congressional district in the recent re-apportionment, could participate in a special election, but Attorney General Earl Warren has answered this point in a recent ruling, which said:

"If a special election is called to fill the vacancy now existing in the 17th Congressional district, such election will be held in that district as now defined by state law. Since Chapter 696 is now effective, and since, by virtue thereof, the 46th Assembly district is part of the 17th Congressional district, it will be proper for the 46th Assembly district to participate in the campaign." (Continued on Page 4A)

Engineer's Plans to "Channel" Cabrillo Meet Disfavor

If the opinions of 12 or more citizens deeply interested in the plans for the improvement of Cabrillo ave., are endorsed by other property owners on that thoroughfare, there will be no curb dividing line or "islands" when it is paved curb-to-curb some time in the future.

At an informal hearing before the city council Monday night, the 12 inspected City Engineer Glenn Jain's tentative plans and sketches for Cabrillo's betterment and were unanimous in rejecting his idea to divide the street. No definite decision was reached by the council regarding the proposed improvement and final eradication of the P. E. right-of-way.

It was decided to give the project more time to sell the council remembering that after several hearings on the proposed improvement of Torrance Blvd., a petition was filed by a number of property owners who objected to the plans for that street's betterment.

Engineer Jain has his sketches on view at his office in the city hall and anyone interested in Cabrillo ave., is cordially invited to inspect them and talk it over with him.

Intersection Nightmares
Jain and his aides have given the Cabrillo job much attention. This was evident from the score or more of drawings, many of them alternate ideas in regard to "channeling" of the traffic. He brought out one fact that is well known to any motorist entering Torrance from Western ave. That is: that the multi-intersection of Torrance Blvd. Border ave., El Prado, Cabrillo and Marcelina av., in the vicinity of the Pacific Electric station is a veritable nightmare to traffic regulation.

This section will undoubtedly have to be improved by the use of "islands" to guide traffic. Another is at the "five points" of Cabrillo, Cravens, Carson and Border ave.

But as far as the length of Cabrillo goes, Postmaster Earl Conner, long-time Cabrillo improvement proponent says: "We have visualized what a street Cabrillo could be with the cow-path in its center gone and we do not favor any more barriers to its being paved from curb to curb."

Those at the hearing Monday night approved Engineer Jain's idea to make one-way traffic lanes leading past the Pacific Electric station to Western ave. and East Road, George Moore, hardware dealer, asserted he was more interested in development of a beautiful entrance to the city at Western, East and Cabrillo ave. than he is in the improvement of the avenue itself.

Sketches Now Available
Engineer Jain's sketches de- (Continued on Page 4A)

Weston Wants Top Soil
This was challenged by Salm, E. S. Robinson of 17815 Western ave., and a written protest by the attorney for Mrs. Mary Castwell of Pasadena, a property owner. All contended that the excavation would injure property values and Robinson claimed (Continued on Page 4A)

THIRD CRASH VICTIM EXPIRES

Mrs. Alberta Holland, 68, of 1750 Martina ave., died at 11:45 this morning at Torrance Memorial hospital, the third person to be fatally injured here in an automobile collision. She was struck by a car last Saturday night. Arrangements for an early funeral have not been completed.

Police said Mrs. Holland was hit at 218th st. and Arlington ave. by an automobile operated by Simon Axenty, 49, of Redondo Beach. The motorist was cited for driving with faulty brakes and failing to give a pedestrian right-of-way.

A second traffic injury was recorded Tuesday when 12-year-old Nicholas Lazzaro of 21026 Valerie st., was hurt when he was struck by a car while riding his bicycle at the intersection of Hawthorne and Torrance Aves. Driver of the car was listed as Chester Gerbracht of Paler Verdes. The boy was taken to Torrance Memorial hospital where his injuries were reported as consisting of severe lacerations and bruises.

Past observances of Armistice Day seem curiously naive and childlike as we come upon Armistice Day, 1941, next Tuesday. For years we listened approvingly to Armistice Day speeches on the "war to end all wars"—"to make the world safe for Democracy." The theme was invariable: If ever the horror of war should sweep the world again, the world would be guilty of betraying the men who gave their lives for perpetual peace.

It seems incredible that sane men would reason that victory in any one war would purge humankind of the lawless lust and viciousness that moves gangster leaders to the crime of war upon their neighbor nations, any more than a vigorous vice clean-up in a city could change the criminal nature of the thieves and murderers it might suppress.

The men who died knew better than that! They knew their sacrifice was an awful thing:

"We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders Fields."

Yet the wiser among them went to their terrible deaths with no illusions that they were saving the world for all time. Other times would bring new and greater assaults on all that is of worth to freemen. That their successors would stand as steadfast as they had stood was the solemn charge they placed upon us all:

"Take up the quarrel with the foe;
To you from falling hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high;
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, the poppies grow
In Flanders Fields."

And that torch flames high and fierce and strong with the redness of roaring steel mills and plane and tank and gun factories through chill November nights. America is keeping faith with the heroes who sleep in the desecrated soil of violated France. That is the saddened, mature, realistic meaning of Armistice Day, 1941.

Lomita Pineapple Grower May be Founder of New Crop in Southland

From small beginnings come great happenings. A little housewife, who planted two little orange trees and cared for them while her indulgent husband and his friends smiled at her efforts, started the citrus industry in California at Riverside.

Now a Lomita man, who likes to experiment with plants, is responsible for great excitement at the Pasadena Flower Show. By request he is exhibiting a pineapple planted and grown by him and which he was just about to cut and enjoy when a representative of a chemical fertilizer company asked to take the fruit to Pasadena. The company is now investigating possibilities of growing pineapples commercially in California and has written its agents in Hawaii for all possible information concerning the cultivation of pineapples.

Cleaner Than Oilwells
While pineapple plants have been grown in California, this is the first record of one bearing fruit which matured and George O. Harbour of 1742 260th st., is the grower. What makes the case more remarkable is that Harbour knew next to nothing about growing pineapples and could find no publications on its culture so he followed his own ideas.

If the desert could grow roses and fruits, anything is possible for California. We already have a greater variety of crops in this county than in almost any equal area in the world.

Several residents of Lomita are raising bananas and have had good fruit. Perhaps if the oil industry falls here entirely we can put in pineapples and other fruits. Good orchards and canneries pay as well as oil wells and are much less messy.

Office Robbed of \$20 While Owner Breakfasts

While she was attending the breakfast given by the American Legion for the 38th contingent of selectees in the Civilian Control Tuesday morning, Dr. Katherine F. Slekmann's office at 1843 El Prado was entered and robbed of \$20. The front door was left open but an inside half-door was locked. Someone crawled under this to take the money, Dr. Slekmann believes.

Last of Midway Island Workers Return Home

The last of a sizable contingent of Torrance men who left a year ago for jobs on tiny Midway Island in the South Pacific where a great Naval air and submarine base is being constructed, arrived home this week. Fred Ralston came back to see his baby son, Robert, born April 12, for the first time last Sunday and Elmer Riley was reunited with his family, here Tuesday night.

Both are in splendid physical condition, bronzed and husky and both are delighted to be home again. They returned together as far as San Francisco, where they docked last Saturday noon. Ralston caught a train to come directly to Torrance while Riley, who was welcomed in the bay city by his wife, Blanch, remained there a few days and then came home.

"Boy, I was never happier in my life than when we drove into Torrance through fog Tuesday night!" Riley said. He was the guest of honor at a family dinner that night at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dale Riley.

Mite But Mighty
Ralston and Riley served out their year's contract, the former being employed in the Midway electrical department and the latter winning a promotion from his classification as laborer to night truck dispatcher. They were on Midway Island—a minuscule but important atoll one mile long by three-fourths of a mile wide—for 11 months.

Other Torrance men who worked there and have previously returned were Francis Buchanan, Dale Merritt, Roger McGinnis, John Husbands and Gordon Denny.

While the work was hard and entertainment confined almost exclusively to motion pictures, screened every night but Monday, the men made good money and after the fifth month received bonuses each month they remained on the job.

Plans For Future
They are reluctant to discuss details of the construction program. (Continued on Page 4A)

HALLOWE'EN DAMAGE HELD TO MINIMUM

Glycerine, generously and judiciously applied on windows, curtailed Halloween soaping by prandish sprites last weekend but those who employed that detriment to the glass-work artists are undecided which is worst—cleaning off the glycerine or scrubbing off the soap. But glycerine, or soap, Halloween was celebrated in traditional fashion here. There was the usual damage, despite Police Chief John Stroth's threat to "promptly put out the Jack O'Lantern and take away the sheet" of any prandish who slipped over the bounds of proper conduct for spoofs. But it wasn't as bad as any adult can remember when he was a boy.

A rock propelled by an injudicious spirit shattered Judge John Shidler's garage window and dented his sedan inside. A small window pane at a service station at Marcelina and Cravens was also splintered by a missile.

Franksters in WALTERIA were blamed for placing a tree trunk across Hawthorne Blvd. near Pacific Coast (101) Highway in strain to which Mrs. Bertha Turner, 820 Fortola ave., rammed her car. She was not injured although the impact punched a hole in the machine's radiator.

Police officers were kept busy "breaking up" gangs of boys apparently bent on mischief and a few were haled into police headquarters for serious lectures. Firecrackers disturbed some residents' sleep and there was the customary amount of garbage spilled about—but it wasn't as bad as usual and Halloween is over for another year now.

Harbor Hills Half Occupied

Harbor Hills' 300 units are now more than 50 per cent occupied, the management office reported this week.

More than 800 are living in the 155 units of the \$1,200,000 federal housing development at Western ave. and Palos Verdes drive, north.

Playground equipment received last week is now in use at the several play areas at the development and plans for activity groups are under way.

A community Halloween party, Harbor Hills' first social event, will be followed by Christmas season activities.

May Join Tunney In Naval Reserve As Phys. Ed. Instructor



PETE ZAMPERINI wants to coach sailors

As result of an interview last Thursday afternoon with Lt. Commander Gene Tunney, director of the Navy's physical fitness program, Coach Pete Zamperini of Torrance high school was recommended for appointment as physical instructor in the U. S. Naval Reserve with a rating of chief bo'sun's mate.

However, Zamperini has been deferred for enlistment by Selective Service Board No. 280 until Nov. 15 and this week he applied for another extension to permit him to enlist in the Navy under Commander Tunney, former world's heavyweight boxing champion.

Tunney gave Zamperini a certificate stating that the local basketball and track coach was recommended for appointment as a Navy physical education instructor and "in all likelihood will be enrolled in active duty within 60 days."

Zamperini's younger brother, Louis, is now in Army training at Camp Roberts, having been inducted by the local Selective Service board Sept. 28.

Labor Temple Plans Progress

Local labor leaders reported this week they expected ground to be broken for a Torrance Labor Temple early in 1941. The building to be constructed on a site already purchased on Border ave., opposite the Columbia Steel gatehouse, will be available to harbor area labor groups.

Present plans contemplate a \$14,000 structure, 60 by 138 feet in size, and containing a main hall, banquet facilities, club rooms, offices and a basement.

The local S. W. O. C. lodge is taking the lead in promoting the project, although it is not exclusively an undertaking of that C. I. O.-affiliated group, leaders said.

To start raising funds for the building, a dance will be held in the Clive Auditorium Nov. 29.

New Building Ahead of 1940

Construction in Torrance this year is running \$95,590 ahead of building for the first 10 months of 1940, according to a record of the building permits issued from the city engineer's office.

Permits totalling \$41,210 last month topped the year's total to \$403,487. October permits were \$7,193 more than the amount issued in October 1940. Residential construction formed nearly the entire total of building here last month, City Engineer Glenn M. Jain said.



"The Early Bird" GETS THE PICK!
There Are Only 39 MORE SHOPPING DAYS UNTIL CHRISTMAS