

# Synthetic Rubber Plant to Locate In Torrance Area

RUBBER... vital to America's war effort... is soon to join the growing list of Torrance industries. Thus, with STEEL, and ALUMINUM, and GASOLINE already being manufactured here in large quantities, Torrance will capture the undisputed title as the "Manufacturing Center of Basic Materials" in the Southwest.

While plans for location of a huge synthetic rubber plant in the Torrance area have not as yet reached the "official announcement" stage, developments have advanced sufficiently to almost assure its construction, it was learned by this newspaper.

Tentative site selected for the rubber plant is reported to be a large tract adjacent to the aluminum plants, east of Normandie avenue and south of 190th st.

## IN PRODUCTION NEXT MARCH

A combination of large industrial concerns will contribute to the rubber program in Southern California, it was learned. Shell Oil Company is planning to erect a 20 million dollar addition to its Dominguez refinery on West Carson street for the manufacture of butadiene, and Dow Chemical Company is to furnish other ingredients from its Los Angeles plant, which will also be greatly enlarged.

Present plans call for the synthetic rubber plant in Torrance to begin production about March 1, 1943.

The Torrance rubber plant, as well as the other units in the rubber production program, will be built by the Defense Plant Corporation, which also constructed the aluminum plants here.

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## Shidler Scheduled For Induction; Friends Carry On

Scheduled for induction in the Army as a private Aug. 5—just 30 days before the primary election—Judge John A. Shidler of Torrance today received the pledges of hundreds of his volunteer campaign workers that they will continue to press for his election as War Congressman from the 17th Congressional District on the Democratic ticket.

Judge Shidler informed the Torrance city council this week that because he has never asked his local Selective Service board for deferment, either because of his position as city magistrate or because he was married, he was not asking for postponement of military service in the ranks now when his campaign is in its final critical weeks.

Councilmen applauded his statement and wished him success in whichever role he will serve his country, either as a private in the Army or as a representative from the 17th Congressional District.

No Time for Politics  
"I am glad to respond to my service call," Judge Shidler said yesterday. "My campaign will continue with increased effort on the part of all those who have volunteered to work for my election. I am not asking for any special privileges to remain in the District or to remain until the primary and afterward until the general election."

"My wife and I have talked it over and she believes she can work to support herself for the duration. Upon election to Congress I will be released from the Army to serve as a war congressman. I pledge myself to serve the District in Washington with one chief objective: Full and complete prosecution of the war effort with no time out for politics."

Judge Shidler who is 31 years old, was originally drafted as a 4-F on account of his eyesight. Recent lowering of requirements advanced him to the 1-A classification. He delayed his marriage to Rosemary DeCamp, radio and film player, until after receiving his draft rating. He tried to enlist in the Navy Reserve before the draft statute was adopted, attempted to enlist in the Army and Navy twice after that act was a law and renewed his try for the Navy once after Pearl Harbor. But his eyesight was against him each time.

## Special Election Dispute Before Highest Courts

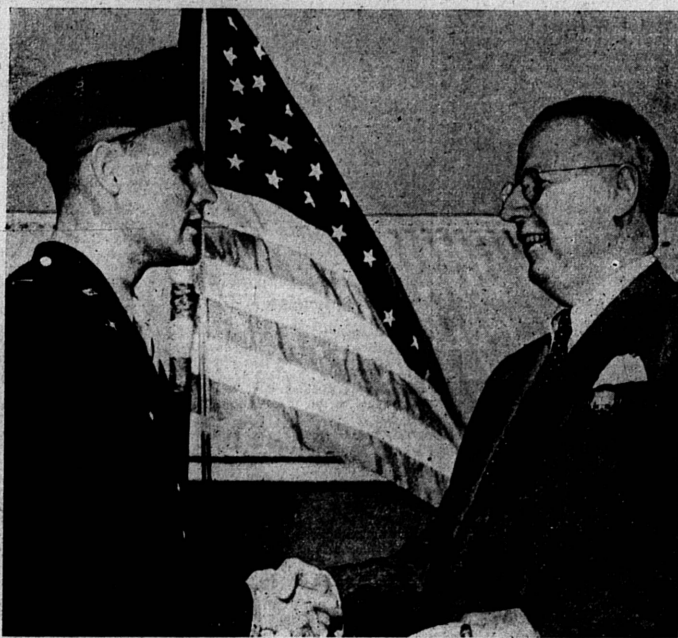
Opposing petition for writ of mandate filed with the California Supreme Court by Robert W. Kenney to set aside a permanent writ of mandate granted by Superior Court Judge Emmet H. Wilson to Ernest A. Stewart, candidate for Congress in the 17th Congressional District, directed to Registrar of Voters Michael J. Donoghue and abolishing special election Aug. 25 called by Governor Olson, an answering petition was filed this week in San Francisco by Stewart's Attorney, Hugh E. McManus.

Stewart's answer petitions the court to transfer the proceeding to the District Court of Appeals at Los Angeles where a similar proceeding on the same matter is under consideration. Stewart stated today the Clerk of the Supreme Court at San Francisco advised him by long distance telephone that the matter was considered Monday by the court but no decision reached.

Scoring the "hit under the belt" tactics of the Olson machine and its endorsees in their zeal to seat the Olson favorite in Congress, Stewart said the 55,711 voters in the 48th Assembly District would like to know why Gov. Olson with his proclamation seeks to disfranchise voters in that district from voting for their Congressman. Stewart asserts the California Supreme Court has had an office at Los Angeles for over twenty years yet Bob Kenney's writ stated no judgment or peremptory writ had been

Members of the 27th contingent which will leave Torrance from 1337 El Prado at 7 o'clock next Wednesday morning,

## Tokyo Raider Visits Torrance



HANDSHAKE FOR A HERO... Greeting nearly 1,000 workers and Torrance residents at the National Supply plant last Thursday, is David S. Faulkner, vice-president of National Supply.

## WAR WORKERS' RALLY HELD AT NATIONAL SUPPLY PLANT

"We flew over Japanese beaches so low that the Jap kids threw rocks at us—but don't laugh—those rocks could have damaged a prop or a wing."

"After coming in on the Jap cities at a very low elevation we soared up and began dropping our bombs. The bombardiers knew their stuff and 'planted' the eggs where they would do the most good."

"We're going back to Tokyo just as soon as we can and that means just as soon as you people here at home give us the equipment. You're doing a grand job—just keep it up and we'll do our part."

So declared Lt. Griffith D. Williams, of San Diego and Los Angeles, a pilot on one of the B-25 bombers which raided Tokyo and other Japanese cities under command of Brig. Gen. James Doolittle, when he appeared as principal speaker at a National Supply Co. war workers' rally last Thursday afternoon. Nearly 1,000 workers and other residents of Torrance heard the brief program held in the plant patio between shifts.

Faulkner Presides  
Lt. Williams, also only 22, has been decorated with the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Military Order of China. A tall, good-looking young man, he obviously would rather have been at the controls of a loaded bomber than speaking over a public address system.

He sketchedly described the Doolittle raid and paid high tribute to war workers for the splendid equipment used by the Army Air Corps—"you're giving

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## Unions Support City Workers in Pay Boost Claim

Backed by vigorous letters from all C.I.O. locals in Torrance and the signatures of approximately 1,500 residents, city employees reiterated their demand for pay increases at Tuesday night's city council meeting. Although they did not get a definite commitment from the council that their request would be adopted

in the 1942-43 municipal budget now under consideration, the consensus is that a wage boost is certain to be provided and it will be retroactive to July 1.

Efforts by John E. Jeffery, regional director of the State, County and Municipal Workers affiliated with the C. I. O., to get the council to set a definite date when the public will have its first look at the proposed budget and when a reply is to be given to the employees' demand were blocked by Mayor Tom McGuire.

"A public hearing on the budget may be held within the first 10 days of August," McGuire informed Jeffery, who served as principal spokesman for the labor groups represented by large delegations in the audience.

"Is that a definite statement?" Jeffery asked the mayor. "That is as definite as we can give it," McGuire replied, terminating the session.

Unions Endorse Demand  
Letters endorsing the claim of the municipal workers to pay boosts were read from the United Steel Workers, National Supply, Local 128; State, County and Municipal Workers, Torrance Local 380, and Milky Williams, Lodge 1414, S. W. O. C. These were all filed for reference when the "oral communications" portion of the council session was due.

In presenting supplemental petitions for the wage increases, the city workers pointed out that the present wage standard was too low to permit workers to maintain a good standard of living; that the eight per cent increase of approximately \$10 per month granted employees last year was the only increase in years and there are 31 city workers on the payroll who earn between \$130 and \$140 per month to support a total of 113 in their families.

The city employees told the council thru Jeffery that living costs have greatly increased since the war. He said the advance was approximately 20 per cent and quoted President Roosevelt as stating the cost of living had increased about 17 per cent since December, 1941.

Wages First, Mayor Says  
"A fair and justifiable pay increase for these city workers" will amount to only \$9,000 a year," Jeffrey said. The supplemental petition was filed with City Clerk A. H. Bartlett by A. E. Thomas, president of the local C. I. O. union of city workers.

"I don't think the city budget has been given enough thought for me to state the amount of increase we can allow workers," Mayor McGuire declared. He denied statements in the letters from the unions that the council at a previous meeting with the city workers and other unions had indicated that wages would be considered after all other budget funds had been "taken care of."

"Wages of city workers always come first in our consideration of expenditures," the mayor said. "We have gone over our income with a fine tooth comb. Councilmen Powell and Gucci have not been called into the meetings because we have not considered any pay increases yet. We hope to consult with them later this week."

Powell Feels Slighted  
"We realize conditions. We're trying in our own way to help all city employees be good citizens by not impairing their livelihoods." (Continued on Page 5-A)

## Columbia Steel Breaking Plant Records as Production Gains

Increased production of steel ingots and the breaking of 25 plant production records during the month of June was announced last week by Columbia Steel Company, subsidiary of U. S. Steel Corp.

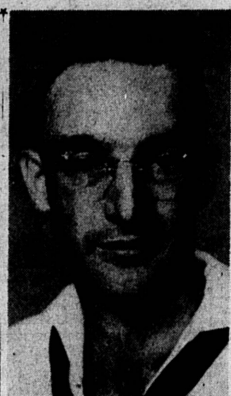
Biggest production increase was made by Pittsburg, Calif., works which showed an overall increase in the production of steel ingots of 10.9 per cent. Contributing to this record, one shop of open hearth furnaces showed an individual increase of 13.4 per cent for the month. In all, Pittsburg works broke 19 plant records during June. Included in these were the Wire Rope Mill which showed a production increase of 38.9 per cent and the production of electric furnace foundry steel for ship castings up 15.3 per cent.

The Torrance works broke six plant production records during June and set a six months' record in the production of steel castings with an increase of 17.7 per cent. It was also announced that engineering and maintenance crews of Torrance plant had established decreases in the time for repairs as high as 20 per cent.

## REPORTED MISSING IN ACTION



J. J. Stevens of Harbor City, on duty on Canacao Naval hospital as pharmacist's mate, first class, has been reported missing in action and possibly a prisoner of the Japs, according to word sent by Naval authorities to his wife, Ada Stevens, of 1208 West 252nd st., Lomita. Stevens was formerly stationed at the Naval dispensary in San Pedro. The Stevens have a daughter, Jacqueline, 12. Mrs. Stevens is now employed in an aircraft plant at Long Beach.



Leroy A. Sheffield, 30, machinist's mate second class, was aboard the U. S. S. Houston when that cruiser was last reported attempting to escape from the Japanese forces near Java. The Navy has reported him missing in action. His wife, Helen, and three children, Sidney, Kenneth and Beverly, live at 708 Harbor Hills.

## Bike Ration Here Is 15 for Month

Bicycle rationing forms were received last Friday by the Torrance War Rationing Board together with announcement that this district's quota of bikes is 15. These may be authorized for purchase by those entitled to obtain them by Aug. 1.

The ration board is guided in granting requests for rationed wheels by rules which, in general, require the applicant to be employed in a gainful occupation and be able to show proof that use of a bicycle will save him time going to and from work.

## ENJOY CABIN PARTY

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Post and Mr. and Mrs. J. W. McMillan were guests last weekend at the W. H. Rojo, Jr., cabin at Crestline.

## Les Foster Leaving Herald-News To Join 21 Others In U.S. Service

When Leslie Foster leaves next Wednesday morning, Aug. 5, with the contingent of potential Army trainees from Torrance, The Torrance Herald and The Lomita News will be entitled to add the 22nd star on their as-yet mythical service flag.

Young Foster, son of Mr. and Mrs. Milton F. Foster of 911 Cota ave., has been a member of the newspaper staff as news carrier manager since 1939. He has also been operating his sign painting business on the side. He became 21 on July 5.

The Herald-News workers who are the 21 other stars on these journals' service flag include Jim Haines, printer now in the Army; Lt. Bob Lewellen, mechanical superintendent, in the State Guard; Bob Sleeth, one-time circulation manager, who is expected to win a commission soon at the Fort Knox, Ky., armored division school, and James Herlett, former carrier-boy, who is scheduled to join the Army tomorrow. Leon Heredia, linotype operator, is a member of the State

## Bond Purchase Saves Water Dist. \$4,596

By purchasing six \$1,000 Torrance municipal water district bonds for \$6,723.81, the district saved \$4,596.19, according to William H. Stanger, superintendent, whose recommendation for the purchase was approved by the city council Tuesday night. The bonds were scheduled to be paid off in 1964 and 1965.

## PERMIT FLOWER SALE

Permission was given by the city council Tuesday night to the National Brotherhood of Service for the Blind and Shut-Ins to hold a flower sale in Torrance on Aug. 15. City Clerk A. H. Bartlett told the council the Brotherhood was a reputable organization.

## VISITING AUNT

Jimmy Gene Murphy is vacationing with his aunt, Mrs. Gene Schmidt at Temple City.