

Wives May Work Without Affecting Husbands Liability for Draft

Draft deferment for dependency reflects a wife's ability to work whether or not she is actually employed at the time her husband's classification is considered by a local draft board. This was announced jointly this week by the office of Selective Service and the War Manpower Commission in San Francisco. The statement followed receipt of a communication from Major General Lewis B. Hershey, director of Selective Service. He said:

"The fact that a wife works has no significance whatsoever in applying the provisions of the Service Men's Dependents Allowance Act of 1942; in the expressed intent of Congress in passing that act; in selective service regulations promulgated pursuant to the act, or in the policies announced by the director of Selective Service in the form of a memorandum to state directors."

Interpreting this, regional officials of the War Manpower Commission declared that: "All married women can take positions in industry and war production without affecting their husbands' liability for draft."

"The more married women enter war industry the more single men now deferred for occupational reasons will be released for military service. This will automatically lengthen the time before married men must be called."

Since July 15 local draft boards have had before them the following information:

"In addition to considering the amount which the dependent will be entitled to receive if proper application is made under the Service Men's Dependents Allowance Act of 1942, in cases where a dependent is passed upon, consider the following:

(1) The pay scale of the registrant after his induction;
(2) The amount which the dependent is earning or is capable of earning, provided work is available;
(3) The amount which the registrant or dependent will receive from other sources even though the registrant is inducted."

Tomato Grower Says Students Failed as Pickers

The loss of about 50 per cent of a 137-acre tomato crop in the Palos Verdes due to a great degree to lack of pickers, has forced William Hoberg, manager of the Palos Verdes Farms Association, to announce this week that the firm which operated 450 acres of farm land in that area "has had to abandon any thought of farming on a large scale" next season. Hoberg's announcement came in the form of a letter to The Herald which told the growers' side of the controversy over the general worth of volunteer pickers—especially high school students.

Last week The Herald published a letter from Harry H. Stone, vocational agriculture instructor at Torrance high school, who presented the school and student view of what the newspaper termed "a misunderstanding" in regard to certain working conditions in the Palos Verdes farms. Hoberg, who said the England Brothers, who also operate big-scale farms in that area, concurred with his views of the growers' experience in using volunteer help, wrote in part as follows:

"I feel called upon to take positive exception to Mr. Stone's general conclusions expressed in his letter. There is no question in my mind that the school authorities and the government agencies (U. S. Employment office) had good intentions. Unfortunately intentions were not sufficient to accomplish any material results. We operated approximately 450 acres of vegetable farm land and actually lost about 50 per cent of a 137-acre tomato crop due to a great degree to lack of pickers."

Caused Nuisance and Damage. "When we realized we would have to resort to inexperienced pickers, we appealed to government agencies and surrounding schools. We were in constant check with the employment agency and were advised we could pick up so many students at different schools. On two particular days we made plans to pick up about 80 students. We made our plans accordingly and sent out our trucks on schedule and had them return with 26 one day and 17 another day.

"Our main thought was to get the tomatoes picked—not to realize any profit for ourselves. We tried every possible means to have the students that reported to work do just that. But with some exceptions—there were a few good workers—they absolutely refused. They (and

Fritzle, Unpaid Car Watcher, Goes to Reward

Fritzle, for nine years an unsalaried but faithful employee of the C. C. M. O., Sunday after a short illness.

Fritzle was a tan and white part Pomeranian whose 11 years began to rest heavily upon him recently. The pet of Mr. and Mrs. W. Willard Field for nine years he had accompanied Field to the C. C. M. O. plant, watching his master's car as he made his rounds or waiting quietly for reports to be made.

A quiet dog of gentle manners and affectionate disposition, he had many friends who will miss Fritzle.

Keystone and El Nido Elect Defense Leaders

Heads of the functional committees and the executive committees of the Keystone County Defense Council unanimously elected Mrs. Margaret Forrester as district chairman this week. At the same time Jack Harmon was chosen to head the Civilian Defense group in the El Nido area adjoining Torrance.

The new district chairman organization, as designed by Gordon Hendry, chairman of the Vermont Area Defense Council, is aimed at bringing about a greater cooperation of all phases of the civilian mobilization program.

"In each area comprising the Vermont Area Council which includes such communities as Lomita, Clifton Heights, Lennox, Lawndale, Howard, El Porto, Rolling Hills, Palms, Keystone and El Nido, a district chairman has been chosen in the same manner, with authority decentralized." In this way, each community will have greater power toward the total mobilization of the citizens of their respective communities. The concept of civilian mobilization has been expanded to include all activities which concern civilian participation in the total war effort," Hendry says.

"This is a move which signifies the greater appreciation of officialdom for what total war means."

Hendry pointed out that the leaders of the National and Military experts are tending increasingly to the belief that Germany's defeat will be speeded by the collapse of civilian morale as it was in the last war. "If this be true, then these men who know have placed, by emphasis, responsibility for victory upon the civilian population as much, or more, than on the military forces," he said.

Big Water Valve Installed Here

Starting at 3 a. m. last Sunday morning, Superintendent William H. Stanger and three of his Torrance Municipal Water department workers began installing an 18-inch emergency valve linking the high pressure tower at Torrance Blvd. and Crenshaw ave., with the city mains.

At 1:30 Sunday afternoon the job was completed without a hitch and normal service of municipal water replaced the temporary use of a limited amount of Metropolitan Water District water from the Colorado River.

The Colorado River water, even on curtailed service, provided enough to supply the demand which was voluntarily reduced by residents who cooperated with the water department by refraining from watering lawns or irrigating in response to an appeal from Superintendent Stanger in last week's Herald. He said that now the service is "up to par" and a standard pressure is guaranteed no matter what emergency may develop.

VISIT AT DALLAS. Mrs. W. Rufus Faval will leave this week for several weeks visit with her father, D. B. Baker and other relatives and friends at Dallas, Texas.

AT CRESTLINE. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bever and daughter Joyce spent the weekend at their Crestline cabin.

State Guard Unit Returns To Torrance

After a month's stay at Hermosa Beach, Company H of the California State Guard—Torrance and Lomita's own unit—returned to the Torrance city ball park Monday. The 40-odd men, commanded by Lieut. Chalmers M. Dulmage and Robert L. Lewellen, have taken over the guard posts in this area which they instituted several months ago.

A feature of the demonstration was the first public appearance of City Electrician Oscar Butterfield's decontamination crew in their "men from Mars" protective clothing. Dressed from head to toe in new non-permeable clothing made from rubber fabric this Civilian Defense unit demonstrated how they operate to neutralize liquid poison gas by the use of "slurry," a mixture of chloride of lime and water.

This is brushed into buildings or other structures where liquid gas, such as mustard, may be contacted by a human.

Uncomfortable to Wear. The decontamination crew's clothing was recently received from the Office of Civilian Defense. The garments are made in the form of coveralls which close with zipper fasteners. The wrist and ankles are strapped tightly and heavy rubber gloves and rubber boots are worn together with gas masks. A hood is provided which covers the head and straps tightly at the neck. Such clothing keeps everything out from the skin but it also keeps everything in so that it is extremely uncomfortable to wear for more than one hour at a time.

The Civilian Defense exhibition gave the spectators a good idea how the whole "home front" swings into action from the time the first "yellow" or preliminary warning signal is received from the County Control Center until the "all clear." Michael Strasser, city editor of The Torrance Herald, gave a "bomb-by-bomb" description of the demonstration over the public address system and Police Chief John Stroh urged more residents to enroll in the Civilian Defense forces.

This was the fourth public demonstration to be held in Torrance but Strasser reported that Civilian Defense workers here have been conducting "practice incidents" regularly for almost a year.

566 in C. D. Here. "Civilian Defense is not a static, cut and dried method of fighting on the Second or Home Front," the newspaper man who is a member of the Auxiliary Police told the crowd. "New ideas are constantly being announced by the Office of Civilian Defense and developed by the enrolled members themselves. One of the changes in procedure which attracted considerable attention recently was the instruction to fight incendiary bombs with a steady stream of water rather than a fine spray."

"Those of us who are enrolled as Civilian Defense workers were first required to attend a required period of 18 weeks for the police. Air Raid Wardens, who are the chief figures in Civilian Defense."

Two Families Have Six Service Stars

Three members of each of two families here are in the armed services and all are a real credit to their home-town and nation. The Herald learned this week they are members of the Bray and Tomkins families.

Mr. and Mrs. T. A. "Gus" Bray of 2011 Andrew ave., residents here for 22 years, have three sons in service while Mr. and Mrs. E. N. Tompkins, former pioneer residents at 1811 Grandview ave., have a son and two grandsons working for Uncle Sam.

The Brays' oldest son, Tom, enlisted last Thursday in the Naval Reserve as a Petty Officer, machinist 3/c. He is 24 years old. Charles Bray, 21, enlisted in the Army Air Force July 27 and is now stationed at Ogden, Utah. Joseph Bray, who is 18, enlisted Sept. 29 in the Naval Reserve.

Father and Two Sons. Gus Bray, Jr., is 15 and George is 10, while the Brays' only daughter, Mary, is 19 and is studying compometer operation in Los Angeles in preparation for a war job.

Bomb Show Attracts 200 at Ball Park

Using four structures made famous by Chic Sale for graphic demonstration of how incendiary bombs act, Officer Tom Perkin and representative Torrance Civilian Defense workers staged a fast-moving "bomb show" before some 200 residents at the city park ball diamond late Sunday afternoon. Home-made (by Perkin and Dale Riley, city recreation director) magnesium and oil bombs were strapped to the spectators in the grandstand how incendiaries should be fought.

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Year's Building To Date Totals To \$7,227,249

New construction in Torrance last month amounted to \$12,515 in building permits, according to the city engineer's office. The building total in September 1941 was \$27,550.

The total in new building in the city for the nine months is \$7,227,249 as compared with \$361,247, it was reported.

Price Control Survey Ordered

The first general price control survey will be made in all stores in Torrance, Lomita and other areas under the control of the Torrance War Price and Rationing Board next week with Torrance Auxiliary Police making the rounds, it was announced today by John Melville, acting chairman of the board.

The checkup will be made to determine how many merchants in this area are complying with the new regulations regarding fixed prices and posted ceiling price lists, Melville said. He asked for volunteers to make the survey at the regular monthly meeting of the Torrance Auxiliary Police Tuesday night.

The Civilian Defense officers will visit each store or shop during the coming week to ask three questions: (1) Have you filed your price ceiling on cost of living commodities? (2) Do you have a basic price list of all items you have for sale available for the public? and (3) Are the ceiling prices posted in your store or shop according to law?

Gardena Editor Comments on 'Rich Torrance'

In commenting on the resignation of Pat MacDonnell as secretary of the Gardena Valley Chamber of Commerce to become special representative of the city of Torrance to secure more housing here, Editor Lew Guild of the Gardena Valley News had some pertinent observations about this city in his "Gazing at Gardena" column last week. He wrote:

"SWELL JOB . . . He'll Be Missed" "Pat MacDonnell is gone as our Chamber of Commerce secretary after four years of work that some of us who know what he's done will never forget. To be sure we hope he'll be back after his year with the City of Torrance but we're just afraid that when Torrance discovers what a go-getter he is they won't let him come back to Gardena even though he is on a year's leave of absence to help our neighboring town. The City of Torrance has almost unlimited funds from property taxes on city real estate that stretches all over the entire southwest part of Los Angeles county so that Torrance can buy almost anything it wants. Only trouble is Torrance doesn't know what it wants a good deal of the time."

"Did you know that for the past year Torrance has not even had a Chamber of Commerce with a paid secretary? Yes, it's a fact. Mostly due to political squabbling. Up to that time the rich City of Torrance from its municipal funds had spent thousands of dollars on maintaining a Chamber of Commerce. In the meantime a handful of Gardena business men and property owners had kept a Chamber of Commerce going and paid a secretary out of their own pocket with practically no help from the city. Pat MacDonnell as secretary has done a swell job and the Chamber of Commerce was worth every cent invested in it."

First Aid Group Meets Tonight

A meeting of the Volunteer First Aid Detachment will be held tonight (Thursday) at 7 o'clock in the Civic Auditorium. A Station drill will be given by Fred Folts instructor and first aider, who will also complete organization details. It is requested that all members who have not returned their old arm bands do so and receive their new ones.

Refreshments of coffee and doughnuts will be served by members of the Canteen Corps under direction of Mrs. Julia Neelands.

A Standard First Aid Class which began last Tuesday night in the City Hall courtroom is still open for registrations. This group will meet every Thursday night at 7 o'clock with Folts as instructor.

An advanced class started Sept. 28 in the Hollywood Riviera Administration building and meets every Monday at 7 p. m.

Tires and Tools Stolen From Car

Three tires and carpenter tools with a total value of \$300 were stolen last Thursday night from his automobile, J. P. Patrick, carpenter employed on Torrance aluminum plant construction, reported Friday to police.

Patrick said a front car door window was pried open and two tires taken, and the trunk lock forced and the third tire and the tools removed.

The machine was parked in front of the Mayfair apartments, 2014 Torrance Blvd., where Patrick resides. Patrick said two of the tires were spares from an automobile he had just traded in.

Auxiliary Police Meet Semi-Monthly

Stepping up the tempo of continuing training for Auxiliary Police officers here, Police Chief John Stroh announced this week that there would be two meetings a month instead of one hereafter. The next session for the Civilian Defense police unit will be Monday night, Oct. 19, at 7 o'clock in the city council room. All Auxiliary Police officers must attend, he said.

Selective Service Bans Reports on Local Draft News

A bulletin order received this week by Selective Service Board No. 280 from the Southern Area headquarters in Los Angeles banned all further publication of local draft news regarding advance notice of induction dates, names and number of men in quota and succeeding information as to the number and names of men accepted for Army training.

A similar order was received here Dec. 24, 1941, but the ultra-strict censorship on the names of men inducted was lifted on Jan. 13, 1942. Efforts are being made by the press to obtain a clarification of the new order.

It has been announced from the local Selective Service Board that the next draft call, scheduled for Oct. 13, when the quota was said to be 68 men, would take all remaining 3-A-1 registrants in this district.

NEW RULING ON DEPENDENTS. Children born after Sept. 8, 1942 will not be considered by Selective Service boards as dependents for purposes of draft classification, according to an official announcement yesterday in Washington, D. C. The ruling was adopted when it was learned that married men with no children whose wives are working or employable will begin to be inducted into the Army in a few weeks and that those with children would be drawn into armed service in the latter half of 1943.

Further, Selective Service officials said, when Army requirements make necessary drafting of married men with children, those with one child will be called before those with two or more children. The ruling that children born after last Sept. 8 shall not be considered in classifying men for the draft, will apply to these men also, it was reported.

Selective Service spokesmen said that the ruling was the only "fair" method of treating dependents in the light of Federal government statistics which reveal a sharp increase in the birth rate since the beginning of the national emergency in 1940.

Thus, according to the Selective Service, a man who was married but had no children on Dec. 8, 1941, the day after Pearl Harbor, will be classified for induction with the group to be drafted yet this year, although he may have a child born after Sept. 8, 1942.

Special recognition was also given to Mrs. Allie West who has four sons in the service of their country.

Alden W. Smith, Optometrist, Entering Army

Volunteering his talents to the war effort, Dr. Alden W. Smith, well known Torrance optometrist and proprietor of Howard's Jewelers, 1503 Cabrillo ave., this week enlisted in the U. S. Army Air Forces. He leaves tomorrow morning and will be assigned to duty as a technician.

Dr. Smith announces that he has engaged the services of Dr. L. O. Hughes, optometrist, who will be in charge of the office during his absence. Dr. Hughes has practiced in Long Beach for the past 22 years and comes to Torrance highly recommended. He and Mrs. Hughes expect to move to this city immediately.

"I am happy about the idea of getting into the Army Air Forces and particularly gratified that I was able to secure the services of so capable an optometrist as Dr. Hughes to take care of my patients while I am away," stated Dr. Smith.

Thomas G. Wilkes, 206½ Carson st., who has been enlisted as a technician in the U. S. Army Air Forces, and will report tomorrow morning at Fort MacArthur for induction. Mrs. Carolyn Hedrick, sister of Wilkes, will replace her brother at Howard's.

Richard Brunswick will continue in charge of the jewelry store, according to Dr. Smith.

RETURNS HOME. Jimmie O'Toole has returned to his home following a recent operation at Torrance Memorial Hospital.

TO HOSPITAL. John Janssen, Jr. of 1740 Gramercy ave. returned recently to Sawtelle Veterans hospital.

VOCATIONAL TALK. Dr. Carlos Stratton, former district governor, will speak on "Vocation Guidance" at tonight's dinner meeting of the Torrance Rotary club. Past President B. C. Buxton will have charge of the program.