

Four Steps to Get Your Gas Rations

- Obtain a "Tire Record and Application Blank for Basic Mileage Ration Book 'A' or 'D'" at your local Ration Board's headquarters—in Torrance at 1526 Cravens ave.
- Go to the nearest elementary school to your home with it completely and accurately filled out from 1 to 8 o'clock next Wednesday and Thursday, Nov. 18 and 19, or Friday, Nov. 20, from 8 a. m. to 8 p. m., to receive your basic "A" ration book or your "D" book if you are a motorcyclist. Take your car registration (white) slip with you.
- If you believe you will need more gasoline than will take you about 240 miles per month, ask the registrar at your school for an application form for a supplemental ration.
- Fill out this form and present it to the local Ration Board, which will then issue a supplemental ration after examination of your need.

Motorists Going Back to Schools; Not to Study But to Get Rations

Because the forms for gas ration cards and other material have not arrived in sufficient quantities, the registration of motorists for the cards has been postponed to next Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, Nov. 18, 19 and 20 at local elementary schools. Gas rationing is now scheduled to start Dec. 1 or later instead of Nov. 22.

The Torrance Rationing Board today appealed for volunteers to assist with clerical work in connection with the gas rationing program. All those who can help a few hours each day or week—the work will last for about a month—should register at once at the Board's headquarters, 1526 Cravens ave.

Desirability of the motorist filing his application blank for gasoline rationing at the elementary school nearest his home is stressed by school and rationing officials. It is pointed out that sugar and gasoline rationing may be recognized as only the first of a long list of commodities to be so rationed, and that in the interests of efficiency and convenience for both applicants and registrars, closest elementary school location is greatly to be preferred.

The motorist is asked, before going to his nearest elementary school to write in on the upper right-hand corner of his completely filled-in application form his correct ration board number. Further, when employers provide application blanks for their employees they are requested to emphasize the importance of including the correct ration board number with the other information required.

The Torrance War Price and Rationing Board is No. 62. It serves all areas also served by Torrance and Lomita schools, Waverly, Carson Street and Dominguez schools. Residents of Harbor City are in the jurisdiction of Ration Board No. 64, located at 110 East Anaheim in Wilmington.

Gasoline ration registration is being held in elementary schools only, but will be conducted by teachers, principals, and supervisors of all schools and administrative offices, with assistance of other authorized adults. Minimum day schedule will be in effect at the elementary schools next Wednesday and Thursday so that applicants may file between hours of 1 and 8 p. m. on those days. Friday, Nov. 20, elementary schools will be open from 8 a. m. to 8 p. m. to complete the registration.

Harbor City Boy Killed In Navy Plane Crash

Ensign Bob Barker, 21, of Harbor City, was killed Monday in a plane crash in the Florida Everglades, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Barker, of 25804 Florida st., were informed in a Navy department telegram. The crash occurred while he was on a routine training flight as an instructor. He was the first Harbor City war casualty and the 10th man from the Torrance-Lomita-Harbor City area to succumb in the armed services.

Ensign Barker, who was graduated from Narbonne high school with the Winter class of 1939, married Patricia Hewitt of Eagle Rock at Miami, Fla., shortly after he won his Navy commission five months ago at Pensacola, Fla. In addition to his wife and parents, he leaves two sisters, Rose and Carol, of the home address in Harbor City.

He attended Long Beach Junior College and took private flying lessons while a student there. After he learned to fly he took his great-grandmother on a flight. His grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Stiekney of Lomita. Bob was a popular student at Narbonne and had many friends in his area who mourn his untimely passing with the hope he had started his Navy career. No arrangements have been made for funeral services because his parents are still awaiting further word from the Navy department.

INFORMATION WANTED—Anyone knowing the whereabouts of George Washington Donohou, formerly of 25607 Cypress st., Lomita, should contact the San Pedro Red Cross office, 335 West Seventh st.

Tire Inspections For Cars Starts On December 1

Details of a nationwide program for periodic inspection of the tires on all operating vehicles as a means not only to keep tires in good repair but also as a check against illegal use or sales of passenger car casings, have been announced as a part of national mileage rationing and rubber conservation.

Under the program, neither private passenger automobiles nor commercial vehicles will be certified for continued operation when their tires need repairs or when mechanical faults are causing unnecessary tire wear. Moreover, if a passenger car owner should attempt to keep and use a tire in excess of the five permitted under the gasoline rationing regulations, the violation will be disclosed by the inspection system.

Every Four Months—Original inspection for all passenger cars must be made between Dec. 1 and Jan. 31, 1943. Commercial vehicle inspection starts Nov. 15.

After the initial inspection passengers who get the minimum ration of gasoline—the basic "A" book—under the nationwide rationing that becomes effective Dec. 2, will be required to get their tires inspected every four months at official OPA inspection stations. The same requirement applies to those who hold only the "D" gasoline book for motorcycles. Persons who get gasoline books permitting them to drive greater distances in a given period, must get inspection every two months. Commercial vehicle tires must be inspected every two months or every 5,000 miles, whichever comes first.

First Anniversary of Earthquake Finds Torrance With Only Few Scars Remaining

One year ago next Saturday morning, Torrance, Lomita and vicinity were rocked by the most intense earthquake in the history of this area. The resultant damage—but without loss of a life or a single injury—has already cost Torrance property owners \$350,000 for reconstruction work and it is estimated that at least another \$50,000 will be spent in Torrance before the last signs of the tremor are erased.

The first and greatest quake occurred at 12:42 a. m., Nov. 14, 1941. It was followed by a lesser tremor at 1:35 a. m. At once a 70-hour period of emergency prevailed, with traffic being blocked by various police units and intensive efforts were started by residents to bring order out of the rubble-dotted business area.

By the following Sunday night, Nov. 16, 1941, the extra policing was ended and on Nov. 17 the first general survey of the damage was completed by City Engineer Glenn M. Jain. At that time he estimated the damage at "between \$300,000 and \$400,000."

NEW BUSINESS FACE—Today, Engineer Jain reported that the cost of reconstruction

Council Appoints Two Policemen; Spurns Slover

Two new patrolmen were given temporary appointments to the police department on motion by Councilman George V. Powell at city council meeting Tuesday night and a petition, signed by 25 local businessmen, recommending Harry W. Slover of this city for such a position was filed. Slover was probation officer here for three years.

The new officers are George W. Henderson, 61, a retired Los Angeles police sergeant living in Los Angeles, and Frank O. Schanault, 46, at present a guard at the National Supply Co., who lives in Pasadena. Both will receive \$145 per month.

Discussion following reading of the petition supporting Slover for a police appointment revealed that he had made no formal application for the position, according to Police Chief John Stroh, and even if he did Councilman George V. Powell, police commissioner, would not recommend him for the job.

"He's not even qualified," Powell said. "Whenever a man comes around and tells you what job you're going to have to give him he doesn't get my approval." Powell did not elaborate on his comment and Mayor Tom McGuire said: "This is the first time I ever knew he wanted a police job."

City Workers Mark Union's Anniversary

Marking their first anniversary as a union organization and celebrating the receipt of their charter, members of Local 390 State, County and Municipal Workers of America, affiliated with the C. I. O., held a gala dinner meeting last Friday night at the Labor Temple. Wives and husbands of members, Mayor and Mrs. Tom McGuire and City Clerk A. H. Bartlett were guests of the Torrance municipal workers. Sixty-four attended.

The well-planned pot-luck dinner was followed by an informal program of short talks by President Addis Thomas, A. E. Treloar, financial secretary, Estov Ward, representative of the C. I. O. county council; John E. Jeffery, regional director of the S. C. M. W. A., Mayor McGuire and Bartlett.

Lomita Found Dead; Believed Suicide

With a bullet wound in his forehead, the body of George L. Casey, 64, of 1734 West 25th st., Lomita, was found in the yard of an oil company at 24501 Figueroa st. yesterday morning. A revolver was found nearby, and deputy sheriffs said they believed Casey had shot himself.

FIRST POLICEWOMAN ON JOB



ON POLICE JOBS—Miss Lucille Stroh, daughter of Police Chief John Stroh, shown at police shorthand microphone as the first police woman in Torrance. She is an acting desk sergeant. G. M. (Jerry) Calder, ex-chief, called back to regular duty at the left.

City In Quest for Seven Machines, Garages for OCD Fire Apparatus

In order to transport and store seven pieces of auxiliary fire-fighting equipment expected here soon from the Office of Civilian Defense, City Engineer Glenn Jain and Fire Chief J. E. McMaster started out today on a quest for four one and one-half ton second hand trucks, three heavy passenger cars and seven garages in which the mobile apparatus may be stored.

The O. C. D. is sending Torrance seven "skid" pumps which must be permanently mounted on the trucks and trailers to the cars if the city is to keep the apparatus apportioned here without cost. Each pump is reported coming completely equipped with necessary hose lengths and couplings and the first is due to arrive within 15 days, it was revealed at the city council session Tuesday night.

Discussion of the O. C. D. grant of equipment to the city showed that the city fire department has no vehicles at present which it can use to mount the pumps on. Jain and McMaster were therefore instructed to "shop around" for the trucks, cars and places to store them. The storage sites should be secured in all parts of the city, it was brought out, in order to locate the O. C. D. apparatus in strategic areas for use in case of any emergency.

Move City Ambulance—City Attorney John E. McCall offered the use of his garage, which he said could house at least two pieces of equipment, without charge and Councilman George V. Powell followed the attorney's offer with one of his own.

At the same session, arrangements were made to store the new city ambulance, donated to the city by the sponsors of its purchase fund, the Torrance Kiwanis club, in Harvel Guttenfelder's service station building at Cravens and Marcelina aves.

PIAN HOUSE SURVEY—While the consensus in Torrance is that a nursery school is desirable and in some quarters is felt as an urgent need, it should be pointed out that until a comprehensive survey is completed the actual need may be largely a matter of speculation.

In this connection it has been suggested that a scout approach to the problem of gathering of reliable statistical data would be to invite the participation of all civic groups, unions and other organizations to undertake a house-to-house survey. This move is necessary because frequently children lose count of their busy mothers fail to fill them out and return them promptly.

Because of this the Women's Auxiliary announces that arrangements are under way which may permit certain agencies to assist in the circulation of questionnaires.

Groups Are Invited—Local notification to the project is that there is a large group of women, who also are mothers and whose economic status prevents their entry into war industry.

102 New Houses Scheduled for Torrance Area

Announcement of two large housing developments—one to start construction next Monday and the other awaiting a materials release, was made yesterday by Pat MacDonnell, city housing coordinator. He said the Torrance Investment Co., has reported the deed of 30 lots located north of the National Supply Co., in the L. A. Shoreline strip to Sam Goldstein for the building of four six-room homes and 26 five-room houses, each with a double garage.

MacDonnell said that he understands that all priorities and materials for this project have been arranged and the foundations are to be laid starting next Monday. The project is reported to be financed by the Union Central Life Insurance Co., and all homes will be insured under the F. H. A.

The Jefferson Finance Co., of Los Angeles has reported the securing of priorities necessary for the building of 72 private homes on and between 218th and 220th sts., west of Normandie ave., MacDonnell said. This firm holds priorities division case No. 7122-00369 for this work.

The company must, however, obtain a clearance for necessary lumber from the Southern Pacific division of the U. S. Engineers at San Francisco. To further this release, the Aluminum Corporation of America and the Columbia Steel Co., are making special representation to the U. S. Engineers to demonstrate the need of the housing.

No special study will be made of the Torrance area's housing requirements until full information has been received by Melvin C. Vanderlip, director of defense housing under the National Housing Agency for Southern California, as to the needs of employers anticipated and when the new synthetic rubber plants now building near the city expect to be in full operation," MacDonnell reported.

Dr. Elizabeth Wood, psychologist who is connected with the Board of Education, is tentatively scheduled to speak. Mrs. Elizabeth Farrah, who is well known in the Southern California area, is expected to make some recommendations based upon the findings of the Los Angeles Committee for the Care of Children in Wartime.

Nursery Project To be Subject At Meeting Here

These proposals will be advanced in the hope that they will aid the newly organized Torrance Community Committee for Child Care in formulating a sound program based upon the needs of local families and in the interest of the public good to the end that children and their war-working mothers will be safeguarded and family life be maintained.

Members of the 30th draft contingent who were inducted into the Army from this district Oct. 31 were:

- Robert W. Carlson, 1916 Plaza del Amo.
- Robert Victor Faren, 2408 Cabrillo ave.
- Robert Arthur Ernst, 1023 Madrid ave.
- Egidio Magnante, 21008 Valerie st.
- Doyle H. Hornback, 619 Arlington ave.
- Richard Thomas Higgins, 1329 Portola ave.
- James Henry Biller, 23929 Ocean ave.
- Norman Alfred Dean, 24039 Hawthorne Blvd.

FROM LOMITA: Hugh J. Baker, 1854 262nd st., signing up for Volunteer Officers' training.

- Dee Thorp, 24329 Narbonne ave.
- Tony J. Szafrajda, 2414 Pacific Coast Highway.
- Charles J. Bryant, 1851 247th st.
- Melvin Armstrong, 24822 Oak st.
- Leonard H. Backlund, 2247 239th st.

Auxiliary Police to Get New Bomb Data—Detailed descriptions of the latest incendiary fragmentation bombs used by the Japs will be given members of the Torrance Auxiliary Police unit at the regular meeting scheduled for next Monday night, Nov. 16, at 7 o'clock in the city council room.

Police Chief John Stroh urges all Auxiliary officers to be present to hear this vital information.

City Offered \$2,500 Profit on Fire Truck Which Caused Debate

(Picture of once-controversial fire truck on Page 3-A)

If the city of Torrance wanted to, it could sell the 1,000-gallon Mack pump fire truck, whose purchase in August 1939 aroused a storm of controversy over its worth, "for the full amount paid for this truck and perhaps more," according to R. W. Cornell of the fire engine division of the Mack-International Motor Truck Corp.

The city paid a total of \$9,600 for the apparatus, which was then seven years old and today, Cornell said in a letter read to the city council Tuesday night, "no doubt your city would realize a lot or more than you paid." The reason for Cornell's inquiry concerning re-sale of the pumper is that "we are besieged with requests from other cities operating Mack equipment who are extremely anxious to purchase new or nearly-new 1,000-gallon pumpers such as the model you have."

Three years ago the purchase of the truck was attacked by various citizens in three consecutive council meetings, resulting in an investigation by a group of experts in fire apparatus valuation that held the city made a "good deal" by its purchase. When City Clerk A. H. Bartlett concluded Cornell's letter Tuesday night these were the only comments:

Tolson Vindicated—"I've seen the time that truck wasn't worth a dime a dozen," Mayor Tom McGuire said. "We couldn't give it away," Councilman George V. Powell recalled.

"I think we should mail a copy of this letter to Prewett," Councilman James Hitchcock suggested, referring to Bivon M. Prewett, who was one of the chief objectors to the truck's purchase. The council filed the communication for future reference.

William H. Tolson, who was mayor at the time the pumper was purchased and who staunchly upheld the council's action through the sometimes bitter controversy, was in the audience Tuesday night and heard the letter read. Altho-Cornell's letter may be regarded as a complete vindication of the fire truck deal, he merely grinned broadly and said: "No comment is necessary," when asked by reporters if he had anything to say about the matter.

Argument Fades Out—It has been reported that cities finding themselves in need of additional fire-fighting equipment which now is practically unobtainable are willing to pay from \$10,000 to \$12,000 for apparatus such as Torrance owns.

The city paid \$8,600 for the truck, plus interest and carrying charges, which made the final cost figure \$9,600. It has operated the pumper for three years, which, if calculated on a minimum rental fee of \$2,500 annually for such equipment, reduces the book-value to \$2,100.

On the basis of the present offer of the manufacturer, the city could realize a profit of at least \$2,500 on its 1939 investment in the fire truck, it is reported.

Opponents of the truck's purchase claimed it was in poor mechanical condition, the price of \$8,600 was about \$3,000 too much, and they threatened all forms of reprisals, including an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. After heated statements, recriminations, argument and considerable hearsay rumor, the "fire truck controversy" faded out of the municipal picture and the truck remained to give good service at all times with a minimum of upkeep expense.

Army Takes 17 From This Area—Members of the 30th draft contingent who were inducted into the Army from this district Oct. 31 were:

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CD Recruits to Get Basic Course—A school of instruction for newly-enrolled Torrance Civilian Defense recruits will be held every Friday, starting this week, from 7 to 9 o'clock at the city council chamber, according to Sergeant Tom Perkin, who will direct the school with Major Fred Tiffany and Engineer Roy Winters of the fire department.

A four-week basic course will be given the 30 new members in the theory of Civilian Defense, operation of the Torrance control board, work of the various C. D. units, war gases, incendiary warfare, high explosives, field drill and a gas chamber work. After they have completed this instruction, the recruits will specialize in their chosen field of Civilian Defense work in regular instruction groups.