



Technical Sgt. Anthony Newsom, of Wichita Falls, Tex., swabs out a .50-caliber machine gun in a plane on Amchitka Island, while Sergeant Gordon Foster of Minneapolis repairs a piece of equipment on the runway.

## 'SHANGRI-LA' FOR CHICKENS PROPOSED IN OLD GRAVEL PIT

Here's one for slide-rule statisticians: How long would it take a couple thousand chickens to exhaust the possibilities of an abandoned 10-acre gravel pit in Walters?

Use of the huge amphitheater which has been unworked for so long that large trees have grown up on its floor is being sought by Edsel Newton, newspaperman who combines reporting with chicken ranching at 2417 Neece ave., on behalf of a group of producers in this area.

He has made application for lease of the large pit on the north side of the Palos Verdes hills for the site of this "Shangri-La" of a chicken ranch. In addition to enough gravel to keep large flocks scratching for many years, the pit is undisturbed by wind conditions, he points out.

Lack of water is the only drawback to the proposed chicken paradise. No supply is readily available and materials necessary for carrying it to the pit are on the critical list. However, Newton believes a wooden flume could be installed from existing lines.

The abandoned gravel mine has been used for a target range by gun enthusiasts. Several youngsters who visited it recently discovered that it contains a large amount of lead pellets fired by the marksmen. They recovered several pounds of metal in one section merely by exploring it with their fingers.

## Soldiers' Mail Tastes Follow Definite Pattern, OWI Reports

Men in the armed forces would rather read about what their families are doing, in the letters they get from home, than any other kind of news, the Office of War Information said this week after a survey among men in the service at home and overseas and in cooperation with the special service division of the Army Service Forces.

Men back from fighting fronts in Africa and the Southwest Pacific reported how mail from home—the right kind of mail—is one of the most vital factors in building and sustaining morale.

At one station overseas, 111 men, representative of enlisted men in the station, were asked "what kind of things do you like to read about in your letters from home?" an examination of answers showed:

(A) Soldiers like to receive letters about their families, including information concerning the following:

1. How the family is getting along economically.
2. That the family is doing everything possible to aid the war effort.
3. That the family is anxious for the boy's return.
4. That the family is "okay and busy."

(B) Soldiers like to hear news about their friends, especially those in the service. Information in this category includes:

1. Girls he knows (if they are single).
2. News about friends at home.
3. Changes in social relations (who is marrying whom).
4. Past events, places he used to go, and the community's "night life."

"Writing regularly to soldiers in the service is definitely contributing toward the winning of this war," is the opinion of Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower.

## HOCUS-POCUS PRICE FIXING

There is an urgent need for the Office of Price Administration and other Washington agencies to talk plainly and act openly and directly (instead of evasively) in their dealings with the American people on the whole problem of prices, wages and inflation, if current chaotic conditions are to be remedied.

It is a gross abuse of public confidence to tell the people of this country that the government's present scheme of subsidizing processors is "rolling back the cost of living." Actually the cost of living will remain just the same under this spurious program, but the government will be paying part of everybody's grocery bill—and taxing everybody to make up the difference.

What Mr. and Mrs. Average American save when they go to the store, they will pay out in increased taxes to defray the cost of the subsidies. That kind of hocus-pocus economics solves nothing and will only make a bad matter worse, for it deludes the people into thinking that they have more money than they have—and postpones the day of reckoning.

There is only one workable way to "hold the line" against price increases—and that is to hold the line against wage increases. The officials in the O.P.A. and other Washington departments know that—and they owe it to the people to tell them that. Actually, we all have to get down to brass tacks soon and recognize that we can't have all-out production to win a war and still have all the consumer commodities which we had in peace times. No matter what wages we are paid, the things we can buy with them are going to be increasingly limited—and if we permit wages to soar, prices will soar ever faster as the demand for goods exceeds the supply. And then some day we will wind up, like the Germans did after the last World War, going to the store with a wheelbarrow full of money to get a pocket full of produce.

It's time for Washington to cut out sugar-coating the pill, or coming up with now-you-see-it, now-you-don't panaceas. The people are entitled to facts—and they'll be better off if they know just what they owe the grocer, instead of being kidded about it.

# TORRANCE HERALD

ESTABLISHED 1914 12 PAGES TWO SECTIONS TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, JUNE 3, 1943 PER COPY 5c

## Eleven Inducted; Next Draft Call Set for June 9

Eleven men were accepted for the armed forces from the 36th draft contingent which left Torrance May 26 for final physical examinations in Los Angeles, it was reported this week by Mrs. Doris Watson, clerk of Selective Service Board No. 280.

The next induction is scheduled for 6:30 a.m., Wednesday June 9, from the Torrance Civic Auditorium where Mr. and Mrs. Ray Hoover, sponsors of the "Servicemen's Sendoff Fund" and the Torrance Red Cross canteen unit will serve coffee and doughnuts. Fifty-six men are scheduled to report.

Those who were inducted May 26 were:

- From Torrance: Percy L. Thompson, 2624 Carson st.
- John Batovsky, 1324 Carson st.
- Norman D. Litzenberg, Carson and Madrona, into Navy.
- From Lomita: Charles R. Brown, 25046 Cypress st.
- Chelsea B. Hamilton, Apt. 41, Harbor Hills.
- From Other Areas: John P. Schulte, Los Angeles.
- Archie H. Ahrends, San Pedro, formerly of 1737 254th st., Lomita.
- Wayne M. McDowell, Inglewood, formerly of 1610 Crenshaw Blvd., Torrance.
- Woodrow B. Leffler, Gardena, into Navy.
- Jack Byrns, Gardena, into Navy.
- Jack D. Jamison, Gardena, into Navy.

## NEARLY 200 MORE HOUSES SLATED FOR CONSTRUCTION ON 32-ACRE TRACT HERE

Additional relief for the city's "growing pains" caused by the influx of war workers was assured this week when the Jones Brothers of Long Beach announced they have priorities to construct the first 198 rental housing units on a 32-acre tract east of Normandie ave. and south of 208th st. The investment in land and improvements is approximately \$660,000.

B. C. Buxton, local realtor, reported that he sold the tract for Clarence Birney of Los Angeles to the Jones Brothers. The builders hope to obtain an additional 100 or so priorities to complete their advanced plans for development of the tract.

They have arranged to put in the streets and utilities and also to create a community park and playground as features of the new home tract.

Birney acquired the acreage several months ago from the Dominguez Land Corp., when that firm disposed of its remaining holdings in this area.



MISSING — John Robert Wolverton, 24, Navy aviation pilot first class, was reported missing in action May 17 in the South Pacific. His mother, Mrs. Eva M. Wolverton, and his wife, Doris, of 2378 237th st., hold hope that he will be located alive and well.

## Gordon Jacobs Dies of Injuries at Naval Base

Gordon S. Jacobs, ordnance man first class, U.S.N., died Monday night at Lakehurst, N. J., from injuries received earlier in the day. No details have been received by Mrs. George Scott, sister of Mrs. Jacobs who received a telegram last night from her sister announcing the death. A telegram from the Navy department was received late Monday by Mrs. William Jacobs of Long Beach, Gordon's mother, informing her that her son had been seriously injured. Jacobs was a former student of Narbonne high school and a graduate of Albany, Ore., high school. In December 1938, he was appointed mail carrier at the Lomita postoffice and served until his enlistment a year ago. Mrs. Jacobs' former aide-de-camp, and their baby son, Jack, have been living in Lakehurst. Their home at 26321 Athena st., is occupied by Mrs. Donald Hart, Mrs. Jacobs' sister. A report from Lakehurst yesterday said that Jacobs was fatally wounded while demonstrating a machine gun. The body, accompanied by an honor guard, was shipped from the Naval base yesterday. Funeral services will be conducted from St. Margaret Mary's Catholic church in Lomita but the time has not yet been set.

## Draft of Fathers to Start Aug. 1, McNutt States

Dependency alone will be virtually eliminated by the end of this year as a reason for keeping fathers out of uniform, Manpower Chief Paul V. McNutt indicated this week.

The armed forces will need so many men, he said, that only 22 of every 100 able-bodied fathers still will be deferred at the end of 1943 because their families need their support.

General induction of family heads is due to start Aug. 1. A Navy announcement Monday lowering physical standards for draftees may slow up induction of fathers slightly, McNutt said, but he emphasized that even if the Army follows suit in adopting new standards the general effect on father induction will be "only a delay."

Relaxation of Navy standards, particularly on eyesight, coincided with reliable reports that the armed forces have been rejecting more than half the inductees called up in recent weeks. Inductions have been proceeding at about 30,000 a month.

## Noted Ensemble to Give Concert

A cordial invitation to music lovers of the community to attend the concert to be presented by the Allan Hancock ensemble of U.S.C. at the Torrance high school auditorium at 10:15 a.m., Wednesday, June 9, was extended today by Principal Harold E. Perry.

"Members of the community who are interested in good chamber music are invited to enjoy this program with our student body," he said. The ensemble over a two-year period has broadcast 94 radio concerts and presented 57 other programs on the U.S.C. campus. In addition, it has played 89 concerts in other communities on the Pacific coast, including a number of the larger military camps.

## May Building Totals \$3,966,975

A huge expansion at a local industry, nameless for security reasons, shot the May building total here to \$3,966,975, it was reported from the city engineer's office today. Of that total, \$3,960,000, was credited to the industrial expansion project.

The year's building to date now stands at \$4,088,324 as compared to \$326,692 for the first five months of 1943. New construction in May, 1942 amounted to \$27,480.

## Former Resident Reported Missing

Reported missing in action in the North African area May 29 was Private William E. May, whose parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. May, formerly lived at 1506 West 215th st. The parents are reported to be residing now in Bakersfield. No details concerning Private May were announced by the War Department.

## Old Library Moved from El Prado

A Torrance landmark which became an eyesore in recent months was removed today. This was the old library building, a frame structure which has stood vacant on El Prado, since the new library was erected. The building, its windows shattered and its interior badly wrecked as result of juvenile depredations, was moved to 626-28 Corti ave., where it will be converted into apartments under the Wartime Conversion program.

## Students Buying War Stamps in Hero's Honor

To keep the Minute Man flag that was awarded the school last week flying with honor, Torrance high school students have begun a "Hero Day" project to pay tribute to Torrance men who are making outstanding contributions toward victory.

Every student who buys a Way Stamp or Bond on the weekly "Hero Day" will be permitted to sign a scroll to be sent to the man designated for the week's tribute. Capt. William E. Keefer, Torrance high alumnus and member of the Air Corps who has won the Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medal, is being honored in this fashion this week. Next week the scroll will be signed for Lieut. Louis Zamperini, who has won an Air Medal and oak leaf cluster for his exploits as a bombardier in the South Pacific.

"I believe this idea of saluting a different Torrance man each week in this substantial fashion would appeal to other organizations in the city," Principal Harold E. Perry said this week. "They could pool their purchase of War Bonds and Stamps and sign scrolls to send to our men in service who are putting so much into their part of the war effort. I believe they would be glad to have this remembrance of those who are backing them up in this material way."

Mrs. Dorothy Rojo, president of the high school P.T.A., presented the Minute Man flag to the students and it was accepted by Pat Whitney on behalf of the school.

"The Learner's Code," outlining the ideals for wartime learning, was given by David Callahan, John Agapito, Lucy Rose, Norma Hammond, Ruth Kerber, Jean Lancaster, Edwin Smith and Paul Pierson. Miss Ada M. P. Chase explained the emblem of the Minute Man. Principal Perry gave a brief inspirational talk and then the students added behind the Torrance high band to the flag pole where the honor pennant was hoisted under Old Glory.

## NO 'RESERVATIONS' OF NEW HOMES HERE

Contrary to information given the Torrance War Industries Committee by its chairman, F. L. Landon, public relations supervisor of the Aluminum Co., there is no provision for reserving or "ear-marking" any of the new housing units to be built here for war workers in Torrance plants.

"I have been informed that there can be only one way in which such reservations for future Torrance workers to be assured of obtaining any of the proposed new rental units here," Pat MacDonnell, director of War Housing Centers in Torrance, Inglewood and Santa Monica, said Tuesday. "That is by the Defense Plant Corp. definitely leasing the new housing expressly for a particular industry. So far as I know, that has not been done with any of the new housing scheduled for the Torrance area."

MacDonnell said the method of determining the eligibility of war workers to rent the new housing will be the subject of a conference of all War Housing Center directors in the Southland June 18 and 19.

The housing expert said that he has learned a total of 1347 housing units are definitely slated for the Torrance area. All of these will be rentals.

## Missing Gunner Died in Europe, Wire Reveals

Another Gold Star gleamed from the community service flag today in honor of Staff Sgt. Kenneth E. Brooks, only son of Mr. and Mrs. L. N. Brooks of 1452 Engracia ave., who received word Wednesday that he had died May 13 in the European area.

Sgt. Brooks, 27, had previously been reported missing in action. His parents received word yesterday that he had succumbed. A telegram from the adjutant general's office said: "Reports now received from the German government through the International Red Cross that your son, Staff Sgt. Kenneth E. Brooks, who was previously reported missing in action since May 13, died on May 13 in European area. The Secretary of War shares your grief and extends his deep sympathy. Letter follows."

## United Wartime Fund Raising Plans to be Set

Leading citizens of Torrance have received an invitation to a meeting of representative citizens from 79 communities in Los Angeles county at the Los Angeles Biltmore hotel June 9 to discuss integration of war-time fund raising for war connected and other causes.

At a recent state-wide meeting of county leaders called by Governor Warren in Sacramento, 49 Los Angeles county leaders who were among the 600 in attendance requested William C. Mullendore, executive vice president of the Southern California Edison Co. to call together community leadership from throughout this county for purposes of ascertaining the desire of its citizenry.

In calling the meeting, Mullendore set forth the conditions which have led to it as follows: "Throughout Los Angeles county, just as in every section of America, citizens want to do their share in supporting worthy causes. They have always supported local charitable and welfare agencies. In 19 Los Angeles county communities where a number of causes have existed, they have been joined in Community Chests. These functions for the givers in studying the worth of causes, budgeting and raising the necessary funds in one annual campaign at great saving of time and effort.

How local communities can, if they wish, organize to tackle this problem and what services will be offered to them from state and national organizations will be discussed, Mullendore said. Every community is to decide for itself what it wants to do, he stated. This meeting is an opportunity for leadership from all cities and towns to learn and to have a part in building a plan for Los Angeles county.

## Old Shoe Factory to be Converted into Apartments

Conversion of the old shoe factory building off El Prado in the Inglewood area by Bow and 213th st., was announced yesterday by Pat MacDonnell, district manager of the War Housing Center here. The contract to convert the building, which has been standing idle for many years, into 28 family apartment units was let by the Home Owners Loan Corp.

The work, costing approximately \$40,000, will be done by March Charlie Co. of Los Angeles, MacDonnell said. The improvement is scheduled to start within 10 days and must be completed within 90 days, according to the terms of the contract.

## POINT VALUES CHANGE

Beginning next Sunday, preferred cuts of beef such as steaks and roasts will cost substantially more red stamps, although fewer points will be required for lamb, veal and variety meats, the O.P.A. announces.

## Police Want Curfew Revived to Control Juvenile Misbehavior

Immediate enforcement of the municipal curfew ordinance, enacted in 1925 but allowed to become "just another law," is believed by veteran police officers to be the only means of curbing juvenile depredations which are assuming alarming proportions here.

The curfew law is still on the city statute books but it has not been enforced ever since the time, shortly after it was adopted, when citizens objected to the five-second blast of the fire siren because it interrupted their sleep. Now the police assert that if the city is to rid itself of the hordes of youngsters who throng into the "open" city of Torrance to escape the 9 p.m. ban of their home communities it must be revived.

If there are any here who hold the belief that all is serene and quiet on the youthful home front, inspection of police records or, better still, a few hours spent from 11 p.m. in a police squad car will quickly dispel such an opinion.

## Police Want Curfew Revived to Control Juvenile Misbehavior

The kids are just taking the city apart," was the way one police officer asserted. And, judging from the department's files, he is not far off.

Whether or not they are Torrance youngsters—many of them are not—the fact remains that juvenile brushes with the law are gaining, and that drunkenness is the least of their offenses. Girls and boys are to be seen frequenting any place that is open after 10 or 11 o'clock at night and fights are common.

Take the case of two boys, both of them under 15 years of age. Both were picked up by police here during the past week "so drunk they could not fit the floor with their hats—if they had any hats," police reported. One became very, very sick as he was being lifted into the police station.

Shop-lifting increases. His father was summoned and tried to learn from his befuddled son where he obtained the liquor. The boy would not tell.

"Alright, I'll take him home," the father told "Ticers," and "I'll find out where he got it or you'll have me here for child-staying. But right now, I'll see that he cleans up the mess he made."

And the father obtained a bucket and set his slowly-sobering son to work.

Police have learned that the kids are getting liquor by theft—"lifting" it from grocery stores where wine is displayed. This kind of petty theft is commonplace. Variety stores, clothing stores and markets have all experienced a wave of youthful shop-lifters far out of proportion to their usual losses during the past several months.

Influx Biggest Problem. Baseball equipment, valued at more than \$25,000, was the city park was stolen during the past week by some nimble-fingered youths who took the hinges off the door. The old armory building, formerly a Japanese school on Market st., near Gramercy Place in North Torrance, was broken into for the second time and some of the old plugged rifles taken.

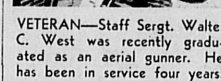
Nineteen of these useless weapons were stolen by a gang of young boys several weeks ago but were recovered after Torrance police rounded up the ring-leaders.

"Our biggest problem is trying to keep the out-of-town kids in line after midnight," Capt. Frank Schumacher said Tuesday. "They move in on Torrance in droves after 9 o'clock because of the curfew regulations in their own communities. We can do very little until they get out of hand but we could do a lot of good for those kids if we had a curfew here and could run them off the streets after 9 o'clock."

Parents Are Blamed. Lack of recreational features here were ascribed by the officers for the increasing amount of juvenile misbehavior.

"It's true we have two theaters—but the kids apparently don't want to go home after they have seen a picture show. They gang up and then the trouble starts," Capt. Schumacher said. "I'm wondering what kind of parents those youngsters have. Don't they know their children are running the streets as late as 2, 3 and 4 o'clock in the morning?"

Don't they care? Or are they just too busy working in war plants to give a thought to how they might be losing the war right here at home by allowing



VETERAN—Staff Sgt. Walter C. West was recently graduated as an aerial gunner. He has been in service four years.

## Former Resident Starting Fifth Year in Army

On returning to the States from three and a half years' foreign service in the Canal Zone, Staff Sergeant Walter C. West, 24, son of Mrs. A. M. West of 1829 Arlington ave., entered the Army Air Forces' Bombing and Gunnery School at Wendover Field, Utah. He was recently graduated there as an aerial gunner.

He enlisted in the Army May 27, 1939, at Fort MacArthur and attended the 6th Air Force Technical School at Balboa, C. Z. He returned from foreign service March 13 and is now qualified as an engineer gunner. His last visit home was a 30-day furlough a year ago.

Sgt. West was formerly a plasterer employed here by Tom Watson, contractor. He was graduated from Torrance high school with the winter class of 1936 and lived here for 15 years. He is now assigned to a tactical unit to receive actual experience in combat maneuvers.

Wendover Field is situated on the edge of the great salt flats of Utah. It has only been in operation for a few months, but is already one of the nation's most important training centers for heavy bomber crews. There is a natural bombing range of more than 2,000,000 acres, or a territory twice the size of Rhode Island.

## Honor Roll Has Many Additions

In the 10 weeks since the March 25 publication of the Torrance and Watteria "HONOR ROLL" of servicemen and women, many new names have been added to the list which is published on Pages 4-A and 6-A.

There are now 807 on the roster of local men and women in the armed forces. Undoubtedly there are some errors or omissions but if relatives or friends of the men thus overlooked will call The Herald, phone 444, the corrections will gladly be made for inclusion in the next publication of this historical record of one phase of our community at war.

The "HONOR ROLL," as compiled by The Herald, includes the following service totals:

Army	528
Navy	177
Marine Corps	11
Coast Guard	36
Naval Reserve	29
Army Reserve	3
Marine Reserve	4
W.A.A.C.	3
Army Nurse	1
Prisoners of War	3
Missing in Action	6
Honorably Discharged	6
TOTAL	807

## Here's Hoping This Holiday Comes Soon!

"Will be closed on the day of Hitler's funeral."

This sign, all black with white lettering—is the advance notice hung on the door of the Torrance city hall this week.

Unfortunately, no date is announced for the holiday.

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