

BUS LINE HERE SHOWS BIG REVENUE IN JUNE; MANAGEMENT CHANGED

Torrance municipal bus lines, which changed management with the action of the City Council a week ago in naming Charles F. Koors as transportation engineer in complete charge of operations, including supervision over C. Z. Ward, bus manager, continued to show a brisk business in June, a report to the council shows.

In the month of June \$6481 in revenue was received, a great increase over the total for the same month of last year. Of this, \$2876.63 was received in the fare boxes; \$187.75 in ticket books; \$1002.10 from the Beacon Drug Co. office, and \$2305 from the 10th and Hill st. office. Additional tickets amounted to \$100 and \$9.52 was miscellaneous revenue.

During the year 1943, according to the report of State Controller Harry B. Riley, Torrance municipal bus line was the fourth municipal bus line in amount of individual passenger business in the county.

Torrance lines carried 234,193 passengers during that year; received \$45,169.70 in passenger fares; spent \$26,806.12 in operation and maintenance, \$5,659.79 for other payments, and \$2,088.04 in outlays. The buses traveled 247,060 miles in that year, the report shows, on one route with six buses operated.

Largest bus line is Santa Monica, which received \$620,973.53 from 8,745,508 passengers, second Montebello which received \$105,576.85 from 2,126,004 passengers, and third, Culver City which received \$99,576.85 from 1,614,285 passengers. Of the other lines, Gardena and Whittier received much of their fares in defense plant contracts for hauling workers, the report says.

BLOOD BANK NETS 360 PINTS HERE

Torrance Blood Donor day of the American Red Cross branch here Friday was the biggest on record, 360 pints of blood being donated in less than four hours and a total of 414 persons reporting to offer blood. There were 550 enrolled for the day.

Considerable waiting was necessary due to the delay of the mobile unit leaving the Los Angeles headquarters, and Mrs. Maude Kresse, blood bank chairman, said that the local branch had been assured it would not happen again. "We especially wish to thank all donors for their patience as the average was 100 per hour," Mrs. Kresse said.

New gallon club members are Paul Findley, 2121 Gramercy ave., Torrance, and Fred Fisher, 726 Elvira st., Redondo Beach.

Thirty of the donors came from Lomita. Mrs. Marie Beale, staff assistance chairman, Mrs. Julia Neelands, canteen chairman, Mrs. Eloda Barkdull, motor corps, Mrs. Phyrne Laughon and Mrs. Alma Schultz, assisted during the four hour visit of the blood bank unit.

Torrance Gets Publicity as Health Center

Through the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, the City of Torrance has been given a great deal of publicity as the "Health Center of the South Bay Area."

Chambers of Commerce in the general trade area have cooperated in this publicity movement, according to word received in the local Chamber, according to James L. Lynch, president.

PROPERTY OWNERS FIGHT GRANTING OF SANTA FE FRANCHISE IN TORRANCE

Following the presentation of a petition of residents along the Santa Fe railroad right of way through Torrance, the City Council Tuesday night took action which is directed to the end that the Santa Fe can have its right of way for the duration of the war and six months thereafter, but that it will have to fight to keep it then.

The petition, bearing 180 signatures, stated that the use by the Santa Fe of the tracks through Torrance constitutes a nuisance, from smoke, obstruction of crossings, noise, and that the operation of the trains there has caused a depreciation of property values. In addition, the track divides the Municipal Park, rendering a great area of it useless.

IDENTITY OF SLAIN WOMAN BEING SOUGHT

By EDESEL NEWTON

What circumstances surround the death of an unidentified woman whose body was found late Friday afternoon on a vacant burned-over field northwest of the intersection of 223rd st. and Moneta ave?

Why didn't someone investigate some time within the past few weeks when suspicious odors came from the field?

Who was the woman? Why or how was one leg fractured? Was she injured in a fight from which she was fleeing, dying far out in the lonely field?

These questions and many more are posed before members of the sheriff's homicide squad and residents of the modest community surrounding the field where the body was found.

Mysterious circumstances surround the entire case.

No one living in the community has been reported missing.

A mysterious fire that came from 223rd near Figueroa last Friday swept eastward across the field toward Moneta ave. Residents on Moneta were busy protecting their homes from the fire which was dying when some one's flames licking up from some object about 250 feet west of Moneta and about the same distance north of 223rd st.

A small boy rode across there on his bicycle. He returned hurriedly to report to some passerby, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bettinger, 22411 Dolores st., that a woman's wailing body was lying there. Bettinger told Mr. and Mrs. Al Greenwood, 22204 Moneta. They called authorities.

The body was almost positively without identification. Parts of a purse, without the clasp, two dimes, a pair of spectacles and some bridge work and charred bits of clothing were found and held by members of the homicide squad. It is apparent she wore slacks and a blue-gray herringbone jacket.

A Herald-News reporter yesterday combed the field and found the clasp and bottom weight of a purse, 10 hairpins and pieces of charred fabric—almost on a direct line between the place where the body was found and the intersection of 223rd and Moneta. This evidence was turned over to Chief of Police John Stroh of Torrance to be delivered to the sheriff's homicide squad.

The reporter questioned the Greenwoods; J. G. Caldwell, living on the east side of Moneta ave. and Mrs. Janet Stine Lewis, pastor of the Church of the Revelation on the corner, who says the church is now inactive, and none of these have any clue to offer.

Some think the woman was slain elsewhere and the body placed in the field. She might have been injured in a violent encounter with someone and crawled there, thinking to escape. It is remotely possible she could have been struck by an automobile whose driver deliberately dragged the body into the field.

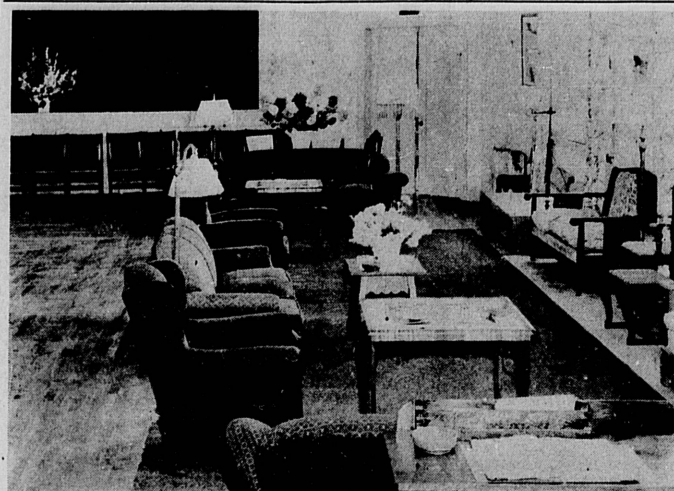
But none of these explanations satisfy either Chief Stroh or members of the homicide squad.

Someone claims kin to this woman—but who? Is someone afraid to identify her?

Listeners, said that the residents realized the value to the war effort of the branch line through Torrance, but that after the war they want the matter settled.

The City Council agreed and instead of considering a renewal of the 21-year franchise on present terms asked City Attorney J. E. McCall to notify the railroad that the council will renew the franchise only for the "duration and six months."

McCall said that he didn't think the railroad cared whether it had a franchise or not. "They're doing all right as it is," he said, "and they are in no hurry." He pointed out, however, that if the railroad used the right of way for five years with no franchise it probably could claim it permanently.



HOME OF SERVICE MEN IN TORRANCE . . . Dedicated recently with a big dance party, Torrance U.S.O. club now is in full operation and already more than 200 service men and women have taken advantage of its facilities. Here is an interior view of the comfortable clubroom, with easy chairs, lamps, bookcases, card tables, games, etc., and a fine dance floor, stage and snack bar. C. Z. Ward, chairman of Torrance U.S.O., has acknowledged donations of furnishings from Discount Drug, the Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co. store, the Safeway store, National Home Appliances, Beacon Drug, J. Klink, Raymond Roges, Sam Levy, and to Torrance Flower Shop and many residents who gave flowers for the opening and pieces of furniture, records and other items.—(Torrance Herald Photo.)

PERMANENT ARMY HOSPITAL HERE SEEN AS SCOPE OF SERVICE IS ENLARGED

Torrance Fifth War Loan Sales Total \$857,491

With the Fifth War Loan drive extended until July 31, Torrance still lacks \$92,501 of meeting its quota according to last minute figures released this morning by Hillman Lee, chairman of the drive.

Individual bond sales still hold back the quota, as all corporation purchases are registered, it was said.

The total bond purchases to date are \$857,491 out of the total of \$950,000.

"Torrance cannot afford to have it said that it did not meet the quota," Lee said in calling for more purchases by individuals.

"Southern Californians must face the fact that they have not finished their Fifth War Loan job, notwithstanding what the nation as a whole has done. Our individual purchases are disappointing."

This declaration was made by Robert H. Moulton, chairman of the Treasury War Finance Committee for this area in urging individuals to continue buying extra war bonds "with every available dollar" the remainder of the month.

"It's not like Southern California to trail other sections of the country," Moulton said. "We still have the opportunity to take our accustomed place with the leaders and we have confidence that the people will yet buy the necessary amount of bonds to see that we do."

The area's over-all drive total climbed to approximately \$460,000,000, or about 90 percent of the quota, early this week when heavy last-minute purchases of special securities by corporations were tabulated. These special issues were taken off the market at midnight July 8, but the sales reports will continue to come in for several days, it was announced.

However, buying by individuals still lagged far behind, with a total of less than \$150,000,000, which is only about 60 percent of their quota.

Torrance's Army hospital has widened its service area to include all army posts located from the Orange county line to Santa Monica, and no longer is restricted to the men of the Los Angeles Port of Embarkation, it has been announced.

This was revealed as a strong movement is getting underway to permanently establish the hospital either as an Army General or a Veterans Administration hospital after the war.

Secretary Harry B. Lewis of Torrance Chamber of Commerce said that he had received from Congressman Cecil R. King a favorable response from a recent letter on the possibilities of acquiring a permanent status for the Torrance Army hospital. The congressman has suggested that the whole subject be briefed and sent to the Surgeon General and the Veterans Administration, where he will give it support. The location is ideal for a permanent unit, it was said.

100 Percent Support
Torrance interests are 100 percent in their support of the permanency of the hospital and have been the means of raising thousands of dollars for equipment, furnishings and recreation at the institution.

It is through Torrance cooperation that the War Chest has secured an outdoor theatre for the hospital, soon to start, and the local interests were instrumental in raising more than \$4000 to be used for a proposed swimming pool there.

The status of the hospital as to scope of service changed recently when Sawtelle was closed to patients from the various army units throughout the district.

The Torrance hospital is now receiving patients from all posts except Fort MacArthur, it is stated, and it continues to service the Port of Embarkation remaining under the port's jurisdiction.

The buildings at the Torrance Army hospital are of a temporary nature, but they are constructed to give good service for 20 years, Lewis said.

Slight additional cost, after the war, in laying of foundations, stuccoing, reflowing and other improvements, will give them a permanent nature, it was pointed out by Secretary Lewis.

Letter Quoted
In his letter to Congressman King, Lewis declared: "I have been making some quiet enquiries regarding the

State Armory In Torrance to be Dedicated July 18

The State Armory, headquarters of Company H, 2nd Battalion, 39th Regiment, California State Guard, located at Torrance Ball Park, provided by members of this company through the cooperative efforts of the United States Army, State of California and the City of Torrance, has been completed and will be dedicated at a Battalion Exercise to be held at the park on Tuesday, July 18, 1944, at 8 p.m.

Captain R. L. Lewellen, commanding Company H, has requested that the mayor and members of the City Council together with other members of the official family of the City of Torrance be present for participation in the exercise and dedication.

Tuesday, July 18, being State Guard Day of the American Legion posts in this county, Major A. Milton Fish, commanding the battalion, is inviting Brig. Gen. Ray W. Hays, the adjutant general of California, to be here, together with Col. John C. French, commander, and Lt. Col. Thomas A. Gregory, executive officer, of the 9th Tactical Command. The public is invited.

JOHN FOLEY JR. DIES IN ACTION IN INVASION

John D. Foley, Jr., 28, son of Mr. and Mrs. John D. Foley, 3401 Spencer ave., was killed in ac-



tion on July 4 in the invasion of Europe, the family has been notified by the War Department.

Serving in the United States Army for more than two years, Foley was home to see his family at Christmas time. He was raised in Torrance and his wife Louise, now lives at 622 Arena, El Segundo.

The family is well known throughout the district.

Big Scout Day Planned for Torrance

Torrance will have a big Boy Scout jamboree on Sept. 16 all day, at which more than 1000 Boy Scouts from all over Los Angeles county will be present as a result of the action of the Retail Merchants division of the Chamber of Commerce at a meeting yesterday noon in Christy's cafe.

The group decided that it would back the event and Ralph Alexander, Boy Scout executive, got right busy with arrangements.

The affair will be held in Torrance Municipal park, with affairs also at the Torrance Civic auditorium.

Attending the meeting yesterday were Roger Quimby, Newberry's; Sam Levy, Levy's; Hillman Lee, J. C. Penney Co.; I. Washer, the Gay Shop; Jack Koch, Star Furniture Co.; Bernard Lee, Bernard's Family Shoe Store; Harry Abramson, National Home Appliances, and Harry B. Lewis, secretary. Chairman Hillman Lee presided.

The members each bought two tickets to the Torrance Army hospital benefit ball game to be played at the Torrance Ball park tomorrow night.

TAKE YOUR SHOPPING BAG
The War Production Board is urging Mrs. America to take along her own shopping bag or used paper bags for carrying purchases. This extra effort on the part of shoppers will help out in the critical paper shortage. The WPB also urges housewives to accept without wrapping most articles which can be carried just as conveniently in their regular packages.

CITY PURCHASING DUTIES RETURNED TO BARTLETT BY ACTION OF COUNCIL

Declaring that their action is in the interest of efficiency in government, the City Council Tuesday night returned to City Clerk A. H. Bartlett the duties of city purchasing agent which he held for seven years, in addition to his many other appointments. The duties had been the responsibility of City Engineer

HILLMAN LEE HEADS LOCAL WAR CHEST

Hillman Lee again will head War Chest volunteers here in the campaign for 120 home and war related causes which will take place early in the fall. Mr. Lee led the workers in their successful campaign last year.

He was chairman of the 4th and 5th War Loan drives, is a member of the Rotary club, is active in the Boy Scouts, a Community Chest agency, and on the board of the Torrance Welfare Service Center for Community Chest Agencies recently opened here.

Local vice chairmen and colonels for the appeal here will be appointed shortly, it is stated.

In announcing Mr. Lee's second year of service as chairman, Richard S. McCune, vice president of Bank of America and general chairman for cities and towns associated with metropolitan Los Angeles in the War Chest campaign, declared that there has been unprecedentedly strong early enrollment of key leaders. Practically all important posts already have been filled by volunteer "top flight" people, he said.

District chairmen and colonels will meet for a noon rally at the Ambassador Hotel on Tuesday, July 18, when P. G. Winnett, also serving a second term as general campaign chairman, will preside.

TORRANCE'S VALUATION IS \$24,903,990

Assessed valuation of the City of Torrance for the fiscal year 1944-45 has been fixed by County Assessor John R. Quinn at \$24,903,990, the tenth city in size in Los Angeles county.

Last year the assessed valuation of Torrance was \$19,125,790. The nine cities of the proposed Junior college district west of the Los Angeles shoeing strip is \$35,242,125.

They are:
Torrance \$24,903,990
Inglewood 23,602,275
El Segundo 19,397,245
Redondo Beach 6,296,965
Manhattan Beach 5,984,610
Hermosa Beach 4,997,485
Hawthorne 4,452,505
Gardena 3,158,263
Palos Verdes 2,448,785

The only cities of Los Angeles county exceeding Torrance in assessed valuation are Los Angeles, Long Beach, Pasadena, Glendale, Vernon, Beverly Hills, Alhambra, Santa Monica and Burbank. This city exceeds Huntington Park, South Gate and other industrial cities.

COLORADO PICNIC

The president of Colorado State Society, W. M. Campbell, issues the call for an all-day reunion and picnic Aug. 13, 1944, in Sycamore Grove Park, Los Angeles.

The group decided that it would back the event and Ralph Alexander, Boy Scout executive, got right busy with arrangements.

The affair will be held in Torrance Municipal park, with affairs also at the Torrance Civic auditorium.

Attending the meeting yesterday were Roger Quimby, Newberry's; Sam Levy, Levy's; Hillman Lee, J. C. Penney Co.; I. Washer, the Gay Shop; Jack Koch, Star Furniture Co.; Bernard Lee, Bernard's Family Shoe Store; Harry Abramson, National Home Appliances, and Harry B. Lewis, secretary. Chairman Hillman Lee presided.

Invites Test

"I would like to see the matter tried out in court," Bartlett said after it was all over.

"You'll probably get a chance," Powell replied.

Powell questioned the legality of the move and City Attorney J. E. McCall said that there is nothing illegal about a city clerk holding additional official jobs. It was pointed out that 28 of 42 city clerks questioned in California are also purchasing agents.

Powell did not mention that he sat on the City Council for five years while Bartlett was also purchasing agent without protesting the fact that he was holding dual jobs. The Municipal codes are practically the same on the subject now.

Councilman N. H. Cucci asked "Why should we change now?" Councilman James E. Hitchcock replied that the move was in the interest of efficiency, that Jain has too much work on his shoulders.

Too Much Work
Later in the meeting, Jain himself stated that 90 percent of his time now is taken up with inspecting and that engineering is more or less suffering. He said he did not hesitate about the matter, except that he wanted the record to show that he had done a good job.

The council agreed he had but said inasmuch as most of the details of buying go through the city clerk's office anyway, the whole job should be there.

Considerable time was taken up in the meeting by the insistence of Councilman Cucci that the council vote on his objection to the motion of Councilman Hitchcock that the duties be transferred back to Bartlett. The city attorney and other members of the council finally prevailed upon Cucci that he could not ask a vote on an "objection" and suggested that he make a substitute motion to table the motion of Hitchcock. This was done, Powell seconding the motion. It lost 3 to 2.

Mayor W. H. Tolson then called for a vote on the motion of Councilman Hitchcock, seconded by Councilman C. M. Gilbert, and it carried 3 to 2, the mayor voting with the two.

203RD STREET RESIDENTS URGED TO WRITE ROOSEVELT TO ASK SEWER PROJECT AID

sewers and we want to pay for them."

The latest block thrown in the path of the group of home owners is the cost, City Engineer G. M. Jain estimating that it will require upwards of \$9000 to install the main line and make connections to the edge of the properties involved. House connections would be additional.

The councilmen scratched their heads. There must be some way to get the sewers installed.

While they asked City Attorney McCall to see if something cannot be done, Mrs. Alecia was told to start writing letters. Somewhere along the line there must be an agency which can help the little group out of the menacing situation—and fast. The way to find out, she was told, is to ask.

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