



BACK HOME . . . The broad grins of Marine Private First Class Everett Leatherman, (left), of 912 Cota ave., and Private First Class Harold C. Kramer, of 7010 King ave., Bell, show how glad they are to be back in their native state. They were among more than 1,300 members of the famed First Marine Division who arrived at the San Diego Marine base recently after more than 30 months of fighting in the Pacific. After reclassification at the base, they will receive long-awaited furloughs. This photo was taken upon their arrival in San Francisco. (Official Marine photo.)

MARCH OF DIMES FORCES GATHER TO MAKE PLANS FOR 1945 FUND CAMPAIGN

Harry B. Lewis, executive secretary of Torrance Chamber of Commerce and chairman of the Torrance area committee of the Los Angeles County chapter, National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, together with Mayor W. H. Tolson and Postmaster C. Earl Conner will attend a dinner in Cafe de Paris in

Pfc. Patterson, Purple Heart Hero, Missing

"Missing in action since Dec. 11," is the sad message received by Mrs. Gladys Dye, of 1670 W. 218th st., Torrance, regarding her son, Pfc. Edward Patterson, Jr., 19, Purple Heart hero.

The message from the War Department said that he was in Germany, and while further details and other information are promised as they develop Mrs. Dye and her family are confident that he is alive, possibly a prisoner of war.

Young Patterson attended Torrance high school and worked for Doak Aircraft Co., prior to entering the army on July 31, 1943. He has been overseas since June, 1944.

Serving in General Patton's Third Army, young Patterson received the Order of the Purple Heart for valor in action, and in one of the last letters received from him V-mail dated Dec. 3, 1944, he passed it off with the youthful remark of: "Say, Mother, I got the Purple Heart about three weeks ago. It wasn't anything bad, just a scratch on the foot. I am still up and feeling good so don't be worried."

Apparently he recovered from the injuries in the action responsible for the award of the Order of the Purple Heart, for it was just eight days later that he was reported missing in action.

Private Patterson also had been awarded the Infantryman's Badge, and said in his letter "I have a feeling this war will be over soon." In each of two late letters, he mentioned Doak Aircraft and his former associates there.

The young soldier came to Torrance with his parents at the age of four, and had resided here until his entry into the armed forces. He was a native of Dallas, Texas.

Major Braden Asks Recreation Parley Friday

At the request of Maj. George W. Braden, western representative of the National Playground Association, who has been engaged to make a survey of Torrance recreational facilities and possibilities, an informal meeting will be held at 4 p.m., Friday in the Council chambers. The meeting will be open to the public.

Principals of schools, heads of organizations and civic minded people are invited. The meeting will be conducted by Mayor W. H. Tolson. Major Braden will be present to secure a cross section of opinion and needs of Torrance people to be incorporated in his survey.

TORRANCE AIRPORT, STILL IN FEDERAL COURT, TO BE AVAILABLE TO COMMUNITY

Torrance's mile and one-eighth long air field located on the J. P. Weston ranch on 101 Highway still is in the process of condemnation action by the United States government, it was reported this week, and the City of Torrance will have opportunity to acquire it after the war. Responding to inquiry from the University of Southern California Alumni Review for more information regarding the naming of the field as Zamperini Airport, a representative of the Torrance Herald determined that the 476 acre tract still is in the hands of the U. S. Federal court.

California One of Nation's Big Style Centers

California is fast taking its place as one of the style centers of the world, and Torrance is missing an opportunity if it does not consider as future industrial possibilities the manufacturing of wearing apparel.

This was the statement Tuesday night to the City Council, Planning Commission and Chamber of Commerce directors by I. Washer, proprietor of the Gay Shop and a director of the chamber.

"The east and middle-west is coming to California's apparel market and Southern California is taking its place beside New York, Chicago and Cleveland as a style center," Washer said.

"Buyers of all big eastern firms are establishing offices in Los Angeles, and many eastern manufacturers are starting factories on the coast here to capture this business."

"California definitely is the sports style center of the nation, and the east and middle-west want California goods. There is a real opportunity for Torrance."

POSTWAR PLAN PROGRAM IS FORMULATED

Postwar planning for Torrance, involving the expenditure of many thousands of dollars, got under way at a meeting Tuesday night of members of the City Council, the Planning Commission and Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

The session was the first of the three bodies, and it will lead to formation of a permanent organization to handle the postwar planning program.

Available for the work are state funds, to be matched by the city dollar for dollar, amounting to \$9,000 for surveys and plans and \$3,000 for purchase of rights-of-way.

Among the projects considered are extension of Western ave. through and beyond Torrance; completion of the resurfacing of Sepulveda blvd., through Torrance; expansion of utilities, participation in a metropolitan garbage disposal plant, a general street work master plan, extension of Plaza del Amo to Western ave.; a program of civil buildings.

The combined organizations will meet again on Mar. 6 to further discuss plans and to form the permanent organization.

"Make checks payable to The National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis and mail to the Torrance Area Committee, 1119 Sartori ave., Torrance, California."

Other members of the Torrance committee are:

Vice chairman: D. S. Faulker, vice president National Supply Co.; Otto A. Kresse, general superintendent Columbia Steel Co.; Reed H. Parkin, treasurer Doak Aircraft Co.

Members: James W. Post, A. L. Jackson, Mayor Wm. H. Tolson, Kenneth C. Beight, Harold E. Perry, Hillman R. Lee, Rev. Paul Moore Wheeler, Postmaster Earl Conner, James W. Baxter, Rev. Fr. Patrick McGuinness, Grover C. Whyte, Judge O. B. Willett, George W. Chapman, Leslie Major, Dean L. Seal.

Leading the campaign in California are:

Gov. Earl Warren, honorary state chairman; Joseph Schick, state chairman; Fred L. Meyer, state treasurer; Eugene W. Biscailuz, L. A. County chairman, Los Angeles County Chapter 1945 Fund Appeal; Roy E. Nafziger, chairman executive committee; Neil S. McCarthy, vice chairman; Mr. Ed. Brown, secretary; Victor H. Lossetti, treasurer; Mrs. Richard M. White, executive secretary; J. David Larson, assistant treasurer.

(Continued on Page 4)

Steel Workers Hail Increase in Hourly Wage

More than 1300 Torrance members of the United Steel Workers C.I.O., hailed the recent approval from Stabilization Director Fred Vinson of WLB granted wage increases of from five to seven cents per hour for steel workers. The increases are retroactive to the expiration of old contracts, about Christmas of 1943 for Torrance workers at Columbia Steel Co., where most of them are employed, it was said.

While no estimate of the amount of money involved in the increase was immediately available at the local Columbia plant, union officials declared that the increase would amount to from eight to eight and one-half cents per hour for Columbia employees, considering severance, vacation, holiday and overtime pay.

The approval of the increase in no way affects the 17 cents per hour demand which the USW have pending at this time, it was said by Kenneth Beight, president of Local 1414.

Whether it will be paid in lump sums or be added to regular pay checks has not been decided, it was reported.

Announcing his decision, Vincent said the Office of Price Administration had advised that this boost for the more than 400,000 workers in the iron and steel industry throughout the nation will not necessitate general increases in prices of steel products.

O. P. A. did advise, Vinson said, that an increase in price of some steel products was overdue and will have to be made.

Workers Affected

The WLB decided the steel wage case on Nov. 25, but said the pay changes it approved should not become effective unless O.P.A. found they would not necessitate an increase in steel prices or Vinson ordered them into effect.

Although 400,000 workers in 86 companies are the only ones affected directly, the decision may finally affect some 500,000 other workers in 600 companies where the C.I.O. United Steel Workers have collective bargaining agreements.

O.P.A. after cost studies, estimates that the boost will cost between \$75,000,000 and \$80,000,000 a year. Steel company figures ranged up to \$150,000,000.

Increases Retroactive

The main increase approved was a premium of 4 cents an hour for the second or early night shift and 6 cents for the third or late night shift. This will affect the majority of workers since in most steel plants it is a practice for workers to rotate through the shifts at intervals.

These increases are retroactive to the expiration of old contracts. The expiration date varies from plant to plant but most contracts expired around Dec. 26, 1943.

1944 Building Permits Here Far Short of 1943

Building permits for the City of Torrance during the year 1944 fell far short of those of the year 1943, but principally because of the big General Petroleum Refinery job of 1943. It was thought this would be matched this year by the award of a permit for the \$5,000,000 addition now pending for General Petroleum, but the permit did not come through.

Torrance permits for 1944 reached a total of \$676,530 as compared with \$4,771,908 for 1943.

The December total of 1944 was \$51,385 and the December 1943 total, \$125,185.

Permits issued in the past week included:

G. Chambers, 18551 Crenshaw blvd., \$500, barn.

J. Jeffries, 2321 236th st., \$400, garage.

Julius Meier, 2116½ Andrew ave., \$1000 alteration.

Luis Cerda, 4089 182nd st., \$900 addition.

LESSINGS VISIT HERE

Mr. and Mrs. Fred V. Lessing, of Alameda and formerly of this city, spent the holidays here with his son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Robert F. Lessing, of 2009 Arlington ave., and other friends and relatives in Southern California.

TORRANCE RESIDENTIAL EXTENSION TO OUTLYING AREAS NECESSARY TO GIVE WAY TO EXPANDING INDUSTRIES HERE

Misinformation on Oil Drilling Here Clarified

Contrary to advice from the city engineer's office, oil well drilling is permitted in M-2, heavy manufacturing areas.

Chancellor-Canfield Midway Oil Co. called the attention of the City Council and the City Planning Commission Tuesday night to the advice from the engineer's office that M-2 zones do not permit drilling and producing oil. Their letter to H. B. Lewis, executive secretary of Torrance Chamber of Commerce, was read, stating: "while we do not find in the reading of Ordinance No. 316 any prohibition with respect to drilling and producing oil, nevertheless, in view of verbal information reaching us that such operations might be prohibited, we believe that the City Planning Commission and the City Council of the city of Torrance should clarify and verify the interpretation placed on it by our attorneys—that such operations are not prohibited."

Members of the council and planning body said that they knew of no restriction and that the information should not have been given out by the engineer's office. They authorized clarification of the matter.

65 Gallon Club Members on 1944 Blood Bank Roll

Sixty-five residents of Torrance and district each have given one gallon or more of blood to the lives of American boys wounded in World War II, a record for a community of this size, it is announced by Mrs. Maud Kresse, chairman, Blood Donor Service of the Torrance branch, American Red Cross.

The 65 Gallon Club members from Torrance aided materially in establishing the record of 3113 pints of blood for plasma donated through the Torrance branch during the 13 visits of the mobile unit here in the calendar year of 1944.

This record compares with 1927 pints of blood for plasma donated during the calendar year of 1943.

Torrance is taking its place at the head of the column of smaller communities in blood donations, and is responding to every appeal for "more blood" which is coming from the armed forces, according to Mrs. Kresse. Preparations are being made for the visit of the mobile unit here on Jan. 17, as announced elsewhere in this edition of the Torrance Herald.

Those on the Blood Donor Honor Roll, Gallon Club members, are the following:

Paul Vonderahe, Leona Lindley, Gertrude Morrison, Paul Findley, Dorothy Casalegno, Marion Welton, Marie LePont, Ruth Parsons, Raymond Yard, Kathryn Baird, Ellen Timmers, Mary Towler.

William Peterson, William Tolson, Pearl Thayne, Eugene Donovan, Frederick Folts, Alice Henderson, Herbert Barber, Fred Fisher, Harry Payne, Mildred Mitchell, Fremont Mullen, A. W. Finch.

Mary Emery, Florentine Matherson, James L. Boucher, Harry Jacobs, Wilford Walton, Louise Schutt, Elsie Smith, Nova Marquand, Jean Rollin, George Bliss, Earl Hendricksen, Merle Youngken.

Jewell Taylor, George Dowdy, Daniel Baird, Elbert Quimby, Jack Ragsdale, Eugene Ludevig, Edna Anderson, Frank Wilson, William Bratton, Sam Levy, Hettie Wance.

Don Vorhis, Sidney Smith, Violet Hilton, Antonio Alvarez, Ruth Clarke, Dicie Hurst, Kathryn Boughn, Elaine Arce, Roy Hickerson, Frank S. Mans, Don Blackman, Oscar Anderson, Charles King, Boyd Field, Roy Goss, Marie Mill, Bessie Powers.

LEAVE TORRANCE

Mrs. Ida Snyder of 2117 Cabrillo ave., leaves next week for Compton where she will make her home with her son, Albert Snyder.

Torrance's logical residential extension is in the direction of Southwest and Northwest Torrance, and zoning regulations of Torrance will be eased to permit present factories to expand and to permit new factories to locate in the city provided they are on thoroughfares reasonably eligible for "business or industrial" use.

Sergeant Law Is Prisoner Of Germans



S/SGT. A. J. LAW

Staff Sergeant Arthur J. Law, 35, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Law, of 1733 Cabrillo ave., is a prisoner of war in Germany, according to information received by the parents from their daughter-in-law, Mrs. Eleanor Law, of Detroit.

Sergeant Law was reported missing on Aug. 14, and the members of the family held out hopes that he would be found or that he was taken prisoner rather than killed in action. Their hopes were confirmed this week.

The sergeant has been in the service for two years, and formerly worked at National Supply Co.

C. B. Hamilton Killed, Others Hurt In Battle

S/SGT. Chelsea B. Hamilton, 23, son of Mr. and Mrs. Oliver B. Hamilton, 28821 Cayuga st., Lomita, has been killed in action on Leyte, according to word received from the War Department by his parents.

Young Hamilton, who had lived in Lomita for six years, and Walteria section of Torrance for 13 years, was a graduate of the '39 class of Narbonne high school, and worked for Rubbercraft Corp., Torrance, prior to his induction into the armed forces.

A silver star hero, awarded the medal on Sept. 1 for "gallantry in action," Sergeant Hamilton was killed in the Leyte battle of Nov. 24, it was said. He had been overseas since November of 1943, with the 32nd Division, and had been in the service since June, 1943.

Sergeant Hamilton, whose death requires the 38th gold star on the service flag of Torrance and Lomita, has a number of relatives in this district, including a sister, Mrs. Dorothy Krull, of Lomita; several nephews, David Krull, Danny Ozanne, Timmie Ozanne, his maternal grandmother, Mrs. Mary Williams, of Emmett, Idaho; and paternal grandmother, Mrs. Mary Hamilton, Lomita; five uncles, E. P. Williams, W. J. Hamilton, Jr., both of Lomita; Ralph Hamilton, Glendale; Fred Hamilton, overseas with the Army Air Forces; Bert Hamilton, of Corpus Christi, Texas, in the Marine Air Corps; and four aunts, Mrs. Clara Johnson, Compton; Mrs. M. D. Goodman, Emmett, Idaho; Mrs. T. A. Barrett, Idaho Falls, Idaho, and Mrs. Norma B. Shaw, Salem, Oregon.

Several other local casualties have been reported, recently, including that of Pvt. Joseph T. Hillestad, 1539 W. 214th st., who was hurt by a mortar shell on Nov. 14. He suffered a broken leg and broken arm, and required three quarts of blood plasma to save his life. In a recent letter to Dorothy Hillestad he told of the miracles worked by the blood plasma and urged full support of Red Cross appeals for plasma.

Also reported wounded by the War department during the past week are Pvt. Gus Dodos, Torrance youth, and Pvt. Stanley Jensen, of Lomita.

This was the opinion expressed by members of the City Council and Planning Commission Tuesday night when approached on the matter of expansion of the International Derrick and Equipment Co., and the Longren Aircraft Co.

Both firms, with new urgency war contracts, have reached the limits of their present plant capacity, it was pointed out by Harry B. Lewis, executive secretary of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, and both must locate elsewhere if present factories cannot be expanded.

Involved in the discussion is a third project, a Toledo auto parts factory wishing to locate in Torrance on C. C. M. O. land on Torrance blvd., between Crenshaw blvd., and Madrona ave. The factory wants this land or none, it was said and C. C. M. O. is withholding its sale of six and two-thirds acres of its land bounded by Carson st., Oak ave., and Crenshaw blvd., to IDECO until the city rezones the Torrance blvd. property for heavy manufacturing. It is now zoned for single family residences.

Mayor W. H. Tolson, joined by other members of the council and members of the planning body which discussed the matter Tuesday night, said that either Torrance is an industrial city or not, and if it is an industrial city, nothing should stand in the way of industrial expansion as long as there is choice residential property remaining in the city.

Mayor Tolson declared that he felt that North Torrance offers the best possibility, but that the choice area naturally is in the direction of Hollywood Riviera.

Longren Aircraft wants to buy a lot 150 feet by 220 feet immediately west of its present plant on Carson blvd., and needs planning commission approval of the move since the area desired is zoned A-1, agricultural.

Both the IDECO and Longren expansions will mean much to Torrance, it was pointed out, and if it means that the Torrance blvd. property of C.C.M.O. must be rezoned in order to permit their expansion, the zoning variance will be granted, it was pointed out. Also gained will be the Toledo auto parts factory to employ several hundred men.

J. E. McEwen, general manager of the Torrance IDECO plant, presented the attitude of his company, now a part of the Dresser Industries, and declared that the expansion west on Carson blvd., of the plant is essential to future operations of the old Torrance firm.

Philip Van Dyke, secretary of Longren, gave similar information regarding his plant and its new expansion.

Reed H. Parkin, treasurer of Doak Aircraft Co., also appealed for industrial consideration by Torrance, and declared that people do not live on California sunshine alone. They need good, sound basic industries and the jobs attendant thereto. He urged

(Continued on Page 4)

Reed Parkin Installed as C. of C. Head

Reed Parkin, secretary of Doak Aircraft Co., was installed as president of Torrance Chamber of Commerce at a meeting of the directors held last night.

Parkin succeeded James L. Lynch, local hotel owner, as president. Lynch was installed as first vice president.

George W. Chapman, local market owner, was installed as second vice president and Philip Van Dyke, secretary of Longren Aircraft Co., as treasurer. Van Dyke had been vice president of the chamber during the past year.

Harry B. Lewis was reinstalled as executive secretary.

Other directors are Hillman R. Lee, manager of J. C. Penney Co.; I. Washer, owner of the Gay Shop; Robert T. McCallum, owner of Torrance Sheetmetal shop, who has been treasurer during the past year.