

Retirement Fund for City Is Considered

The City Council and representatives of the employees of the City of Torrance will hold a joint meeting in the near future to discuss the various phases of the proposed state retirement fund program for the city.

Chief of Police John Stroh, Bus Manager C. Z. Ward and Water Department Manager William Stanger requested that the council either accept the proposal or reject it, pointing out that delay will be costly.

The council wants to know how much the system is going to cost the taxpayers, whether it should be put to a vote of the people or be adopted by ordinance, and what the cost of a new survey would be in event action is not taken before the July 1 deadline for effectiveness of the present survey.

The employees will pay half of the proposed costs and the taxpayers would pay the balance.

"While I am for it, it will be a heavy burden on the taxpayers, and I think that we should let them pass on it," Mayor William Tolson said.

Micheau Tells of Reading Herald On Battlefield

How it feels to be reading the Torrance Herald with shells bursting around you is told in a letter from Eric Gordon Micheau, Torrance boy, which also gives his opinion of "gang" fights at home.

The son of William A. Micheau, 1012 Cota st., the young soldier wrote his letter from Germany, with the request that it be printed. It follows:

"Tonight I received my copy



of the Torrance Herald and I had just been relieved from our gun for a few hours. That is our time to write letters, read the papers from home and just take things a little easy, until we go back on our guns and start throwing shells over at Mr. Kraut again. The first thing that caught my eye when I opened the paper this evening, was the small war we are having back in good old Torrance. I'll admit, that it would take a small war to wake some of the people up there, but at the present time, don't you think that

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Garlan Moody Dies In Action In Pacific

Garlan C. Moody, Seaman, 1st class, U.S.N., the son of Mr. and Mrs. V. W. Moody, of Tor-



rance, was reported killed in action in the South Pacific in a telegram from the Navy department during the past week.

Young Moody, the 38th Torrance war hero killed in action, enlisted in the Navy on June 16, 1942. He had served two years and nine months when he was killed.

The Navy department stated that Moody was buried at sea with full military honors.

In addition to the parents, a brother, Tommy, survivor, and Moody had a host of friends in Torrance. The family has resided here for about four years.

Local Officer Narrowly Escaped Gen. Rose's Fate

First Lt. Robert S. Sleeth Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Sleeth, of 1616 Post ave., very narrowly escaped the fate of Maj. Gen. Maurice Rose, commander of the 3rd American Armored Division, who was shot to death by the Nazis on March 31, it is reported.

Lieutenant Sleeth had the choice of assignment as aide to General Rose or taking over a platoon which carried with it a promotion to captaincy. He chose to take the platoon.

Within a few days after the transfer would have been made, it is reported, General Rose, his aide and a column moving to help a portion of a task force which had been cut off from the main body, ran into a Nazi tank column. The general and the aide immediately pulled off the road and bounced across a field in an escape attempt but met a Tiger tank on the edge of a wood. General Rose and the aide climbed out of their vehicle and stood with their hands over their heads in surrender. The general was shot when trying to indicate he did not understand the commands of the Nazi tank commander.

The aide and the other men with the rescue party jumped into a ditch and worked their way back to the American lines. General Rose's body was recovered later.

Another son of the Sleeths, 2nd Lt. Newton Sleeth, has been reported missing in action for some weeks in the Southwest Pacific.

Local Firms Pay Penalty For Overcharge

Three administrative claims have been paid as a result of overcharges during the past few weeks, according to the price control panel of the local War Price and Ration Board.

The former owners of the Busy Bee cafe paid \$50 for overcharging on ham and eggs.

Hinckley's Market, Lomita, paid \$50 for overcharges on a food commodity.

The third claim was one in which the buyer of an automobile from an individual received a \$153 refund on an overcharge. These cases were the result of several complaints previously lodged, and they were not "first offenses" it was said.

\$50 Fine Levied After Dog Bites Two Children

Mrs. Joseph Grinenger, of the C.C.M.O. lease, was fined \$50 in Police court last week for violation of the city leash law.

A dog owned by Mrs. Grinenger, police alleged, bit two children, and after repeated warnings, the woman failed to keep the dog confined to the yard or tied up.

Appearing before City Judge Otto B. Willett, she was found guilty, and \$25 of the fine was suspended on condition that she comply with the leash law in the future.

A. M. Andre paid a fine of \$100 for driving while intoxicated, in court last week.

Los Angeles Would Deny Torrance Right To Vote On School Withdrawal

Public Is Asked To Indicate Bus Service Desires

Residents of Torrance and vicinity are being asked by the manpower utilization division of the War Manpower Commission to indicate their desire for additional bus service in Torrance and to nearby towns, particularly with reference to transportation to and from "must" war plants.

Archibald L. MacNair Sr., state consultant of the W.M.C.M.U.D., requested the survey of C. Z. Ward, manager of the Municipal Bus Lines, City Hall, or to the Chamber of Commerce, and the Torrance Herald.

While the attitude of the public is being asked, Ward pointed out, the O.C.D. will allow additional service only in the case of necessary transportation to and from the war plants.

Bus line patrons, potential patrons and other interested citizens are being asked to address their suggestions to the Municipal Bus Lines, City Hall, or to the Chamber of Commerce.

City Garage Divided; Bus Unit Separate

The City Bus Department now has its own maintenance department, the City Council Tuesday night taking action to split the mechanical department at the city garage into two units.

The action was taken on the request of Bus Department Manager C. Z. Ward. He further requested that classifications be set up for personnel in the department, but this was referred to the civil service commission.

Ward asked that a foreman class "A" bus mechanic; class "B" bus mechanic and bus mechanic's helper be provided.

Paul Slonecker is foreman of the bus department garage, and the two units will have equal use of the tool room and equipment until the bus department can provide its own mechanical equipment.

The council also decided to pay \$7283 on the cost of the last bus, withholding \$4000 until difficulty with brakes on the four new buses is overcome. They were bought from Crown Body & Coach Co.

Wilson Woodburn Is Reported as Missing in Action

Sgt. Wilson Woodburn, AAF, has been reported missing in action in Italy since March 23, according to a telegram this week from the War Department to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Worth L. Woodburn of 2066 W. Carson st. A letter from him received here March 20 assured them that he was fine.

His brother, Sgt. James F. Woodburn, 19, serving with a unit of the Third Division, is taking part in the Eighth Air Force bombing attacks over Germany as waist gunner on a B-17 Flying Fortress.

Use of 'Lost' Ration Books Is Unlawful

"All is fair in love and war" — and rationing, it seems.

For all is not honor with respect to 182 reports of lost ration books turned over to Chief Clerk Frank W. Daniels, of the local War Price and Ration Board, by Chief of Police John Strohm.

Of the 182 "lost" books, A, B and C gasoline and food books, only two have been turned in to the authorities.

Doubtless, most of them have been found, but Chief Clerk Daniels warns that their improper use might result in stiff penalties in the Federal courts.

Another warning was added, that if the report of the loss of the book was false, the person making the report likewise is subject to severe penalties.

Los Angeles city school district does not want Torrance voters to have the democratic opportunity of saying "yes" or "no" to a proposal that the schools of Torrance be withdrawn from the Los Angeles district, and they demonstrated their position so emphatically that a Torrance delegation appearing before the Assembly Committee on Education last week in Sacramento did not have a chance to present its case.

A bill introduced by Assemblyman Vincent Thomas which would give the voters of Sixth class cities an opportunity to vote on withdrawal from large school districts was up for hearing, and three local residents, a special committee of the Torrance Parents' association, were in Sacramento for the hearing. They are Mrs. Evelyn Carr, Mrs. Myra M. Beaman and J. Hugh Sherley.

When the matter came up for hearing, the Los Angeles school lobbyists pounced on the bill as a cat would upon a mouse, it was said, and no opportunity was given for the local committee to explain the merits of Torrance's support of the bill.

An amendment was introduced in committee which removed temporarily any chance of Torrance getting relief through the measure, but it is still pending in committee, and support in favor of the bill is growing throughout the state.

"This is just another attempt of Los Angeles to keep the smaller communities surrounding under its thumb," was the remark of one legislator at the hearing.

"This is a democracy, and the people should have the democratic right to say whether or not they want their own schools, just as they have a right to vote on any matter of government policy."

BUS LINES REVENUE FOR MARCH TOPS \$10,000; NEW SERVICE PAYING TORRANCE

Torrance Municipal Bus Lines revenue topped the \$10,000 mark in the month of March, the receipts reaching an all time record high of \$10,528.51, according to a report prepared for the City Council by C. Z. Ward, bus department manager.

Improvement in the equipment, including the new buses and renovation of the old ones, more frequent Los Angeles schedules, and installation of the local lines serving Torrance, Lomita, Welteria, Harbor City, Harbor Hills, the Pueblo, and Western ave. communities is said to be responsible for the increase in revenue and patronage.

In the past several months, the following figures have shown the growth of the Torrance lines:

November, 1944, \$8941.59.
December, 1944, \$8578.38.
January, 1945, \$9701.06.
February, 1945, \$9833.96.
March, 1945, \$10,528.51.

The local lines alone were responsible for revenue of \$1348.98 which indicates that approximately 27,000 passengers were carried during March on the 5 cent local service.

Approximately 42,400 fares were carried during the month on the Los Angeles lines to account for \$4840 revenue.

Ward's breakdown of the revenue for the month shows fare box receipts to be \$4189.96; Beacon Drug Company ticket agency, \$2363.15; Tenth and Hill st. agency, \$3759; commutation books, \$125.15; additional special service, \$30; miscellaneous revenue, \$31.25.

Cost of operation for the month had not been computed, the accounting department said, but it was estimated to be in the neighborhood of \$7696 based on a cost of 25 cents per mile for 30,775 miles traveled by Torrance buses in March.

Torrance Rodeo To Be Only July 4

Torrance's third annual rodeo will be the only approved Cowboy Association of America show on Independence Day, July 4, in this section of the state, the City Council was told Tuesday night as it granted the association permission to use Torrance ball park for the performance.

Only one show will be given, but the civic auditorium was secured for a big cowboy dance to follow on the evening of the Fourth of July.

A parade will precede the rodeo performance, and additional seats to provide for a record attendance are being sought.

Two New Members On Recreation Commission

Mrs. Winifred Ruppel and Ted Meier, local Y.M.C.A. executive, were named to the City Recreation Commission Tuesday night by the City Council, to replace Mrs. M. J. Edwards and Capt. R. L. Lowman.

Request of the local softball league for use of the Torrance ball park nights, with a maximum of 16 lights, was held in abeyance pending meeting of the league tonight.

Council Backs Up on Welteria Rubbish Permit

The City Council Tuesday night rescinded its previous action granting a permit to J. A. Cassidy to operate a rubbish dump in Welteria, on the Weston ranch.

The action followed reading of a letter from the City Planning Commission informing the council that it had violated land use ordinance No. 335, and protests by H. B. Lewis, executive secretary of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, based on opposition from Palos Verdes, Rolling Hills, Welteria and Lomita.

In making the motion to rescind the motion, Councilman J. E. Hitchcock said that Cassidy had decided not to go ahead with the permit.

It previously had been revealed that Cassidy did not want to get involved in litigation which Lewis, Welteria and Lomita residents had declared would be filed if the use of the abandoned Graham Brothers gravel pit on the Weston ranch as a dump was initiated.

Lewis said Tuesday night prior to the council meeting that an injunction suit was prepared for filing, if an attempt to use the pit for a rubbish dump was undertaken.

The action of the council ended a long controversy over the establishment of a dump in Welteria started when the park department of Los Angeles declared its intention of seeking the right to use one of the pits as a rubbish dump in place of the dump on Gaffey ave. and Anaheim st.

The city land use ordinance rules that such dumps can be located only in heavy manufacturing districts, and the Weston ranch is in an agricultural district.

20 Inducted; Delinquents Named Here

Three residents of this district are listed as delinquents for induction by Selective Service Board No. 280, 1339 Post ave., according to records of the board which released the names of 20 men who have been inducted in the past three months.

The delinquents are: Ramon R. Bejar, 1520 Cedar ave., Torrance; Robert G. Luna, P. O. Box 487, Torrance; and Charles W. Affeldt, Jr., Palos Verdes Estates. Several others listed as address unknown are Felipe T. Magana, Alfonso S. Herrera and Henry C. Hernandez.

Raymond G. Schumacher, 1313 Cota ave., Torrance, entrained March 19, 1945, assigned to a conscientious objectors camp.

The twenty men of the district who have left for service in recent months are:

John E. Avar, 2313 Carson st., March 1, 1945—Army.

Clemente Camou, P. O. Box 654, Feb. 3, 1945—Army.

Andrew B. Cochran, 808 1/2 Amapala, Dec. 30, 1944—Army.

David W. Jacobs, 1808 222nd, Dec. 23, 1944—Army.

Billy A. Schurr, 4507 Torrance blvd., Jan. 30, 1945—Army.

Henry Venema, Jr., 2315 W. Carson, Feb. 6, 1945—Army.

Clyde J. Webb, 1321 Carson, Feb. 24, 1945—Army.

David L. Chadwick, Rolling Hills, Dec. 30, 1944—Army.

Marvin H. Garrabrant, Jr., 2120 248th st., Lomita, Mar. 1, 1945—Army.

Willis L. Hill, Jr., 25004 Eshelman, Lomita, Feb. 23, 1945—Army.

Richard S. Mertz, 1944 227th st., Lomita, Jan. 5, 1945—Army.

James M. Welsh, 2348 246th st., Lomita, Feb. 28, 1945—Army.

David Baer, 1804 W. 182nd st., Feb. 5, 1945—Army.

Wayne A. Bogart, 1201 162nd st., Jan. 30, 1945—Army.

Henry G. Jacques, 1220 256th st., Harbor City, Jan. 30, 1945—Army.

David B. Anderson, 624 Via Del Monte, Palos Verdes Estates, Feb. 24, 1945—Army.

Ray W. Berquist, Coronado, Mar. 13, 1945—Army formerly lived at 389 Paseo del Mar, Palos Verdes Estates.)

Cecil E. Howard, Fresno, Feb. 24, 1945—Army (formerly lived at Apt. 404, Harbor Hills, Lomita.)

John Longo, Pueblo, Colorado, Jan. 6, 1945—Army (formerly lived at 2005 Cabrillo, Torrance.)

Gerald L. Alter, 2024 Cabrillo ave., Mar. 15, 1945—Army.

CONSTRUCTION IS DUE TO START ON BIG U.S. NAVY MATERIAL PLANT IN CITY

Movement of machinery and materials by the United States Navy onto the 91-acre site in Torrance of the \$5,000,000 Navy Material Redistribution Center has started, and Lieut. Commander Frederick E. Drake Jr., (S.C.) U.S.N.R., commanding officer, is preparing to set up offices on the tract, with a staff of nine officers.

Plans on which bids were to have been opened March 20, were called back and alterations made, and they are to be opened by Capt. H. E. Wilson, (CEC) U.S.N., public works officer at the Naval Operating Base Terminal Island, on April 17. They will be forwarded to Washington for approval and it is expected that dirt will be turned on the initial phases of construction in six months.

40 GOLD STARS ON TORRANCE SERVICE FLAG; APPEAL MADE FOR POSSIBLE OMISSIONS

There are now 40 Gold Stars on the service flag of Torrance, and the list grows as the American forces push closer into the heart of Germany for the final knockout blow, and nearer into Japan's inner empire.

Torrance, through its City Council, the American Red Cross, branch, the various veterans and patriotic organizations, the Chamber of Commerce and others, is making plans to give full community honor to the memory of the men who have given their lives in World War II.

Likewise, it is the desire of the community to honor the mothers and fathers, wives and families, of these departed heroes.

An appeal is made for any person who knows the names of additional men who have made the supreme sacrifice for their country to please inform the Torrance Herald or Mrs. Marie Morgan, at the Red Cross office, as soon as possible that Memorial Day plans in Torrance may be formulated.

Following is the list to date, not including several missing in action and presumed dead:

- Jack D. Sweet
- Wayne D. Garrett
- Manuel Muro
- Jess B. Taylor
- Garlan C. Moody
- John Fess, Jr.
- Raymond Pennington
- Clarence Theodore Schelbler
- Claude Bruce
- Arthur Thomas Parker
- Dario E. Chavez
- Kenneth Brooks
- George Herbert Coburn
- Boyce W. Tidwell
- Earl Wellington Watson
- James Newton
- Louis T. Madore
- Jack Charles Hormell
- John W. Foster, Jr.

Post Office Receipts in New Gain

Torrance postoffice is continuing its tremendous growth of business into 1945, according to records of Postmaster C. Earl Conner for the first quarter of the year.

A gain of \$8,762.06 in business has been recorded this year over the same period of 1944, amounting to about 30 per cent.

The postal receipts for the first quarter of 1945 were \$321,583.65, as against \$258,226.63 for last year.

The Torrance office last year topped the \$100,000 annual mark for the first time in its history, and it appears that this year will see a new record set, according to the postmaster's figures.

KIRKWOOD TO TALK
James Kirkwood will speak at the Kiwanis club meeting on Monday night on the "Psychology of Personality." Chief of Police John Stroh will be the program chairman.

Perplexing Tree Removal Problem To Commission

One side of El Prado wants eucalyptus trees removed, and the other side does not, it was indicated at the City Council meeting Tuesday night, and the whole "touchy" matter has been referred to the City Planning Commission. The east side is unanimous in its request, while the west side is divided.

Meanwhile, Fred Blake, park superintendent, is sending out return-addressed postcards asking residents of various streets to state their preference on replacements of trees on the long-range program being put into effect here. Most pepper and eucalyptus trees will be removed, and choice of three replacements is offered.

LIBRARY AGREEMENT
A reciprocal agreement between the public libraries of Los Angeles city and Los Angeles county which would abolish the present practice of charging fees to patrons from each other's districts is scheduled to be before the county supervisors.