

# WAR CHEST AID IN VETS' SERVICE CENTER SEEN AS WARREN COMPLIMENTS PLAN

Backed by the compliments of Governor Warren and spurred by the interest of the Los Angeles War Chest, plans for the establishment of a Torrance Veterans Information and Service Center are being advanced to a "budgeting" stage, according to Postmaster C. Earl Connor who is coordinator for the Torrance Area Veterans Affairs Committee.

Governor Warren, in a letter to Connor, said that "it is of utmost importance that our counties and cities organize themselves along these lines to receive our returning veterans, and the action taken by the City of Torrance is most encouraging to me and I am sure, to the California Veterans' Commission. Permit me to take this opportunity to compliment you and the City of Torrance on your prompt cooperation with the California Veterans' Commission."

The City of Torrance recently formed the Torrance Area Veterans Affairs Committee after the "California Plan" of Governor Warren, and Mayor W. H. Tolson heads the organization. Participating are members of various veterans' organizations, Selective Service, United States Employment Service and other agencies.

The War Chest, through Ralph T. Shaw, assistant secretary, forwarded to Connor various forms including Statement of Policy, Criteria, Application Form and Agreement Form to secure War Chest financial assistance in operation of the veterans' service center here.

This will be filed immediately, Connor said.

The new center would be quartered in the Veterans Memorial Building which is to be constructed at Gramercy Ave. and Cabrillo Blvd. The Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post No. 3251, recently bought the old garage building there and will reconstruct it into a Veterans Memorial hall and facilities for veterans.

"We expect the building to be completed in time to dedicate it on our returned heroes by New Year's Day," Connor stated.

"We will house the newly formed Torrance Area Veterans Affairs Committee, and will have service offices available to twenty-four hours every day to attend to the wants of all veterans, their widows and dependents, irrespective of organization affiliation - or if they do not belong to any organization."

Contributions to the veterans building fund during the past week include the following: Art Sullivan, Carson, \$5; Border, \$25.00; Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Janda \$10.00; Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Roberts \$10.00; Dr. Fossum \$10.00.

Five dollars each, C. D. Fowler, Lucille McLean, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Cucci, Ethel Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce, E. W. S. Bush, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Jones, A. Van Kralingen, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. M. Maddy, Mr. and Mrs. Davies, Mrs. Jos. Bay Jr., Ted Simonson; \$2.00, George Nelson and Mrs. Verde Hansen, miscellaneous, \$3.00.

## Bernasconi Drowned in Thames River

Cpl. Rudolph Karl Bernasconi, 29, attached to the 9th Army, was drowned last July 6 while swimming in the Thames River, Kent, England.

A native of Geneva, Switzerland, he is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph E. Bernasconi, a brother, Eddi, a student at Torrance high school and a half brother and sister, Lynnford and Elsa Bedell, all of 21700 N. Vermont.

Wounded in action in the E. T. O., where he had served with the 9th Army in France, Belgium and Germany, he was scheduled to return for a furlough and met death while on a brief pass, it was learned.

Eddi Bernasconi, a senior-A, has just received his induction notice for Army service and hopes to complete his semester before reporting for duty.

## RUNAWAY REPORTED

R. C. Byers, 2132 248th st., reported to police that his daughter, Beverly Jane, 16, ran away from their home Sept. 2. No reason for his daughter's action was obtained by the police.

## Skating Rink Or Plunge?

Considerable controversy has arisen over the decision of the City Council to erect a public Roller Skating Rink instead of a Civic Plunge. Before it's too late, why not conduct a plebiscite among school children to determine whether the majority of children desire a plunge or a roller skating rink? After all, it's the children who will use these recreation facilities, so why not find out which they want most. Let's take a vote of the children in Torrance.

## Rotary Governor Will Be Guest Here Tonight

The Rotary Club of Torrance September 6 will welcome George E. Worster, Governor of



George E. Worster

the 107th District of Rotary International, which includes 51 Rotary Clubs in Southern California and Southern Nevada.

Worster is president of the Yellow Cab Company of Los Angeles and is a member of the Rotary Club of Los Angeles.

Worster will visit the Torrance Rotary Club to advise and assist. President Thomas J. Adams, Secretary Robert T. McCallum and other officers of the club on matters pertaining to club administration and Rotary activities. He is one of the 141 Governors of Rotary International who are supervising the activities of some 5,400 Rotary Clubs with nearly a quarter of a million members in more than 50 countries throughout the world.

Despite the war, this worldwide service organization continues to grow in numbers and strength. Since July 1, 1944, 219 new Rotary clubs have been organized in 14 countries of the Americas, and in Australia, China, England, Finland, Guam, Iceland, India, New Zealand, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Sweden, Syria, Union of South Africa, and Wales.

## 2200 FIRST DAY STUDENTS ENROLL IN TORRANCE AS SCHOOLS OPEN FALL TERM

Tuesday saw 950 students enrolled at the Torrance high school for the fall semester, according to Principal Harold Perry. Several hundred additional enrollments are contemplated.

Many teachers from last year were replaced this semester,

## Olin Barkdull Lost in Action, Report Reveals

Word has been received that Olin Barkdull is among those listed as lost when his ship was sunk on Sept. 7, 1944. The sinking occurred off the shores of Mindanao in the Philippines. The vessel was reported to have had 750 prisoners of war aboard when it was torpedoed. Only a few were able to leave the ship and some of them were killed by enemy gunfire.

The Japanese government reports all were lost, indicating that no survivors are in the hands of the government. Only a small number managed to reach shore.

Olin Barkdull was a native of Torrance and lived here practically all his life up to the time he enlisted in the army, at the age of 18 years.

He has been awarded posthumously the Order of the Purple Heart which his father, Ellisworth Barkdull has received from the War department.

## Torrance Men's Shop Entered; Loot Heavy

The Torrance Men's Shop was burglarized over the weekend by vandals who were believed to have made their entrance to the store through a skylight. Some \$3000 worth of merchandise was taken.

Mrs. Jack C. Schlanger made the discovery Tuesday morning when opening the store. Sport coats, ties, shirts and other articles of clothing were left strewn upon the floor in the looters' wake.

Many articles of jewelry were taken in the haul. They also stole a sports coat and pants from the display window.

Several pieces of luggage were taken along with clothes belonging to a personal jacket held by Mrs. Schlanger, she reported.

George Thompson, Torrance police officer, reported that he had checked the lock on the rear door at approximately 10:00 p.m. Monday and it was locked, thus setting the time of robbery between that hour and 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 4th.

## Luminal Park Trailer Court Being Vacated

Approximately 100 families have vacated from Luminal Park trailer court since V-J day it was reported yesterday. The trailer court was established two years ago as a war housing project, with 300 units, to house out-of-state workers at the nearby plants.

It is located at 201st and Western ave. in the Los Angeles city shoring and now houses about 12 families who will be moved by Sept. 15. Many families who lived there have returned to their out-of-state homes. Others have been transferred to other housing units in Los Angeles, it was said.

## PALOS VERDES LAND

The Board of Supervisors on Tuesday approved an agreement with the Palos Verdes School District for immediate cash purchase of certain tax-delinquent lands. Purchase price was fixed at \$1 per parcel. The lands will be used for public purposes, Supervisor Raymond V. Darby stated.

Practically all the area, except that covered by buildings, has been black-topped and fencing is now being erected.

Paving of Crenshaw Blvd. by the city is progressing and will be finished in time to handle expected heavy traffic incident to the operation of the plant.

The Torrance Navy center, eventually to cost some \$5,000,000, will receive materials from the Pacific Navy units to be salvaged, repaired, redistributed to Navy units or sold to the public.

## Arson Report Caused by Prowling Boys

An attempt arson report from the new U. S. E. S. bldg., Craves and Gramercy ayes, Aug. 31 proved false, police report.

Three 9 year old boys were apprehended by police and confessed entering the building. They stated that they had used a piece of roofing paper for a torch, but this method of illuminating the building quickly burned out.

A painter on the new construction found the burned scrap of paper the following morning. Evidence that the youths had been in the attic also was found. One of the boys had apparently stepped through a square piece of ceiling letting it fall to the floor, while walking along the rafters.

Parents of the boys were notified and agreed to pay all damages to the contractor.

## County Studies Oil Drilling At Alondra Park

Application for an oil and gas lease covering slant-drilling under Alondra Park at its north line has been received by the Board of Supervisors from B. M. Kemper, attorney for the Petrolube Corporation.

The request was referred to the Chief Administrative Officer and the County Counsel, on motion of Supervisor Raymond V. Darby.



**TOURNAMENT RUNNER-UP** ... Bondy's All-Stars, shown above, took second place in the annual Southern California Semi-Pro Baseball Tournament concluded Sunday night in Torrance ball park. Rosabell Plumbers won the tournament championship by defeating Bondy's L. A. Municipal League championship aggregation. Shown above, left to right, front, are Pete Amaran, c; Joe Russo, u; Charley Simmons, c; Sam Bondy, manager, with second prize trophy; Pete Vitale, rf; Herman Hansman, p; Ray Alkerette, ss. Back row, Harry Barnes, 3b; George Pena, c; "Red" Ramsey, of; Bob Sands, 1b; Rod DeDeaux, 2b; Bob Webster, p; Vic Penny, c, and Warren Bridgens, p. On Bondy's roster, but not shown are Paul Zaby, of, and Chet Brewer, p. (Torrance Herald photo.)

## Steel Rising At Torrance Navy Center

Steel is rising on the big U. S. Navy Material-Redistribution Center at Crenshaw Blvd. and Jefferson st. and the giant 202 by 602 foot warehouses are beginning to take form.

Covering the full 91-acre site, the Navy center is being rushed to completion to handle materials which are due to start arriving immediately the facilities for handling them are available, according to Lt. Comdr. Frederick E. Drake, Jr., SC, USNR, officer in charge.

Commander Drake and his staff have occupied the new administration building, just completed, and the address of the center now is 2201 Washington st.

Fifty civilians and seven officers now are attached to the base. Commander Drake announced that Lt. T. L. Hughes, had been detached as accounting officer for sea duty, and that he has been replaced by Lt. (jg.) James T. McKinley, SC, USNR.

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**TAKES TROPHY AWAY** ... Charley Pedrotti, manager of the Rosabell Plumbers, winners of the Southern California Semi-Pro Championship Tournament just concluded in Torrance ball park, is pictured above as he received from Mayor W. H. Tolson the beautiful first prize trophy presented by the City of Torrance. Center figure not identified. Pedrotti's team won over Bondy's All-Stars in the final game, 5 to 2, and was undefeated in the tournament. Bondy's lost one game. (Torrance Herald photo.)

## BASEBALL TOURNAMENT HERE DRAWS 35,000; ROSABELL WALKS OFF WITH PENNANT

Baseball games during the 30-day Southern California Semi-Pro Championship Tournament which closed Sunday night attracted 35,168 fans, according to attendance figures released by the committee in charge.

Rosabell Plumbers, undefeated in the tournament, walked off with the Southern California

championship Sunday night by defeating Bondy's All Stars in a fast 5 to 2 game.

Bondy's took second money, Arcadia Merchants third, while Standard Oil Co. of El Segundo and the Ironworkers Union tied for fourth place. The first five teams were presented handsome trophies by the City of Torrance and Bert S. Crossland post No. 170, the American League, co-sponsors with the Southern California Baseball Association in staging the double-elimination tournament. Mayor W. H. Tolson and Commander James Brodie presented the trophies after the game Sunday night.

Torrance ball park's grand stand and the additional bleachers were filled and overflowing at least one fourth of the time during the games of the tournament.

"This is increasing evidence of the need for new and enlarged seating facilities in our park," Mayor Tolson said.

Torrance received daily publicity during the tournament in the 12 leading daily newspapers of Southern California. It was pointed out, in addition to space in some 20 weeklies which gave the big tournament prominent play each week.

The final game Sunday night brought the largest crowd of any of the tournament, and there was "standing room only" for scores of fans.

Neal Montank held Bondy's All Stars to three hits in the final game, and the two teams each scored on rallies in the fifth inning. Rosabell got three runs to be followed with Bondy's scoring of two runs. Bondy's repeated in the eighth inning to score two additional runs.

Several fancy double plays were executed.

Fans will have an opportunity to see members of the 16 clubs which participated in the double elimination tournament in action again Saturday night in an all-star benefit performance. It will see amateurs pitted against professionals.

The tournament will be an annual affair from now on, members of the Legion post and Dale Riley, city recreation superintendent, who acted as coordinator, said.

The classic was staged three times in 1939, 1940, and 1941, but was cancelled in 1942, 1943 and 1944 due to war-time restrictions on travel and night ball games.

This tournament, which kept Torrance's name on the sport pages of a dozen leading daily newspapers for 30 days straight, and in 20 or so weeklies for that period, has proved one of the most valuable community advertising methods yet devised and should prove to the City Council the necessity for modernizing and enlarging the grandstands (Continued on Page 3-A)

## TOTAL TAX BILL OF CITY PROPERTY OWNERS \$5.51; SCHOOLS, COUNTY RATES UP

Torrance taxpayers will pay a total increased tax rate of .417 cents per \$100 assessed valuation this fiscal year, according to tabulations just completed by the Torrance Herald. The total tax bill is \$5.513 per \$100 against a total of \$5.1291 for last year.

## Industrial Waste Disposal Here Is Hit

Supervisor Raymond V. Darby, disturbed regarding serious contamination of the underground water supply and other damage caused by the improper disposal of industrial wastes, has called a conference of county engineering heads and officials of the Shell Refinery, Shell Chemical, Dow Chemical, United States Rubber and Goodyear Rubber plants for Sept. 6, 2:30 p.m., for a discussion of the matter.

A meeting of county engineers on this same subject was called by Darby on August 31st last, as a result of which the County Engineer has recommended extensive revisions of Ordinance No. 614 (N.S.) which regulates the disposal of industrial waste and sewage in unincorporated areas of the County. This amendment, which was approved by the board on Tuesday, provides that all applications for disposal of industrial waste shall be issued by the County Engineer, with the approval of the Health Department, Flood Control Engineer and Sanitation District Engineer.

The chief concern of Supervisor Darby is the prevention of pollution of the water supply and damage to structures within the Flood Control District, Sanitation Districts and county sewers, as well as prevention of loss of life by improper disposal of industrial wastes. Nine water wells in Montebello have been polluted recently by a single industry, and two deaths have occurred as a direct result of such improper disposal.

Metropolitan Water district saw fit to raise the tax rate .02 per \$100, to .50 cents. County flood control district rate is up .0563, to .2389 cents from .1826 cents for last year.

County sanitation district No. 5 has a rate this year of .2012 cents per \$100, up .0192 from 1820 cents.

A complete tabulation of the tax rate will be found elsewhere on this page.

## Woman Knocked Unconscious By Chicken Thief

A large negro made a return engagement with the chicken coop of Mrs. Bobbie Q. V. Anes, living on a ranch between Arlington ave. and Crenshaw Blvd., near Gardena Blvd. Aug. 30.

Torrance police report that Mrs. Anes investigated her chicken coops after her dog gave the alarm and there discovered the thief in the very act of absconding with a fryer.

Her screams, she said, frightened the negro and he dropped the stolen menu ordering her to be quiet. She continued her screams for help whereupon the burly negro knocked her unconscious and fled.

She lay there unconscious where she fell until her husband, who was away at the time, returned to find her.

## Water Dep'tment Wrecking Old Workshop

The old corrugated iron water department workshop in the rear of the offices at 1510 Craves st. is being dismantled to make way for the new building for which bids have been asked.

Materials from the old structure will be used at various water department installations, according to Manager William Stanger.

Bids will be opened Tuesday night for construction of the new workshop for which money already is on hand. The building has been designed in keeping with the civic center type of architecture.

## Top Priority Given Torrance Beach Program

The Board of Supervisors at Tuesday's meeting, on motion of Supervisor Raymond V. Darby, adopted the amended Master Plan of Shoreline Development, approving the plans of Long Beach, Los Angeles, Redondo Beach and Torrance for extensive fills of new beach and their eventual development for recreational purposes, and also approving the priority program by which all of the now private beach property is placed in either first, second or third priority for acquisition.

It is anticipated that about \$4,500,000 will be available from the State Beach Acquisition Fund, which must be matched by local contributions either in cash or in kind. On this basis it is estimated that Los Angeles County should be able to bring into public ownership about \$6,500,000 or \$7,000,000 worth of beach which is now privately owned.

Supervisor Darby stated that the priority program adopted by the Board's action places a more than \$10,000,000 worth of such beach property in first priority. First priority includes all property now privately owned from Topanga Canyon to the south boundary of Torrance, and from the Los Angeles River in Long Beach to the Orange County line.

## CAR RECOVERED

Police recovered the stolen car of M. L. White, 1606 Gramercy ave., missing since Aug. 31. The car, a Buick sedan, was recovered Sept. 1, and Alexander Perez, 1513 E. 109th, was arrested for the theft, police records show.

## Ask the Professor

(By H. F. Noake)

Dear Professor: I'm a chiropractor, and have written a book dealing with corns and bunions. Will you suggest a good title?

Answer: Why not, "Foot Notes"?

## Your Tax Bill, per \$100 Assessed Valuation

(If your property is within M.I.D. No. 1)

	1944-45	1945-46	
City of Torrance	\$1.11	\$1.14	Down \$.03
Los Angeles City Schools	1.7085	1.8216	Up .1129
County of Los Angeles	1.1798	1.3884	Up .2086
Metropolitan Water Dist.	.48	.50	Up .02
County Flood Control	.1826	.2389	Up .0563
County Sanitation No. 5	.1820	.2012	Up .0192
**Water Dist. (M.I.D. No. 1)	.25	.25	No Change

**TOTAL PER \$100** \$5.1229 \$5.5101 Up \$.4470

\* Applies to real property only.

\*\* Applies to land only.