

## REMOVAL OF 10-FOOT ALLEY SETBACK IN COMMERCIAL AREA REQUESTED OF CITY

The Los Angeles County Regional Planning Commission will be consulted by Torrance City Planning Commission regarding the purpose of the 10-foot rear alley setback requirement for buildings constructed in Torrance.

The decision to call upon the regional commission was made Tuesday night by Tom McGuire, chairman of the city planning commission, after a letter from Charles V. Jones was read asking that the setback restriction be removed. Jones said the restriction was retarding commercial development.

Chairman McGuire explained that the restriction was provided in the zoning ordinances at the suggestion of the regional commission by a previous city commission.

He said that inasmuch as most of the present planning commissioners were not on the board at the time, he felt that he should contact the regional board to determine their reason for making the recommendation before considering Jones' letter.

It is said that several improvements in the commercial district are being held in abeyance pending outcome of the request, and many others are said to be interested because they are so badly in need of the additional space which they consider wasted at the rear of their stores.

The Torrance alleys are 20 feet in width, and with the setback of 10 feet on each side, a "street" of 40 feet width is provided compared with conventional 10 to 15-foot alleys in other cities.

The text of the communication addressed to the Planning Commission is as follows:

September 25th, 1945  
Torrance Planning Commission, City Hall,  
Torrance, California.

Gentlemen: The Directors of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce have been studying the alley setback requirement of 10 feet for all buildings adjacent to alleys in the business district. We feel that this requirement imposes a hardship on the owners of business property, many of whom, now that the war is over, would like to extend their buildings and increase their business by utilizing their property to the fullest extent.

We believe that this ordinance was put into effect with the fire zoning ordinance, however, inasmuch as that at the present time, there are at least 50 per cent of the buildings extending to the property line, the buildings which do not extend to the property line, in conformance with the 10 foot setback requirement, create an additional fire hazard. This fire hazard, to the owners who have to set-back their buildings, is due to the collection of papers and rubbish, which blows and accumulates in the set-back area, and which creates not only a nuisance, but adds to the expense of maintenance, which our Board feels is grossly unfair to the owners of these buildings.

Extremely unsanitary conditions exist in these set-back areas, and not only require the constant vigilance of the Police

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## Stores Stay Closed; WLB Is Defied

Renewed defiance of the War Labor Board was indicated Tuesday by Haskell Tidwell, of the San Pedro retail clerks' local, at a hearing conducted in Los Angeles before a panel of the WLB headed by James Hill.

Tidwell was asked whether he would have clerks of three Torrance and eight San Pedro stores return to work and let the board settle the wage-hour contract, and he said to have replied that he would settle it "in my own way."

"I asked Tidwell if he would negotiate a contract with the 11 firms which I represent," Irwin Stalmaster, Los Angeles public relations counselor said, "and Tidwell replied in the negative, declaring that our firms would have to sign the same contract as the other stores (the independents) have signed."

When asked if he would obey an order of the WLB, Tidwell is reported to have replied: "Let's not fool ourselves. We're going to have only one contract." Again asked, "Does that mean regardless of what the WLB does?" he said: "That's it."

With the clerks' union ultimatum of "sign that contract or stay closed," the three Torrance stores, J. C. Penney Co., J. J. Newberry Co. and Sontag Drug, remained closed yesterday, and the War Labor Board was said to be preparing another meeting to consider Tidwell's demands and his stand.

## Post Office Here Shows New Growth

Torrance postal receipts continued to climb during the quarter just ended, despite the shut down of several war industries following the close of the war with Japan in early August, Postmaster C. Earl Conner has announced.

During the quarter ended Sept. 30, the receipts reached \$30,590.43. This compared with \$28,389.53 for the same period of 1944. The gain is \$2,200.90 for the quarter.

Due to the tremendous amount of business being transacted in the Torrance post office, plans for building expansion are under consideration in Washington.

Postmaster Conner requested a survey of the crowded conditions here and the postmaster general's office has announced that a survey will be made.



ARMY-NAVY "E" AWARDED BOHN . . . Pictured here is the coveted Army and Navy "E" flag being hoisted on the pole in front of Bohn Aluminum and Brass Co. Torrance plant. It was presented Saturday afternoon in a program conducted for a group of several hundred former employees. (U. S. Navy photo).

## BOHN ALUMINUM PLANT IS WINNER OF BELATED "E" AWARD FROM ARMY, NAVY

More than 500 present and former employees of Bohn Aluminum Company's works, which ceased operations some months ago, Saturday found themselves within that small four-percent of the nation's war workers eligible to wear the coveted Army and Navy production award lapel pin.

Gathering in front of the building on Western ave. at 190 st. Saturday at 3 p. m., they saw Commander W. J. Willis, USNR, present to Plant Manager C. C. Moffett the Army and Navy "E" flag, followed by Lt. Col. H. M. Rix, ATS, production chief of the western division for the Army Air forces, who singled out Mary Swentek for her two and one-half years' continuous service with Bohn, and Albert Anthony, for his 100 percent attendance at his job, as representative employees to receive the lapel pins on behalf of fellow workers.

Commander Willis explained that the lateness of the award was no reflection on the record of the plant, but that it represented the appreciation of the Army and Navy for past contributions to victory.

A telegram from Navy Secretary James Forrestal commending the employees and management was read.

Sam Tuzzolino, plant superintendent, with the company for 17 years, with Ray Woods and Clarence Philip, employees, raised the new colors.

## Student Travel Responsibility Being Stressed

The assistance of parents and adult football fans in impressing upon high school students their responsibility while traveling to and from athletic contests was requested by Principal Harold E. Perry, of Torrance High School, yesterday.

The first game of the football season is in Torrance, today at 2:45 p. m., when the Tartars meet San Pedro.

However, next Thursday, Torrance meets Narbonne in Lomita, and the students will experience their first travel games, banned by the Office of Defense Transportation four years ago.

Principal Perry said:

"For the first time in four years student travel for interscholastic athletic contests is being permitted by the Office of Defense Transportation. Inasmuch as the present school population has never before experienced travel privileges, it is hoped that these privileges will be accepted in the spirit of cooperation and good sportsmanship. Special assemblies have been called in the high school to impress upon each student his own responsibility in making this athletic season a successful one from the standpoint of student participation."

## New Post Office Buildings For Lomita and H. C.

New postoffice buildings for Lomita and Harbor City are provided in a list of recommendations for postwar construction presented to Congress by the Federal Works Agency.

A Lomita postoffice building to cost \$95,000 and a Harbor City office, to cost \$85,000, are listed as recommended. This does not indicate immediate construction is called for, however, it was pointed out. The total program presented calls for \$774,795,000 in expenditure throughout the nation. Los Angeles county would have 62 structures, including a new Los Angeles postoffice, to cost \$22,555,000.

Palos Verdes Estates also was provided for, a building to cost \$85,000 being approved.

All things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them. —Matthew 7:12

## Torrance Works of the National Supply Closed Down as Strike for 38c Per Hour Pay Raise Pressed

### \$1,000,000 IMPROVEMENT TO TORRANCE BEACH IS APPROVED BY COMMISSION

The stamp of approval of Torrance City Planning Commission on the \$1,000,000 improvement to Torrance beach as proposed in the county regional planning commission's master shoreline development program was accomplished Tuesday night after Supervisor Raymond V. Darby had spent many minutes explaining the plan.

A resolution was adopted by the planning body approving the inclusion of Torrance's beach in the county program and likewise approving the placing of the Torrance part of the Torrance canyon to Long Beach development in priority No. 1 for both acquisition and development.

The resolution was adopted only after considerable discussion between Supervisor Darby and Councilman N. H. Cucchi regarding the wisdom of Torrance in surrendering her rights to the beach to the county. When so questioned, Darby said that, the property being tax, delinquent for some 15 years, "the county is going to take it anyway, and preserve it for a public beach."

It is estimated that some \$169,000 will be spent in acquisition of property involved, including the Hollywood Riviera club, a series of lots along the beach and on the bluff overlooking the beach.

While the funds are not yet set up to carry out the program, Torrance will play a vital role in the whole development since it is sand from the bluffs above Torrance beach which the county proposes to use to replenish the badly depleted county beach in front of Redondo Beach. Some \$230,000 will be spent in initial grading, sloping back of the bluff, providing parking lots and general "moving of dirt" to provide not only enough fill for the Redondo Beach area but also to widen Torrance beach an additional 150 feet.

The second phase of the construction program calls for about \$500,000 in expenditure when completed will provide a 72-acre park and the wide beach along the whole stretch of the mile-long Torrance beach.

Darby said that the original \$10,000,000 allocated by the state for the beaches probably will be augmented by additional funds to carry out the master shoreline development plan which already has been placed in the hands of state officials.

He declared that the Torrance resolution was not essential, we just "want your good will."

### ON BUSINESS TRIP

M. N. Felker has returned from a business trip to Washington, D. C.

## Area Veterans Office Open In County Bldg.

Financed by the Victory Chest, Torrance Area Veterans Affairs Committee offices are now open at 2300 W. Carson st., Torrance, serving Gardena, Lomita, Waverly, Harbor Hills and Harbor City. J. G. Caldwell is executive officer and Mrs. Edith White secretary.

Veterans or their dependents are requested to contact this office for any information they may request. This Veterans Affairs Committee welcomes the opportunity to meet with committees representing communities and organizations who desire to be of service to the Veteran and his family.

The area veterans' office was set up according to the California Plan and application was made for funds from the Victory Chest to finance its operation. The budget was approved Monday and the office opened Tuesday.

Later it will make its headquarters in the new Veterans Memorial building to be constructed by the VFW post at Cabrillo ave. and Gramercy ave.

## Engineers In Control Of Airport

Torrance airport, known to the air force as Lomita Flight Strip, has been turned over to the Chief of Engineers by the Army Air Forces and no longer holds identity as an Army flying field, it was revealed this week.

The engineers have placed civilian guards on the field and the air force personnel and equipment have been removed. The engineers' task is one of maintenance and accountability, it was said.

Meanwhile, a part of the airport is in possession of the war relocation authority, barracks (Continued on Page 7-A)

The National Supply Co. Torrance works was struck yesterday at 10 a. m. by members of Local No. 128, Oil Workers International, C. I. O.

The Union, through J. Elro Brown, international representative had asked on August 28 that its contract with

## Zamperini Arrives In San Francisco

Capt. Louis Zamperini is back in California. The famous Olympic runner who carried the names of Tor-



rance and University of Southern California to world fame, arrived at a San Francisco airport at 1:40 p. m. yesterday and now is undergoing routine check-up at Letterman hospital. He will be there for several days and probably will come home to Torrance for the first time in three years, the middle of the coming week.

He was last home in late 1942, prior to being shipped overseas where he participated in the first bombing raid on Wake Island, on Christmas Eve, 1942.

He was declared missing at sea on a mercy flight on May 27, 1943, and was not heard of again until he made a dramatic reappearance over the Japanese radio on Nov. 18, 1944, after the Army Air Force had declared him dead. He made several other radio broadcasts during the weeks that followed, reassuring the family that he was alive and well. However, he was suffering Japanese prison torture, as was revealed after his deliverance from the Japs a month ago.

Yesterday he talked with all members of his family over the telephone, and expressed a desire to come home at once. He said that he weighs 160 pounds and is in "ship shape."

Plans for a "Welcome Home" party for Captain Zamperini and all returned veterans are in the (Continued on Page 4)

\*National is reported that the men might have the same "take home pay" while working 40 hours a week as they had while employed for 48 hours and paid for 52, during the war emergency.

The company declared that the union is demanding, in effect, a raise in pay of 38 cents per hour.

Pickets were thrown in front of all gates and the main office, and passes from the union hall demanded before entrance was allowed.

The plant was shut down completely by noon yesterday.

The company had proposed a meeting on Sept. 26. It was said, but the union said it would be more convenient to meet for negotiations on Sept. 28, last Friday. At that time, it was reported, the demand for 38 cents per hour was made, and it was transmitted to Pittsburgh, main office of the National. The union then on Tuesday said that they wanted an answer at 10 a. m. Wednesday. The company said that it did not have an answer to the new demands, and the union committee then declared the strike was in effect.

**Company Statement**  
J. D. Spaulding, works manager, and J. S. Morgan, Jr., assistant works manager, of The National Supply Company, Torrance plant, issued the following statement to the employees, the people of Torrance and to the public generally:

"On last Friday, Sept. 28, representatives of the Oil Workers International Union, Local No. 128, presented a demand to the company for a flat wage increase of 38 cents per hour."

The notice of this demand was transmitted to our executive office in Pittsburgh. At a meeting Tuesday, October 2, the union demanded that reply to their wage demand be made by 10 a. m. today, Wednesday, Oct. 3. The union committee was informed that the magnitude of the demand involved such fundamental problems affecting the company's competitive position and related economic matters that decision could not be expected before Oct. 24, 1945. The union committee then informed the management that a strike existed forthwith as of 10 a. m., Wednesday, Oct. 3, 1945. This precipitous action of the union is in violation of the 'no strike' provision of the contract (Continued on Page 4-A)

## Aerial Survey Of Torrance Being Sought

Naval cooperation in making an aerial survey of Torrance is being sought by the Torrance Chamber of Commerce. Blaine Walker, executive secretary, told member of the board of directors at a meeting in Daniels cafe Oct. 1.

Walker said that the request for aid of the Navy, in the form of furnishing a blimp to carry a photographer and observers on the survey flight, had been dispatched to Washington. The survey is needed to plan industrial and postwar home development programs.

The chamber of directors voted to protest to the Board of Supervisors the proposal that slant drilling for oil be carried out at Alondra Park.

New members installed are: Edward Raphael, Gary's; Barry Mirkia and S. Skoss, Rendezvous Cafe; James G. Caldwell, Veterans Service; S. H. Burns, Pacific Waste Products.

Charles V. Jones, vice president, presided.

## Ask the Professor

(By H. F. Noake)

Dear Professor: When was the last Indian massacre?

Answer: In the summer of '41, Cleveland scalped the Boston Braves 19 to 0.



MARINE LEAGUE THREATS . . . Coach John Winfield's Tartar eleven will start the 1945 season today meeting San Pedro at Torrance. The game is called for 2:45 p. m. This is the scheduled starting lineup: On the line (top photo) from left to right are: Don Moon, Robert Warning, Jim Standifer, Bill Rogers, Gerald Godard, Dallas Martin and Leroy Schwenk. Behind center: Don Cook. Rear line: Gene Hollomon, Kenneth Shaw and Ralph

George. Seen in the lower photo are, front line: Turner, Shaw, Hollomon, Moon, Warning, Standifer, Rogers, Godard, Martin, Schwenk, George, Cook and Smith. Rear line: Coach John Winfield, Cottrell, Everts, Poh, Stroh, Malin, O'Cain, Baker, Lougee, Designe, Johnson, Dietlin, Moser, Landerville and Foster. Story on Sport Page. (Torrance Herald Photo)