



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BACK HOME . . . Torrance Chamber of Commerce is sharing its former quarters with the American Red Cross, having moved to the City Administration building from the corner of Sartori and Post aves.

APPEAL FOR COUNCIL TO WRITE CITY CHARTER IS REFERRED TO ATTORNEY

Torrance City Council Tuesday night referred to City Attorney J. E. McCall a letter from Torrance Parents Association asking the council to write a charter and submit it to the people providing for a government as at present constituted plus the formation of a Torrance Unified School district.

Chamber Back In Administration Building Here

Torrance Chamber of Commerce is back at home, home in the Administration building erected by the city for its use many years ago.

The chamber vacated the Building, at 1345 El Prado, in 1940 when the organization suspended operations. The building was later occupied by the Civilian Defense agency, here at the outbreak of the war. When OCD was abandoned, the American Red Cross branch in Torrance took over the quarters for its important work.

The Red Cross now is sharing the building with the Chamber of Commerce.

Nurses Lose Battle To Save Premature Baby

One of the most unusual births in medical history occurred recently at the Torrance Memorial hospital when a group of nurses, headed by Mrs. Lois Andrews, prolonged the life of a 3-months premature baby.

Mrs. Andrews revealed that the infant, a girl, weighing only 1 pound 14 ounces at birth, was perfect in every detail, but for size and normal resistance. The baby was reported to be "a still birth" but cried lustily after responding to oxygen.

The infant was said to have held the feedings administered her even better than most babies her age and may not have died, had her resistance been slightly greater. Mrs. Andrews reported that all the nurses working with the child were broken hearted when, after the sixth day, the little mite that could have been wrapped into a lady's pocket handkerchief, died.

Joel Hagberg Quits As Head Of City Union

Resignation of Joel Hagberg as president of the local State, County and Municipal Employees union was revealed last week.

Hagberg said that he resigned because of "other business."

Succeeding him was Art Cameron, mechanic in the bus department, formerly first vice-president. Sam Shepard, city painter, was elevated to first vice-presidency from the office of second vice-president.

It was revealed that the bus department operators who withdrew from the City Employees union are seeking to affiliate with the motor coach and steel railway operators' union.

New Recreation Ordinance To City Attorney

The proposed new recreation ordinance for the City of Torrance was referred to City Attorney J. E. McCall for checking, by the City Council Tuesday night.

The commission's recommendations for the budget and bond issue proposals also was submitted and referred to the council as a whole.

Victory Chest Drive Here Improves

Extra pressure being put on by Victory Chest campaign leaders and workers in Torrance began to take effect as Chairman George L. Johnson Tuesday reported \$11524, or 28 per cent of the quota of \$41,000 being asked of Torrance. This is 10 per cent increase over last week.

"We're getting there, slowly but surely. We'll make our goal, I'm sure, because Torrance has never fallen down on this kind of job, but we'll need plenty of help from every person in Torrance," said Johnson, in spurring his workers on and appealing to all potential contributors to make their contributions generously and promptly.

Funds to be raised in Torrance go into the \$6,042,373 goal of the Los Angeles area. Among the agencies sharing in funds now being collected are the USO and United Seamen's Service, serving our men still in uniform; the Los Angeles Veterans Service Center and the Torrance Service Center, serving the veterans returning to civil life; foreign relief agencies providing food and medicine for war victims in Allied nations; and the 95 Community Chest health, welfare and youth guidance agencies serving the people here in our own community.

The residential division, headed by Reverend B. H. Linsgelder, continues to lead all other divisions in Torrance, with amounts well over the quota. Business collections, headed by Miss Dorothy Redding and Hillman R. Lee, have climbed to just under 60 per cent, while establishments contributions trail just under 30 per cent.

Workers in these divisions that are behind are being asked to put on pressure to bring in the contributions needed to push Torrance over the top.

Contributors of any amount will be welcomed at local headquarters in the Torrance Service Center, 1339 Post ave.

The request for drafting the clear-cut school issue charter read as follows:

"It has long been the opinion of men and women closely associated with civic and political affairs in this city that a Charter is the only medium or instrument which will enable local government to keep up with rapid changes attendant to the progress of this community.

"The Code provides that the City Council may on its own motion draft a charter and submit it to the voters at any general or special election.

"The charter must be published in the same manner as one prepared by a board of freeholders.

"The City Council fixes the date of election not less than 40 days nor more than 60 days after notice of publication in the official paper.

"Majority vote only is required and approval by the Legislature and filing is required as in the case of a freeholders' charter. It is apparent that a Charter election provides the only way by which the voters of Torrance may express themselves as being in favor of or against an independent unified school district in Torrance.

"If a Charter were to be drafted by the City Council leaving the present government set-up unchanged, while providing for the formation of an independent unified school district, it would make possible a clear-cut decision by the people of Torrance on the school issue alone.

"At the same time it would be the means of forming a Charter City in Torrance, a truly progressive move, allowing for amendments from time to time in the future to change and modernize other functions of our government.

"We feel that each one of you, and every person in Torrance, wants an opportunity to register his or her opinion on the question of control of schools in Torrance, and we have concluded that this is the only means of making this democratic expression possible.

"Therefore, we respectfully request the City Council to draft a Charter such as above described and present it to the voters at the next special or general election."

SOCIAL SECURITY

The local U. S. S. Employment Office has announced that anyone seeking a Social Security Card may contact this office and make application. The card will be mailed to all those making this application.

GOVERNMENT SUGGESTS CITY FILE ITS PLANS FOR USE OF TORRANCE ARMY AIRPORT

The United States Bureau of Public Roads and the U. S. Engineers both have informed the City Council that its bid for acquiring of Torrance Army air field as a municipal airport has been properly indexed, and both departments have suggested that the city submit its plans for operation of the port to the government at once for consideration.

This was revealed at the City Council meeting Tuesday night as the council authorized City Attorney J. E. McCall to represent the city in Washington, in December, in seeking information as to the ways and means of acquiring the airport which now is on the surplus property list.

McCall said that he had prepared a brief on the airport and that with councilmanic authority, he would pursue the study of the problem at the National Institute of Municipal Law being held in Washington Dec. 5 to 9.

The Bureau of Public Roads has jurisdiction over the airport but its present control is in the hands of the engineers. Both branches are urging the city to present its plan at once, declaring the future of all such airports is being discussed in Washington now.

Municipal ownership is proposed with private operation, and such a plan would be acceptable to the city, it was said. "We do want to try and get it for \$1, however," Mayor Tolson said.

Meanwhile, the proposed airport for Redondo Beach Blvd. and Prairie ave. hit a little opposition Tuesday night when a group of residents of the area headed by E. W. Blackwood, 4810 W. 171st st. appeared before the council and said, "We're here to say 'no'."

It was indicated that since the new buyers of the 40 acre tract for the proposed field, Community Airports, Inc., already have undertaken their project, and that zoning ordinances are favorable, there is little the city can do to stop the new port, even if it so desired.

Blackwood said that the airport was everything of what they do not want up there.

NOW IN TOKYO

Pfc. Edward McCall, son of City Attorney and Mrs. J. E. McCall, now is in Tokyo with the 97th division, and he writes that he is "having fun."

THREATS OF VIOLENCE MADE IN HEATED COUNCIL PROTEST AGAINST WALTERIA JAPANESE

Threats of violence against Japanese residing in Walteria were voiced in the City Council meeting Tuesday night as residents protested to the council against the occupancy of the old Japanese school on Ward st. by three families.

City Engineer G. M. Jain said that the families had made some changes in the building without a permit and that he had asked them to come in and secure one. He declared that, as far as he could determine, this presented the only legal means by which the city could control the occupancy of the building, and that if they abided by the city building ordinances and state building code, even then they were powerless to act under the circumstances.

The threat of "burning them out" was heard from one of the spectators in the chamber, himself "fired" with rage over the inroads of the Japanese into Walteria.

At this point, Chief of Police John Stroh said that the Orientals would get the same protection that the Occidentals get.

The three families were released from an Arizona center, Jain said, when they told the WRA office that they had an address to which to go. They were given \$25 each, transportation, free shipment of household equipment and they were off.

Landing in Walteria, they moved into the Japanese school house, and are well settled, although reportedly to be penniless.

W. M. Crow, 24249 Ward st., and Ray Sullivan, 24245 Ward st. headed the protesting delegation which also hit at a tent house in Walteria which is occupied under a council permit.

The City Council said that every legal means will be used to protect the Walteria district, and that state health department, building department and other agencies will be asked to investigate the situation.

It was pointed out that the deeds to property in the tract on which the school is located, Meadow Park, had occupancy by Orientals until 1960.

Public Warned To Lookout For Rattlesnakes

Several Torrance residents have reported rattlesnakes making new homes for themselves around the family dwelling recently. Some say that their invited guests are of the diamond back family while others report just plain ordinary rattlers.

Many reasons are advanced for the snakes wishing to fraternize with humanity plus endangering the lives of their host, but the most popular belief is that the recent brush fires, particularly those in the hills near by, have driven the deadly pest out of his quiet haunts into the populated area.

Persons are warned, however, despite why they moved in, that the rattlesnake is one of the West's most poisonous reptiles and that every effort should be made to investigate premises, with a suitable weapon, of course, just in case.

Thanksgiving Holiday Schedule Is Revealed

In observance of the first peacetime Thanksgiving Day, practically all local retail stores, public offices, and other places of business will be closed all day next Thursday, November 22.

Mail subscribers of the Torrance Herald and Lomita News will receive their papers on the first delivery Friday morning next week instead of Thursday morning.

Schools will observe a two day holiday, remaining closed both Thursday and Friday.

Bartlett Meets Son Of Boyhood Chum, In City

While City Clerk A. H. Bartlett was about his official business subscribing to a legal document for a young veteran just returned from overseas, he came upon the name of the veteran, "Charles H. Quigley," and that he formerly was of New York state.

"I was a boyhood chum of three Quigley boys many years ago in New York," Bartlett remarked. "Could they have been connected with your family?"

"I don't think so," Young Quigley replied, "but what were their names?" One was "Henry," the city clerk replied.

"He was my father, now dead," said Quigley.

Bartlett had a chat both with the boy and his mother, who, it turned out, he also knew in New York several decades ago.

North Torrance Bus Service To Be Asked

Necessity for bus service not only to Redondo Beach but to North Torrance was voiced this week, following announcement of the purchase of land at Prairie ave. and Redondo Beach Blvd., Torrance, for an airport.

Community leaders who are backing a plan for formation of a water district there also want reasonable bus service, it was declared.

One suggestion was that a bus be run out Western ave. to 190th, west to Crenshaw Blvd., north to Redondo Beach Blvd., southwest to Hawthorne Blvd., south on Hawthorne to Torrance Blvd. and return to the city proper.

The city already is entertaining a plan to run a bus to Walteria by way of Torrance Blvd. to Redondo Beach, and south on 101 Highway to Walteria.

Capt. Ecton Leaves Post, Discharged

Capt. Robert Ecton, MAC, this week left his post as special officer at Torrance Army hospital, and was discharged at Fort MacArthur, leaving a host of friends in Torrance and throughout the harbor district. He will remain in Southern California, however, he said, and is considering several contracts as a featured pianist.

He is succeeded at the hospital as special service officer by 1st Lt. James Arata, MAC, who came here from Charleston Port of Embarkation.

Captain Ecton, who has made a specialty of writing songs, is responsible for most of the recreational and athletic equipment at the hospital. Through his efforts, two tennis courts were secured, several wards, day rooms, nurses quarters and other quarters were furnished. He staged many shows for the entertainment of patients, bringing to the post the latest type of Hollywood talent.

A graduate of the University of Arizona, where he staged most of their musical comedy performances, he worked for a number of dance bands in Los Angeles and had his own band there.

Entering the Army at Fort Sill, he soon was sent to Officers Candidate School and graduated with the first class of Medical Administration Corps school. He was commanding officer of a company at Camp Barkley and later became special service officer there, where he staged a number of shows for troops throughout that area.

He served at Torrance Army hospital since its opening, and was a guest in many Torrance homes during his tour of duty here.

Army Hospital Celebrates Anniversary

Celebrating its second anniversary of service this week is Torrance's army hospital.

Under the leadership of its new commanding officer, Col. Guy A. Owsley, the hospital will mark this eventful day quietly, without any interruption in the smoothness of hospital functioning.

During this second year, the Torrance Army hospital has played an important role in the work performed by the Medical Department of the Army of the United States. The professional staffs of a large number of the Army's gallant hospital ships received their final training and preparation for duty at Torrance.

Torrance personnel, past and present, participated in the evacuation of wounded servicemen from active battleheads throughout the Pacific Zone of operations. Similarly, Torrance personnel withstood, bravely, the wanton attack of Jap suicide planes on unarmed ships of mercy, of which the attack on the USS Comfort was the most destructive in loss of human lives.

Hospital services have been steadily maintained throughout the year, with improvements constantly being made in the hospital's technical equipment and the structures in which it is housed.

There has also been a constant flow of personnel, with new faces coming and old friends departing all the while, but the professional standard of the medical and surgical staffs has not been allowed to deteriorate one bit.

No anniversary at the Torrance Army hospital would be fitting without a grateful acknowledgment of the fine and generous aid given to the hospital by all the civic and fraternal organizations located in Torrance and vicinity.

EFFORT TO INCLUDE G.P. IN NORTH TORRANCE WATER PLAN DOOMED, MEETING REVEALS

People of North Torrance want to get started on the formation of their water district "right now" and are willing to have the south boundary of the proposed district set at 190th st., it was revealed Tuesday night.

Speaking for the North Torrance group, Fred J. Collaway, 18402 Hawthorne Blvd., said that "water is what the people want, not a long fight with General Petroleum Corp."

His remark was made after several communications were read on the subject of the proposed Torrance Municipal Water District No. 2.

One was a report of the minutes of the meeting of the North Torrance Improvement Association on Nov. 1 during which the group voted to set 190th st. as the southern boundary.

The report revealed that Councilman N. H. Cucci then spoke and urged them to include General Petroleum Corporation's vast acreage in the district. After some discussion, the previous motion was withdrawn, and considerable wrangling has been going on since that time.

A long letter from General Petroleum Corp. was read Tuesday night protesting against the inequity of including its land in the water district since the company already is amply provided by its own \$300,000 system. The company threatened legal action to stop formation of the district if it is included, and their complete letter is quoted below.

Taylor and Taylor, engineers, also urged setting the boundary at a point one quarter mile south of 190th st., declaring that to set the boundary at 203rd st. and thus include GP would result in a fight lasting for years and prevent those needing water now from getting it.

Cucci, noting the packed auditorium Tuesday night, made several references to the people of North Torrance and of their desire to have General Petroleum included in the district. To his apparent surprise, he did not get any support from the many North Torrance residents in the audience.

Then Collaway arose and made his plea for fixing the boundary at 190th st., as the people had voted on Nov. 1. The whole area of Torrance, north of 190th, would comprise the district, and

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COUNCIL APPEALS BUS SALE DECISION; McCALL, WARD WITHSTAND REMOVAL EFFORT

In rapid order, the City Council Tuesday night reaffirmed its stand on sale of the Municipal Bus Lines, voting as follows:

1. To appeal the decision of the Superior court on the W. J. B. Hughes vs. City of Torrance case in which the Superior court ordered the city to follow act 5203 in disposing of the Municipal Bus Lines to Charles F. Koors who has \$65,000 in escrow for their purchase.

2. Ordered a letter "filed" demanding the resignation of City Attorney J. E. McCall. It was signed by Hughes as head of the Municipal Ownership League.

3. Refused a new demand for the removal of Manager C. Z. Ward, of the Bus department.

The vote to appeal the decision revealed the regular 3 to 2 stand on the department, Mayor W. H. Tolson, and Councilman J. E. Hitchcock and C. M. Gilbert supporting the appeal motion, with Councilman N. H. Cucci and G. V. Powell opposing.

On the demand for McCall's resignation, Cucci joined Tolson, Hitchcock and Gilbert in voting to "file" the letter, only after he had remarked that McCall should be discharged.

Ward's removal, demanded by Cucci and Powell, lost by the 3-2 vote.

"Act 5203 never has been construed by any Appellate court in California," McCall told the council in the heat of the battle Tuesday night after Cucci had demanded of Tolson his reason for wanting to carry on the fight. McCall pointed out that type of case never stops in Superior court. Tolson declared that there is considerable interest in the suit on the part of other cities.

McCall contended that the city bus system is "personal property" and not a "public utility," but was overruled by the court.

Act 5203 which governs the sale of a "public utility" requires a City Council to adopt a resolution of intention to sell by a two thirds majority, then submit the issue to the people, and sell to the highest bidder.

Appeal of the case will require several months, it was said.

McCall's removal was asked because of the asserted "improper" advice he gave to the City Council on the sale of the bus lines. Hughes' letter was bitter in its attack on the attorney, as was Cucci's attack on Ward.

Cucci claimed that Tolson had agreed to remove Ward as soon as the court settled the bus department issue. Tolson replied that in his opinion, "the issue is not settled."

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300 Legionnaires Attend District Dinner Here

More than 300 veterans from the 19th District of the Department of California, the American Legion, gathered last night in the Civic Auditorium for the district commanders and adjutants dinner.

A fine turkey dinner was served by auxiliary of Bert S. Crossland Post No. 170, the American Legion.

Commander James Brodie, of Post No. 170 opened the meeting.

Among the veterans present was Tom B. Clark, war veteran who served in Congress from the 17th district.

Willetts Will Serve During McCall Absence

Otto B. Willett, city judge of Torrance during the Army service of Judge John Shidler, was named deputy city attorney by the City Council Tuesday night and will serve in that capacity during the absence in Washington, D. C., of City Attorney J. E. McCall.

The appointment is effective only during McCall's absence, it was said.

Ask the Professor

(By H. F. Noaks)

Dear Professor: I read that the railroads are desperate for more cars. Is anything being done to relieve this shortage?

Answer: Help is coming. The colleges have just offered their coaches.