

## FIRST PATIENTS FOR COUNTY HARBOR HOSPITAL RECEIVED; OFFICIAL OPENING PLANNED

Los Angeles County Harbor hospital admitted its first patients yesterday, transferred from the County General hospital in Los Angeles, but officials declared that the institution is not yet open for business.

J. E. Smits, director of the hospital, said that approximately 50 patients are being moved to the Torrance hospital from Los Angeles at this time.

"We are not yet ready to admit patients from the Harbor area," Smits said, "and we request the public not to attempt to gain admittance until an announcement of the official opening of the hospital."

Smits declared that the institution's staff is being completed and that nurses are the only personnel still needed. He said that the professional staff is complete as is the housekeeping staff.

Grounds are being beautified, weeds cut and plants revived by regularly employed county gardeners. The guard staff also is fully manned, it was said.

There are approximately 100 employees at the hospital now, according to Smits, but this will be increased materially as the patient load grows.

The hospital was acquired by the county from the United States Army which operated the institution throughout the war as station hospital for the Los Angeles Port of Embarkation.

The \$2,000,000 plant will serve the entire harbor area and provide emergency facilities for county cases in this district.

Approximately 500 patients will be in the hospital when it is relieving the load at the General hospital and eliminating the travel problem of patients in reaching county hospital facilities.

Smits said that the official opening of the hospital still is several weeks off.

## Army-Postal Shuttle Service Ends Tomorrow

Helicopters today definitely were on the check list of the post office department with Los Angeles Postmaster Michael Fanning declaring the tests of helicopters in speeding up airmail delivery in Southern California cities had proved a big success.

Consequently bids will be asked for the delivery of three helicopters, provided the Civil Aeronautics Board approves their use for postal purposes, at a hearing set for Sept. 9.

Three areas will be served by the "copters in their initial use, if approved, it was learned yesterday. Torrance is among the cities to be served in this area.

Although this type of airmail shuttle service is still in the experimental stages, it was pointed out, further changes may be necessary before a permanent schedule is worked out by a private company, after army and postoffice experiments which will end tomorrow.

Uncertain weather conditions caused a few cancellations here since the service was started last July 8. According to Torrance Postmaster C. Earl Conner, this was incidental compared to the service rendered.

## New Industrial Tract Rezoned By City Council

The 236 acres of land at 190th st. and Western ave. recently acquired by Mervyn Teskey, of the Teskey Transportation Co., Los Angeles, was rezoned by the City Council Tuesday night for heavy manufacturing.

The tract, running from approximately 203rd st. to 190th Western to Arlington avenues, is to be subdivided into small tracts for manufacturing plants.

The council concurred in the action of the City Planning Commission in changing the tract from agriculture to manufacturing. The change was requested by the Dominguez Estates Co., which is selling the land to Teskey.

Ivan A. Thorson Organization will handle the subdivision and sale of tracts, and William H. Tolson, realty broker who handled the sale from Dominguez Estates Co. to Teskey, will represent the company in Torrance.

## Torrance Woman Wins Honor From King George VI

One of eight women of Southern California so honored, Mrs. Agnes Taylor, 2063 220th st.



MRS. AGNES TAYLOR Honored By British King

has been cited by King George VI for her work in behalf of Allied service men and women throughout World War II and prior thereto.

The citation, bearing the Royal Crest, reads:

"British Embassy, Washington, D. C.

"His Majesty's Ambassador presents his compliments to Mrs. Agnes Taylor and has the honor to inform her that The King has been pleased to award her His Majesty's Medal for Service in the Cause of Freedom."

"Lord Inverchapel would like to offer his personal congratulations on the well merited award. "Owing to the shortage of metal in the United Kingdom, some time may elapse before the insignia of the decoration can be sent, but it is hoped that the appropriate ribbon will be available shortly."

"July 9th, 1946."

Mrs. Taylor, as a member of Canadian Legion Post No. 77, worked at the British Seaman's club on Sixth street in San Pedro, and entertained service men and women in her home. In addition, she did sewing, prepared packages, toys and other relief goods for shipment overseas. She has an autograph book containing the names of 170 Allied service men and women with whom she kept correspondence during the entire period of World War II.

## INFORMATION, PLEASE (An Editorial)

For more than 20 years, the schools of Torrance have been buffeted back and forth by the Board of Education of Los Angeles to the extent that the people of Torrance, up in arms, are demanding relief from the big-city, out-of-town control of the education of their children.

The interest being shown in the proposed City Charter, which, when adopted, will result in the formation of the Torrance City Board of Education and local control of the schools of this city, is phenomenal.

In an effort to hold on to the proceeds from the wealth of Torrance which enables Los Angeles city schools to take \$2 for each \$1 spent on the schools of Torrance, the Los Angeles Board of Education is reported to be prepared to "make information available to both sides of the question in an effort to let the people know what will happen after the charter is adopted."

In view of this fact, the Torrance Herald would like to ask for some of this information from the Los Angeles Board of Education.

1. How much does it cost to operate the schools in Torrance, according to your most recent figures?
  2. How much has Los Angeles spent in capital improvements on Torrance schools (inside the city limits of Torrance) in the past five years, (.....); ten years, (.....); twenty years, (.....)?
  3. How much bonded indebtedness has been incurred by the Los Angeles school districts in the past ten and twenty years?
  4. What share is chargeable to Torrance, on the basis of assessed valuation of the city at the time the bonded indebtedness was incurred? How much of this has been spent in Torrance?
  5. How much has been spent in Torrance out of the pay-as-you-go capital improvement fund to which Torrance has been contributing since this fund was established?
  6. How much has Torrance contributed to this fund?
  7. How much has Los Angeles school district taken from or on behalf of Torrance over and above what has been spent in operation of Torrance schools, in the past five, 10 and 20 years (including state aid)?
  8. Since the share of Torrance, on an assessed valuation basis, in the big \$75,000,000 bond issue voted June 4, (which Torrance voters rejected), is some \$1,500,000, why did you promise to spend only approximately \$45,000 in Torrance?
- We feel that your correct answers to these questions will be of considerable benefit to the people of Torrance during their consideration of this charter movement, and we will print your answers in the same position given to these questions. We hope that you will reply.

## TORRANCE WILL HAVE NO TROUBLE SECURING TEACHERS; COSTS FIXED AT CONFERENCE

Torrance will have no trouble securing teachers to staff the schools of this city after the Torrance Board of Education assumes control of the schools.

This assurance together with figures on maximum costs for the first year were secured from the office of the County Superintendent of Schools Thursday by members of the Torrance Charter Committee which is devoting its time to promote the adoption of the charter August 20, the only democratic means under the law by which Torrance can form its own school district and relieve the children of the community from control of the Los Angeles Board of Education.

C. C. Carpenter, assistant County Superintendent of Schools, told James L. Lynch, vice-chairman of the Charter Committee, Mrs. Mark Wright, co-treasurer, and Frank S. Selover, managing editor of the Torrance Herald who participated in the conference, that "you will not have any trouble securing teachers;" Carpenter said that representatives of the County office, where all teachers receive their certificates to teach, will aid the Torrance Board of Education in securing principals and other administrative staff, and teachers qualified to take over the classrooms of Torrance schools.

Dr. Lloyd Nelson, assistant superintendent in charge of finance, said that Torrance can anticipate maximum costs, including all expenditures except capital outlay, of approximately \$160 per elementary average daily attendance, and \$225 per high school a.d.a.

This would fix the cost of operation of the Torrance schools for the first year of independent control at approximately \$412,000.

The local district will get no state aid for the first year, but in succeeding years will receive upwards of \$300,000 a year from the state.

The tax rate for Torrance, therefore, will have to be approximately \$2.00 for the first year and in succeeding years can be reduced to as low as \$1.10 and still have funds for capital improvements, according to Lynch.

The County Counsel's office will provide the new Board of Education with the legal advice necessary in setting up and operating the Torrance schools, Carpenter said.

Mrs. Lillian B. Sage, head of the County Schools Division of Statistics and Reports, said that the Torrance schools would receive approximately \$4770 in state aid for the first year.

Kenneth L. Roberts: I think that our being a part of the Los Angeles school system works a definite disadvantage on our community and our children.

Mrs. Grace Wright: The cultural advantage of having some 50 school teachers and administrators residing in the City of Torrance will be an advantage of which few people think in considering the benefits of the control by the people of Torrance of the schools of Torrance.

When these teachers become a part of the community, with the assumption of control by Torrance of the schools, they will enter the civic affairs of the city; they will be a part of the social life of Torrance. The contribution of the teachers to the community is of untold value, when the teacher really is a part of the community.

We have much to which to look forward. We will know a new Torrance, a happy group of citizens, in democratic control of their affairs and the future of their children. I cannot understand the reasoning which could cause anyone to oppose the control of our schools by the people of Torrance, unless they are employed by Los Angeles or under influence of the powerful political control which the Los Angeles school system is attempting to exercise in the effort to keep Torrance in the Los Angeles system. I hope that everyone votes "yes" on the City Charter which will give us control of our schools that our children might have the best in elementary and secondary education.

Mrs. Clara Conner: The benefit that our children will receive from the operation by Torrance of the Torrance schools and the presence in our community of the teachers will no doubt work to the reduction of juvenile delinquency. That is just one point which has not been brought up heretofore. I hope that the people realize the democratic opportunity of self-government which this election on the City Charter offers. We can control the education of our children as provided by the Education Code. We do not have to remain under the control of the Los Angeles school system. We want the best and we are paying for it. We know that we can have the best and still save money. Let us spend all of our money for schools in Torrance. This is not a question of charity; it is a question of the well-being of the children of our city. Vote "yes" on the City Charter August 20.

## County Schools Leader To Attend Torrance Meeting

C. C. Carpenter, assistant county superintendent of schools, will attend the Rotary club meeting tonight in the Woman's clubhouse at the invitation of the club's community service committee, of which W. A. (Dick) Felker is chairman.

The community service committee, made up of W. H. Tolson, James L. Lynch, H. E. Appenzeller and R. L. Plomert Jr., will conduct a program telling the members of the club the advantages of having the operation of the schools of Torrance in the hands of the people of Torrance through a local Board of Education.

Carpenter will be on hand to answer questions on the subject, according to Lynch, who is vice chairman of the Torrance Charter Committee.

Lynch said that already the Kiwanis and the Lions clubs had endorsed the City Charter movement and promised full support to the program to bring about control by the people of Torrance of the Torrance schools.

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COMMANDER AND ADJUTANT . . . Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Totten, who will be installed July 30 as commander and adjutant of the Bert S. Crossland Post No. 170, American Legion, will perhaps make history as the first husband and wife to occupy these posts. In addition to this, Totten is believed to be the youngest Legion commander to have been elected in the state, as well as the first veteran of World War II to be elected in this district. The 22-year-old former Navy pilot is a graduate of Torrance high school. Mrs. Totten, a former WAVE, and the new commander were married while they were stationed in Corpus Christi, Tex.

## History Believed In The Making When Legion Installs Tuesday

The Bert S. Crossland American Legion Post, No. 170, will make history Tuesday night in Torrance when Clifford H. Totten and his wife, Constance, are installed as commander and adjutant by officers and drill team of the Gardena American Legion Post.

Totten, who is perhaps the first World War II vet to be installed as a commander in this district, also is believed to be the youngest in the state to hold this position. Legion members believe that in addition to these distinctive "firsts" held by Totten, the couple also may be the first in Legion history to hold the office of commander and adjutant, as man and wife.

A former charter member of the organization, Sons of the Legion, the 22-year-old commander will succeed James Brodie. Others to be installed are: First vice commander, R. W. Jansen; second vice commander, Frank L. Richardson; chaplain, Robert Schow; sergeant-at-arms, William Dymond; assistant sergeant-at-arms, Mervyn H. Porter; finance officer, Eugene H. Held; historian, Mrs. Edith White; service officer, Jack Halanger; executive committee members T. T. Babbitt, William Stanger and Paul Findley.

Committee chairmen chosen by the new commander to take office concurrently with the elected officers are: Inter-post relations, Clarence Disaster and relief, Paul Findley.

Constitution and by-laws, William E. Kalbfleisch.

Sick calls, George Whiting.

Building, William Stanger.

Fire prevention, Eugene Held.

Installation ceremonies will begin at 8 p.m.

While other cities of Los Angeles County are reporting record high building permits, new construction authorized in Torrance last week hit a new "low."

Only three permits were issued in the city engineer's office, and they total \$3,050.

Meanwhile Los Angeles, Lynwood, Compton, South Gate and other cities are reporting record high totals.

Permits issued in Torrance last week were as follows:

General Petroleum Corporation, 190th st. and Crenshaw Blvd., 12x16 foundation, \$300.

H. C. Ritchie, 2605 Carson st., addition to residence, \$750.

E. J. Marcotte, 18504 Hawthorne Blvd., moved-in residence, \$2,000.

Walteria Civic Organization will conduct an open forum meeting tonight in the Walteria school at 8 o'clock, to hear discussion on the City Charter proposed for adoption at the city election of Aug. 20, according to Mrs. Bessie Stonecker, secretary.

Under provisions of the charter, the people of Torrance would elect their own Board of Education to control and operate their schools.

James L. Lynch, vice chairman of the Torrance Charter Committee, will present the issue of local control of schools to the group. It is reported that Mrs. John R. Garner, who opposes local control, will speak in opposition to the charter.

A similar meeting is slated for North Torrance, in the Perry schoolhouse, for Wednesday July 31, Lynch said.

## Woman Convicted Of Slaughtering Hogs Illegally

Kathryn Wilson, No. Torrance, who was charged with illegal slaughtering of hogs in a complaint signed by the County Health Department, drew a thirty-day suspended jail sentence and was fined \$10, according to Justice court records.

The justice of the Peace Frank Carroll ordered a summary probation for a period of six months on condition that Mrs. Wilson during this time would obey all sanitary laws and regulations.

## PREPARATIONS BEING MADE TO REOPEN J. C. PENNEY CO. AND NEWBERRY STORES

Preparations are being made to reopen the J. C. Penney Co. and J. J. Newberry Co. stores in Torrance, and although officials of the companies could not name opening dates, it will be as soon as necessary details can be completed.

The two stores were closed 10 months ago in a dispute with the Retail Clerks Union No. 905. This was settled last week with the signing of a contract between the union and the stores in the Torrance Herald office.

The J. C. Penney Company store has no merchandise on hand and it is understood that the stocking and marking of merchandise for a store of this size takes several weeks with a full complement of clerks.

Plans, it is said, also call for a complete repainting and remodeling of the store, which will take additional time. J. G. Koch is owner of the building.

Hillman R. Lee, the former manager of the local Penney store, recently was appointed manager of the company's store in Las Vegas, Nev. He has moved there with his family. There is a local move on foot to request the return of Lee to Torrance in view of his popularity in this city and his many contributions to civic and social work of the community.

The J. J. Newberry Company may be able to open in the very near future. Only seasonable merchandise was removed from their store.

E. W. Quimby, manager of the store, remained in Torrance and was active in the store during the period it was closed. While the company would not estimate the exact opening date, they say that "We wish to open our store as quickly as possible. A number of our old clerks and office help already have returned to work, and we are doing everything possible to speed the date when we may again serve the people of this community."

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## North Torrance Traffic Needs Given Council

Conflicting jurisdiction and lack of boulevard stop requirements in North Torrance are constituting a serious menace to life and property, Laurence F. Stephenson told the City Council Tuesday night.

He said that at the point of 182nd st. and Western ave. an accident can occur in Torrance, and an injured person can be sprawled out so as to be partly in Torrance, partly in county territory and partly in Los Angeles City territory.

He declared, there is always an argument among officers as to which agency the case belongs, and the injured party suffers neglect resulting therefrom. "I would like to see Torrance get the credit for eliminating that problem," Stephenson said.

He also called attention to the fact that there should be a four-way stop at 182nd st. and Crenshaw Blvd., where several fatal accidents have occurred.

His suggestions were referred to the traffic safety committee and the chief of police.

## Woman Robbed, Thrown From Car Near Walteria

Picked up by Redondo Beach police in Walteria late Saturday night where she was found wandering along the highway.

Mrs. Adelaide O'Brien, 27, of Los Angeles, was taken to the Torrance police station where she told a story of being abducted by three men in Santa Monica, robbed of \$140 and thrown from their car near Walteria.

Mrs. O'Brien, police said, was reluctant to give any additional information regarding her experience and insisted on going home. She told police that she was not certain as to whether the men had attacked her.

## New Walteria School Needed For Expansion

Walteria school will double in enrollment within the next two years, and one of the next moves of the new Torrance Board of Education will be the construction of a new school in that area, it is predicted by those interested in local control of the schools as provided by the City Charter.

Construction will start within the next few months on nearly 200 homes in the area surrounding Walteria," James L. Lynch said. "Children from these homes, together with those who move into this rapidly expanding area from other districts, will over-crowd the present limited facilities of the present Walteria school. Even the new improvements under way will not be sufficient to care for them."

"Torrance has the resources to give Walteria an elementary school, the finest building equipment, and Walteria will be justly proud of its institution.

"When we can build a new Torrance high school, and the senior high school students have their own separate campus apart from the junior high school students, the people of Walteria will participate in a new tradition—the tradition of Torrance high school in competition with other schools of California. Interscholastic Federation—participation in which federation now is barred due to the fact we are in the Los Angeles school system. Great days are ahead for the children of Walteria and all Torrance."

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