

GARBLED MAIL SETUP HERE INVESTIGATED

A survey of the multiple problems involved in the postal service of Torrance is being conducted by the postal authorities, according to Rep. Cecil R. King.

The survey was asked recently by the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, on petition of residents throughout the city who have complained about the costly delay and inconvenience of routing Torrance mail through four different post-offices, Torrance, Gardena, Lomita and Redondo Beach.

Some parts of the city, particularly Hollywood Riviera and WALTERIA, seem satisfied with their service.

Redondo Beach is responsible for Hollywood Riviera mail. In WALTERIA, a Lomita post-office rural route carries mail to many patrons, while others have boxes at the WALTERIA post-office. In fact, the Lomita rural route makes one stop directly across the street from the WALTERIA postoffice.

Most complaints regarding the mail service have come from North Torrance, where Gardena and Redondo Beach rural routes are responsible for the mail delivery with resulting confusion, indequacy of service and oftentimes failure of important mail to get to Torrance residents.

One Gardena route crosses Torrance rural and mounted routes, and extends south to Carson st. and Normandie ave., east of the National Supply Co.

General Petroleum Corp. factory, while vacant except for the

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VOLUNTEER FIREMEN CLAIM REMOVAL DUE TO POLITICS; CHARGES STIR DEPARTMENT

There is fire among the smoke-eaters. Allegations of political activity in both camps have come to light in public announcements.

One is the charge of volunteer firemen that they were eliminated by the City Council at the request of Fire Chief J. E. McMaster because they supported Capt. J. J. Benner in his recent Civil Service Board trial on charges brought by the chief.

Another is the charge that the Civil Service Board is about to weaken the Fire department by raising Civil Service status to two firemen who have served as war-emergency men for four or more years.

The volunteer firemen, in a paid advertisement signed by nine men appearing elsewhere in this edition, allege that their testimony in behalf of Benner against the decision of the Council to abandon the volunteer system in the central station in favor of the call system. Benner was convicted on two charges brought by Chief McMaster and sentenced to 46-day suspension without pay. Most of the regulars testified against Benner. His appeal to the City Council lost.

The Council recently abandoned the "volunteer system" whereby volunteers respond to the call of the siren to fight fires when it was pointed out that it is ineffective, and when 13 regular members of the department agreed to respond to their calls on their days off. It was pointed out that at times no volunteers responded to the siren, and that the help of regulars on their days off would provide better fire protection to the city.

The volunteers, Ben F. Hannebrink, Jr., Larry Somers, Graydon Smart, James L. Boucher, S. A. Whiting, G. D. Mosher, Charles McConville, Ernest R. Treloar and Francis W. Fetherolf, claim that the department will be weakened by removal of the volunteer system.

The two firemen which it is reported the Civil Service Board

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Torrance Harder Hit By Telephone Work Stoppage Than Other Cities

While national telephone strike leaders continued their negotiations for the settlement of the labor dispute, which has tied up communications throughout the nation, Torrance switchboards still were idle except for urgent and emergency calls last night as the Torrance Herald went to press.

Some 90 employees of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company in the Torrance-Lomita area were made idle by the work stoppage, and supervisory employees were doing their best to maintain such service as is necessary to insure the security of the people of the communities.

The Torrance and Lomita area was hit more seriously than other surrounding towns because this district happens to be among the few which still operate "number, please" or manual boards. Redondo Beach, San Pedro, Wilmington, Gardena and other communities now are on the "dial" system, and during the strike have had local service and emergency limited extended and long distance rights.

A. B. Smith, district manager for the Torrance-Lomita-Wilmington division of Pacific Telephone and Telegraph, said that the work stoppage has resulted in breaking the maintenance membership provisions of the contract between his company

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Torrance City Bus Line Continues To Show Healthy Revenue, Report

Torrance Municipal Bus Lines have experienced no "post-war" drop in revenue according to the reports of the department for the month of March, 1947, filed with the City Council.

The revenue from the bus lines is of such healthy proportions, it was said, that the contemplated Long Beach-North Torrance-Ingewood service can be started as soon as equipment for which the department has long been on the market is located.

It is possible that a lease agreement might be reached to provide the necessary buses to replace worn-out equipment and to extend the lines, and such an arrangement now is in the process of completion, according to W. L. Murphey, manager of the lines.

The revenue for the month of

'No Left Turn' To Be Tried On Sartori Ave.

"No left turn" signs will be posted on busy downtown corners, particularly on Sartori Ave., as a result of a decision of the City Council Tuesday night to give the idea a try.

Merchants division members of the Chamber of Commerce had protested the proposal of Chief of Police John H. Stroh that left turns be abandoned to aid traffic movement.

He brought the idea to the Council Tuesday night and urged a 30-day experiment with the plan, on Fridays and Saturdays. If it works out, it will be made permanent, it was declared.

Councilman C. M. Gilbert moved that Stroh be supported in the tryout and Councilman A. L. Jackson supported his motion which carried unanimously.

700 Hospital Beds Needed In Torrance Area

The Torrance area, extending from El Segundo to Palos Verdes and including Gardena, will need 700 new hospital beds by 1950, to support a potential population of 156,000, according to findings of the Los Angeles county-wide hospital survey.

By 1970 a total of 2500 new hospital beds will be required, to provide for a potential population of 475,000, the survey indicates.

It was on the belief that this area will enjoy a 20-year growth larger than any other metropolitan area that the figures were presented.

According to James A. Hamilton, survey director, the recommendations of the County-wide hospital survey for re-vamping the hospital system will be shockingly drastic.

Hamilton's pronouncement came as he began work on the final extensive report to be presented to the survey committee which will detail hospital bed deficiencies in the county and recommend a 20-year building program to cope with the shortage in facilities.

The recommendations will urge the complete relocation of some hospitals—moving the institutions to new locations—that some institutions be merged with others, some extensively expanded, and that at least 30 new general hospitals be built throughout the county.

"There will be some persons," said Hamilton, "who will at first

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BOARD OF EDUCATION NAMES E. W. INGRUM ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Emmett W. Ingram was named Assistant Superintendent of Torrance City Schools in charge of business administration by the Board of Education this week.

Ingram comes to Torrance from an assignment with the California State Department of Education where he has been serving as deputy surplus property agent.

He had served as business manager and director of vocational and adult education for the Montebello Unified School District prior to entering the Naval service in June of 1944. He retired as a lieutenant in Feb., 1946, a gunnery officer.

Ingram will receive \$6,000 a year as assistant superintendent of Torrance schools and will have charge of purchasing, business administration and real estate.

He graduated from Whittier High School in 1929 and from Whittier College in 1934 with an A.B. in education. Then he took a position at North Rancho school at Pico as principal.

While at North Rancho School he continued his studies at University of Southern California, where he received a degree of Master of Science in Education in 1938.

Ingram then went to Montebello School district as assistant principal in charge of Bell Gardens Junior High School where he served until 1940 when he was assigned as director of adult and vocational education of Montebello Unified School district.

In 1943, he became business manager of the Montebello Unified district, with an enrollment of more than 8,000 students, in which position he remained until he entered the Naval service.

While in the Navy, Ingram served 13 months at sea, in the Pacific, as gunnery officer aboard a U. S. Navy tanker. He was under combat conditions constantly transporting high octane gasoline for Navy airplanes.

When relieved of duty in October, 1945, he was reassigned to Treasure Island as welfare officer where he remained until his discharge in February, 1946. Ingram is married and has one son, age 6, and plans to make his home in Torrance as soon as accommodations can be found.

The proposal to give San Pedro and other communities the right to vote on secession from municipalities to which they have been annexed was voted down 45 to 28 in the Assembly on Tuesday.

Assemblyman Vincent Thomas, sponsor of the measure, was supported by two Los Angeles legislators, M. Phillip Davis and Thomas J. Doyle, in his attempts to have the bill passed.

He had been annexed and voted down 45 to 28 in the Assembly on Tuesday.

The three assemblymen said Los Angeles officials have refused to keep agreements made with annexed areas when they were taken in and that residents in these areas are dissatisfied with conditions under Los Angeles rule.

Thomas asserted that Los Angeles agreed when San Pedro was annexed that tax revenues originating in the area would be expended in the annexed area. He declared that only a small percentage of revenues derived from San Pedro have been spent there.

The Thomas bill would have given an annexed area the right to withdraw by a simple majority vote without the consent or a vote of the city from which it wished to withdraw.

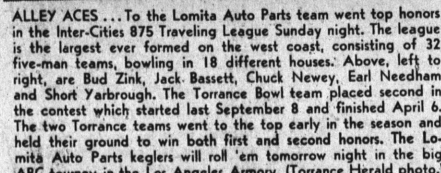
Thomas has moved to reconsider the vote, but even his optimistic supporters on a redevery few votes will be changed.

In going down to defeat, Thomas had a few cogent words for the city officials of Los Angeles:

"This will put Los Angeles on notice that they must fulfill their agreements with the small cities they have gobbled up. We believe that Los Angeles has violated every fundamental principle of good city government."

Thomas contended Los Angeles city officials have deprived the San Pedro area of an emergency city hospital and other facilities badly needed by the port area.

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ALLEY ACES... To the Lomita Auto Parts team went top honors in the Inter-Cities 875 Traveling League Sunday night.

The league is the largest ever formed on the west coast, consisting of 32 five-man teams, bowling in 18 different houses. Above, left to right, are Bud Zink, Jack Bassett, Chuck Newey, Earl Needham and Short Yarbrough. The Torrance Bowl team placed second in the contest which started last September 8 and finished April 6.

The two Torrance teams went to the top early in the season and held their ground to win both first and second honors. The Lomita Auto Parts team will roll 'em tomorrow night in the big ABC tournament in the Los Angeles Armory. (Torrance Herald photo.)

CITY FATHERS STUDY FIRE DEPARTMENT QUARTERS AS EQUIPMENT DETERIORATES

Torrance Fire department equipment and hose valued at scores of thousands of dollars still is "out in the cold," and members of the city official family are trying to find a way to remedy the problem which resulted with the failure of the voters to approve a \$180,000 bond issue March 18 for the new fire department headquarters.

The old central station was condemned a few weeks before the second issue was proposed to provide quarters for the department.

While many a man on the street laughed off the fact that the building was abandoned "for keeps" in its present condition, the City Council and City Engineer G. M. Jain were bound by the state building and safety regulations, and the fire equipment still is out in open air.

Covered with tarps, the equipment is somewhat protected but the valuable hose, without which a fireman cannot operate in emergency, is exposed to the constant westerly winds which favor Torrance and keep the temperature here so cool.

The only indication that the City Council plans to go ahead with a much-discussed plan to house the fire department in a temporary building at the rear of the Chamber of Commerce building came Tuesday night when the City Clerk was instructed to notify the American Red Cross branch in Torrance that the city wants possession of its quarters in the building.

The fire department will use the Red Cross rooms for sleeping quarters, and cooking will be done in the kitchen of the Civic auditorium.

The City Council, Fire Chief J. E. McMaster and City Engineer G. M. Jain Monday night inspected the rear of the Civic auditorium as a place for housing the personnel, and proposals have been made that the uncovered area on city property between the auditorium and Chamber of Commerce head-

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Four-Way Stop At Prairie, Redondo Asked

The County of Los Angeles will be asked to make Prairie ave., and Redondo Beach Blvd., a "four-way" stop, the City Council decided Tuesday night as a result of a request of Chief of Police John H. Stroh.

Two citizens of Torrance have been killed in motor vehicle accidents at that intersection recently, he pointed out. Redondo Beach Blvd., is a stop on Prairie, but Stroh wants to stop the traffic moving along Redondo Beach Blvd., at Prairie.

City Engineer G. M. Jain was instructed to contact the Santa Fe Railroad and the State Public Utilities Commission regarding the installation of a warning signal on Crenshaw Blvd., at the Santa Fe tracks. The Santa Fe wants the city to pay half the cost of such a signal, and the city is not inclined to want to do that.

Chief Stroh told the Council that requests for the extension of the 25-miles-per-hour zone on Crenshaw Blvd., to 203rd st., cannot be accomplished under the present laws. He said that there had been many complaints along the stretch of Crenshaw from Torrance Blvd., to 203rd st.

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Mass Air Flight May Mark Army Day Ceremony

Torrance and other metropolitan cities may see the largest mass flight of B-29s since the close of the war at 12:15 p.m. tomorrow, Friday, April 11.

The air forces announced regular long-range training flights were combined to produce an Army Week show of strength.

Sixty-three planes from several fields in Arizona, New Mexico and Texas will assemble over Big Spring, Texas, for the mass flight over Los Angeles county areas.

The B-29s will make two passes over the Los Angeles area at 3,900 feet. Their first pass will be from east to west. At the end of the run the formation will execute a 180 degree turn over Santa Monica and complete its second "bomb run" over the city.

"Protective cover" for the 29s will be provided by jet-propelled fighter planes of the 12th Air Force from March Field, near Riverside.

Open Book Policy For Torrance City Schools Is Supt. Hull's Pledge

Torrance city schools will operate on an "open book policy" with everything going considered the public's information, Superintendent of Schools J. H. Hull told the Torrance Lions club on Tuesday noon.

Guests of the club at the instance of George P. Thatcher, a member of the Torrance City Board of Education, also of the Lions club, were Hull; Emmett W. Ingram, assistant superintendent in charge of business administration; Dr. Howard A. Wood, president of the Board of Education; Mrs. Grace Wright, vice president, and Mrs. Evelyn L. Carr, secretary.

"It will be four years before you, the people of the Torrance City School district, can see results from your decision to assume control of and operate your own school system," Superintendent Hull told the club members gathered at Allens cafe.

"I do not believe in painting a flowery picture," Hull declared, "and no doubt I will be very unpopular with many local school patrons in the next year or so. But, I believe that you people of Torrance want your own independent schools and want a good job done. For that reason, I want you to know that the affairs of the schools are your affairs. Everything we do will be for your information. On the other hand, if we of the schools need anything to build a fine school system that you want and deserve, we will ask for it and we know that with your determination it will be granted."

"We are facing cold and hard facts at this time, and we want the cold, hard facts."

He pointed out that the financial situation for the Torrance schools for the first year will be a difficult one, due to

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VFW Abandons Civic Building For Meetings

Torrance post No. 3251, Veterans of Foreign Wars, is the second veterans organization to abandon Torrance Civic Auditorium as a meeting place because of the high scale of rates fixed by the City Council.

The V.F.W. will meet in the union hall of the United Steelworkers of America C.I.O., on Border avenue.

Recently, Bert S. Crossland post, The American Legion, moved from the auditorium to the C.I.O. hall after asking that the auditorium be declared a "veterans building" with free use for purposes of honoring men who gave their lives in World War I and II. This request was denied.

The first meeting of the V.F.W. in the C.I.O. hall will be on Monday, April 14.

The installation of officers of post No. 3251, V.F.W., will be held in the Rose bowl Sunday, April 13, it was announced.

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