

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1952

Thirteen

## Good News in Wind For Waleria Area

There was good news in the wind this week concerning a number of civic improvements in the Pacific Hills-Waleria area.

1. Members of the City Council will ask that a settling basin of a nearby sand pit operation and an oil sump be fenced for the protection of children living in adjacent homes.

2. Street signs for the area, as well as for other parts of the city, have arrived and will be installed shortly—possibly this week.

3. Sixteen street lights for the main intersections in Pacific Hills have been ordered and will be installed by the Southern California Edison Co. within three weeks.

4. The State Department of Highways crews within a few weeks are to "channelize" and illuminate the dangerous junction of Highway 101 and Newton St.

5. City street repair crews will pave Park St. along the west side of the Waleria School within a few days.

Following the arrival of a complaint of the Pacific Hills Homeowners' Assn. regarding the fencing of the Semmes sump, three City Councilmen, Ed Karlow, Harvey B. Spelman Jr. and Willys G. Blount, made an inspection tour of the area on Monday.

"I am told by the operator of the Torrance Sand and Gravel Co. that one of the two rock crushers now in full view of near-by homes would be moved off the property entirely and that the other portable crusher would be moved into a canyon, out of view and earshot of the residents of Pacific Hills," Councilman Karlow reported.

The three councilmen concurred in the belief that the gravel company's settling basin and the oil sump should be fenced to discourage children in the area from playing near the two pits. They indicated they would take action at the next council meeting to have the operators fence in the pits.

Karlow also reported that the sand pit operators would not operate equipment on Sunday and the exposed rocks to the south of the new home tract would be covered with earth. No more rock would be dumped in view of the homes.

## Plomert Speaks To Industrial Realty Society

The importance of Torrance in the industrial growth of Southern California was outlined before the Society of Industrial Realtors last evening by R. I. Plomert Jr., president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

One of six community Chamber of Commerce representatives to speak, Plomert joined in a discussion on "The Growing Importance of Outlying Communities as Industrial Centers."

he reported the operators as saying.

Street Superintendent Ralph S. Perkins said that his crews, busy until recently repairing storm damage to local streets, would start installation of some signs this week. The lack of steel standards and repairing undermined streets have delayed the erection of the signs until now, he claims.

He said also that as soon as the ground is thoroughly dried out that his crews would pave Park St.

(For details of what traffic control measures the state plans for Highway 101 and Newton St. see story elsewhere in this issue.)

Street lights at the main intersections will be installed by the Southern California Edison Co. at no cost to local homeowners.

L. E. Jenkins, district manager for the power company, pointed out that the cost of ornamental poles (\$80 each at the time residents of Kettler Knolls purchased them) has more than doubled.

"At the present cost, and assuming they would be available, would be more than \$30 per home to install ornamental standards in the Pacific Hills area," he stated. "Then too, if some residents did not care to contribute to the plan, the cost to those who wanted the lights would be even greater."

City Manager George Stevens said the city ordered the lights Dec. 6 along with 39 other lights for other intersections in the city.

Commenting on a complaint of residents of the area regarding a city boundary sign erected near the area, Stevens said:

"The state simply misplaced the signs. They failed to consult the city about the exact location of the boundary. As to the population figure on the sign (22,000) only the official federal census may be used on the signs and not the figure used by the Chamber of Commerce which is more up-to-date and therefore far more accurate."

Signs which are prepared after the recent special census become official will carry the new population figures—now set at 31,517.

The city manager said he was checking with the county health department and the sanitation district officials for advice on the best methods of controlling the possible spread of disease in the inundated areas to the northwest of the intersection of Highway 101 and Hawthorne boulevard.

"We will spray the area to stem the breeding of mosquitoes and take whatever other action the health department might recommend as feasible," he said.



**MIGHTY LIKE A CRATER . . .** Although it appears here as a pretty picture, something like what you'd expect to bring back from a vacation trip to the mountains, nearby residents in Pacific Hills have labeled this oil sump as a booby trap. They have asked the city council to demand

the owner to fence-in the operation. Monday three councilmen, Ed Karlow, Harvey B. Spelman Jr. and Willys G. Blount took a first-hand look at the pit. Pictured are (left to right) Thomas H. Block, Spelman, Charles W. Sheppard, Karlow and Blount. (Herald photo).

## Students Receiving Letters from China

As a result of the old adage, "To have a friend you must be one," Torrance Y-Teens of the YWCA and other high school students have recently received letters from teenagers in Hong Kong who were sent chocolate bars at Christmas.

This was a part of the National Young Women's Christian Association project of "Chocolates for Christmas" conducted during Y-Teen roll call week.

Last year nearly 200,000 bars or more than six tons of chocolate were shipped to 18 countries. From Torrance 500 were sent. Names and addresses were enclosed.

Among the many answers was one from a 13-year-old Chinese girl who is a student at St. Paul's College, a co-ed high school in Hong Kong. She states:

"I am now in the second year. I hope to enter college or university after four years. I am a Christian and a second-class Girl Scout . . . At school I learn both English and Chinese. But most of the students don't speak English except in class. We are not quite used to that language . . . I

think the schools in Hong Kong are quite different from those in America. Here we have to pay fees and buy text books ourselves . . . There are not many public schools in Hong Kong."

Another letter from a boy states: "I never get a foreigner friend before . . . I would like to tell something about the nice piece of chocolate. Though I have a share, I have not tasted it at all. I am very sorry to lose it. I think it must be very good taste, but I know the chocolate itself does not matter, my pen friend is more better than all the chocolates in the world."

A girl of seventeen writes: " . . . I am glad to be your pen friend . . . Hong Kong is a beautiful port, especially at night time . . . I think that California also is a lovely place, isn't it?"

A boy of 15 states: " . . . My father owns a printers and engravers shop . . . We don't get candy too much as it is pretty expensive, nearly \$3.00 for one bar."

The acting headmistress of the

girls school wrote thanking the "Y" for its gift. "Three days a week," she says, "we have a group of 40 poor children who come in for a free meal and to be taught, by our own girls after they have finished their own classes. These children re-

## Same As Others, But He Carries Short Shotgun

"I don't know why, but he does."

This well might be the statement made to police officers by A. M. Beshears of Lomita Saturday night, when he reported that a hitch hiker he let out at Carson St. and Western Ave. was carrying, among other things, a sawed-off shotgun.

The strange hitch-hiker did not threaten Beshears, nor was any mention of the gun made while they were traveling, the driver said.

Police were unable to locate the gun-totin' gent.

ceive very few "extras" . . . I'm sure you won't mind if we give half the chocolate to them."

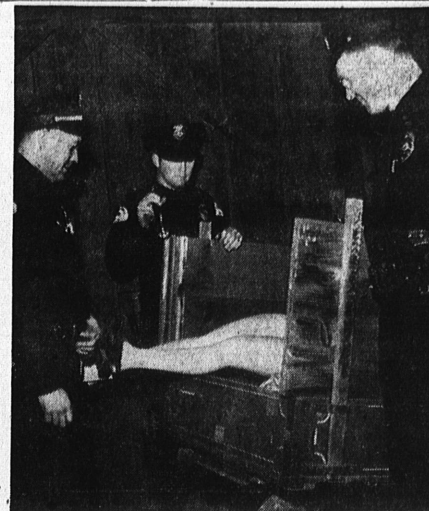
The letters have expressed thankfulness for the candy, but more than this, for the opportunity of having a pen pal so that they may learn more about America.

Truly this is a world friendship project.

Those receiving letters included Beverly Harrington, the Junior High Y-Teen Club, Norma Doppa, Suzanne Beck, Joy Pearman, Judy Wright, Billy Carrizosa, Pat Merritt, Diane Larson, Virginia Edmonston, Mitzi Yasutaki, Dick Palmer and Johnny Reiss.

## To Aid Local YMCA Drive

Plans for the women of Torrance to form teams and solicit house-to-house for the current support campaign of the YMCA were revealed this week by Don Armstrong, general chairman of the drive.



**SHAPELY MYSTERY . . .** Three Torrance police officers answered the call of a dead body in a trailer on Cabrillo Ave. recently and found, yes, a wooden dummy. Here investigators Sgt. Swayne Johnson, Jimmie O'Toole and Bob Wright span the lumber limbs. (Herald photo).

## Five Storm Drain Proposals Given County; Waleria Out

Five storm drain projects planned for the County Flood Control District to be included in the proposed \$14,000,000 county-wide bond issue slated for the November election.

District "wheels" have hinted that Torrance would gross a cool \$1,000,000 if the bonds are passed.

Assistant City Engineer John Patrick presented his proposal to the City Council last week which called for draining north and central areas and the establishment of a starting place for an eventual all-city project.

Draining of the Ellenwood and

Waleria lake areas was held unfeasible. Estimated cost of the plan ran to \$1,800,000 for the 600 acres now under water.

A proposed tunnel from the area to the ocean was rejected by the council and will not be submitted to the County. Paseo de Gracia, in Hollywood Rlyera, cannot be made water-free until the Waleria area is drained, it was stated.

Largest of four projects is a \$678,880 system which would drain a huge part of downtown areas.

All final action rests with the county, George Stevens, city manager, told the council.

## Los Concioneros Chorus In Southland Sing Finals

Los Concioneros, Torrance's outstanding adult chorus, will enter the finals of the Southern California Music Contest in the Venice High School auditorium tomorrow evening at 8.

The chorus, whose recently elected chairman is Raymond E. Hole, gained the finals last Sunday in competition with other singing groups from Southern California cities.

Last year, under the direction of Betty Mabin, the group placed first in the mixed chorus division of the contest, won the sweepstakes honors and handed their director the "Best Director's" award.

Several appearances are planned for the Torrance area during the following months to acquaint residents here with the group which is fast becoming one of the outstanding choral groups in the Southland.

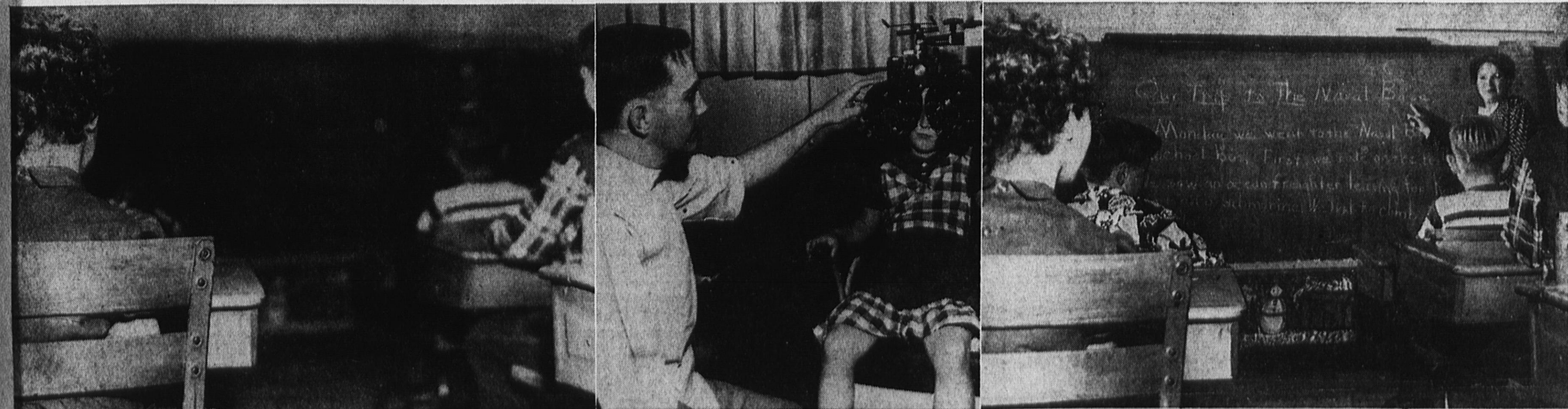
The 32 members of the chorus are led by Hole, the chairman; Caroline Polhemus, secretary; treasurer; Warren S. Boggs, publicity chairman; Barbara Wallace, social chairman and Betty Holloway, music librarian.

## Problem Solvers Speak to 250

People with problems had a talk with two cents this week—and most of them came through with flying colors.

Deputy tax collectors O. J. Jensen and Bart Reese were stationed in City Court this week to discuss tax problems. The agents met 250 answer seekers in their two-day stay.

## Your Dollars Help Torrance Lions Open New World for a Local Girl



**YOU HELPED . . .** What you see here is your dollars in action. Each year the Torrance Lions conducts a "Brooms for the Blind" sale to raise funds to help the blind and to buy eyeglasses and eye care for less fortunate local children. Many are less fortunate in two ways. They cannot see as well as most persons, and secondly they cannot afford

to do anything about it. Such is the case of the little curly-headed, unidentified girl at left. Her eyesight is poor, she lives in a fuzzy world which surrounds her in every direction—no matter where she looks. Her teacher is blurred. The blackboard is a hazy, unreadable wall in front of her. With the help of the dollars the residents of Torrance spent in

buying "Brooms for the Blind" she is given eye examinations by Dr. Robert Isaacs, himself a member of the local Lions Club, and fitted with glasses. Now, back once again in her classroom seat a new world opens—actually right before her eyes. Her teacher is no longer a nebulous smudge. The blackboard stands out sharp and clear and she reads about

"Our Trip to the Naval Base." This is an accounting of the spending of part of the \$526 the local service club raised last year. Other portions of the money will buy Braille books and seeing eye dogs for the blind. These are pictures of your "B rooms for the Blind" dollars sweeping away the troubles of just one little Torrance girl. (Herald photos).