

# Club Leaders Get Data on Torrance Community Fair

## ANCIENT STONE UTENSILS UNCOVERED BY WORKERS AT NEW HOUSING TRACT



FROM THE PAST . . . Clemente Barajas (left), and John Montoya examine the cache of Indian relics which they dug up while grading around new homes near 215th and Normandie Ave. Wednesday. Included in the collection are stone bowls, grinding stones on which acorns, not corn, were ground because the Indians had no agriculture; mortars, pestles, and stone cups. The discovery may be dated to pre-Spanish days—1760 and before.



EXPERT OPINION . . . R. M. Ariss, curator of anthropology at the Los Angeles County Museum, looks at some of the stone artifacts discovered in a field near Torrance Wednesday. He pronounced the objects well-preserved remnants of an Indian civilization which flourished here in pre-Spanish days. A check of the site was to be conducted to get a more accurate date on when the relics were used as kitchenware by Shoshonean speaking Indians. If Spanish relics are found in the same place, that would mean the Spaniards were already here and would place the date after 1760. If Spanish remains are not found, the artifacts are probably pre-Spanish and therefore can not be pinned down to a definite date, Ariss stated.

### Harbor Police Commander To Speak in Shoestring

Capt. Basil Starkey, commander of the Harbor Division, Los Angeles Police Dept., will explain the operation of police traffic cars in the Shoestring Strip area of Los Angeles at a meeting of the advisory committee to Councilman John E. Gibson Jr., at Normandie Tuesday evening at 8 p.m.

Starkey is expected to present detailed analysis of the operation in the Shoestring Strip in answer to queries voiced by residents concerning speed contests

### Museum Official Says Find May Be Prior to 1760s

Stone kitchenware which may date back as far as the pre-Spanish days was discovered in a field near 215th St. and Normandie Ave. Wednesday by Clemente Barajas, 1832 W. Carson St. and John Montoya, 18545 Roslin Ave.

Barajas and Montoya were grading in a tract around some new homes in the area preparatory to landscaping when they began to turn up strange looking stone cups, grinding stones, and mortars and pestles—made of rock about three feet below surface.

When they realized what they had discovered, the men began to set aside all of the artifacts which they unearthed. They came up with quite a collection.

R. M. Ariss, curator of Anthropology at the Los Angeles County Museum, examined the find Friday morning and said that it contains some very good examples of utensils used by the Shoshonean speaking Indians in pre-Spanish California days—before the 1760s.

To Examine Site Ariss was to examine the site of the discovery to see if Spanish tools and utensils can be found at the same level as the stone instruments. If so, this would date the Barajas find as in the Spanish era of early California history. If no Spanish remains can be found, the pots and pestles could very well be from pre-Spanish days and undatable.

Lack Records Ariss explained that it is extremely difficult to trace human life back to its beginnings in this part of California because of lack of adequate records. Speculating, he said that the Indians may have come here up to 3000 years ago.

The stoneware is mostly soapstone, a soft material, and volcanic rock. Both of these varieties of stone were probably gathered while moist or warm and thus were easily shaped into pots and cups by the Shoshonean speaking Indian tribes, Ariss said.

The rarest things about the Barajas-Montoya discovery, the Anthropologist said, are some examples of pottery, with designs on the outside, which are seldom found in this area. This type of pottery was made in the Southern Arizona area and probably got here through trade among Indian tribes and visits back and forth.

Early Horizons Some pottery sites in the Arizona area have been traced back as far as the Christian era and to 300 B. C. "There are (Continued on Page 2)

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### Civic Leaders Meet To Hear Fair Plans

Ground rules for participating in the coming Torrance Community Fair, scheduled to be held at Torrance Blvd. and Maple Ave. for five days in August, were announced last Wednesday evening before a gathering of about 100 representatives of Torrance service clubs, veterans organizations, parent-teachers groups, and others who met with sponsors of the fair at Club Alondra for dinner.

William Overly, directing manager of the Pan-American Amusement Co., suppliers of the tent and equipment for the locally-operated fair, outlined the procedure for everything from the queen contest to getting a commercial booth in the main exhibition tent.

The Torrance-Community Fair being staged Aug. 11 through 15, is sponsored jointly by the Chamber of Commerce and the Torrance Junior Chamber of Commerce. Paul Diamond of the Chamber and Vern Lovelady of the Jaycees are co-chairmen of the event.

Queen Rules Commanding most attention of the club representatives and community leaders at the dinner last week was the explanation of the "Queen of the Fair" contest. The contest, designed to select one young lady to reign over the five-day event, is the basis of the fair. Ticket sales for the event will finance the undertaking.

According to rules of the contest as passed along by Overly, the queen candidates will be sponsored by clubs and organizations and the queen will be selected as the result of a ticket-selling campaign put on in her behalf.

To spur ticket sales by the sponsoring organization, the club whose candidate wins the queen contest will get the pick of the concessions on the lot. The hot dog and hamburger wagon, choice concession and worth up to \$1000 in profits to its operators, will probably go to the club who can get the most votes for its candidate.

### WEATHER

A clear, warm Sunday is on tap today according to the Weather Bureau forecast which states "mostly clear today and slightly warmer, with a high temperature near 72."

### High Ranking Military Officers Visit National Supply Co. Plant

Fourteen high ranking members of the Armed Forces and three civilians representing the Industrial College of the Armed Forces spent Thursday visiting the Torrance plant of the National Supply Co. as part of the ICAF program of visits to familiarize students and faculty with industrial processes, developments, techniques, and problems with which they could not otherwise become acquainted.

The ICAF, on the highest educational level within the Department of Defense, is a joint educational institution operating under the direction of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. It is designed to prepare selected officers of the Armed Forces for important command, staff, and planning assignments with the Department of Defense and the military services.

Following an inspection of facilities at the plant, the members of ICAF were served steak dinners in the National Supply Employees clubroom in the plant.



FIRST IN LINE . . . First official entry in the 1954 "Miss Community Fair" contest to be held in conjunction with the Torrance Community Fair in August was signed up early Thursday morning to represent the Torrance Civitan Club. Here (left to right) are Civitan President F. S. Selover, Candidate Flo Luongo, and Jaycee Queen Chairman Vernon Smith.

### City Officials Plan Riviera Water Talks

A City Councilman, the City Attorney, and Superintendent of the Torrance Municipal Water District are slated for roles in the Hollywood Riviera battle to withdraw from the California Water Service district and join Torrance when they appear before Riviera homeowners tomorrow night.

Invited to attend the meeting in an effort to clear up some of the questions concerning the water supply in the area were Councilman Willys G. Blount, City Attorney James M. Hall, and Water Superintendent Angus McVicar.

Site of the meeting has been changed to the Hollywood Riviera Beach Club, Comdr. William A. Mason, location chairman of the group, said this week. Expanding attendance and the lack of heating facilities prompted the move from El Retiro Park hall, he said.

Report Due A report, under preparation for several weeks, will be presented to the homeowners by George R. Aldridge, chairman of the recently named water committee. His group has been investigating the demand for a changeover to Torrance water, and the findings of his committee will be revealed for the first time tomorrow.



MAKE TORRANCE VISIT . . . Members of the Industrial College of the Armed Forces student body and faculty visited the National Supply Co. plant here Thursday during a very limited tour of Southern California industries. The group included high ranking officers of the Air Force, Army, Navy, and Marines, and three civilian faculty members.

### Fireworks Session Set

A meeting with all parties interested in selling fireworks in Torrance has been called by the City Council for next Tuesday evening in the City Council Chambers. Mayor Nicholas O. Dralle called the meeting after it was reported that large number of requests for permits to sell Fourth of July materials had been submitted.

Controversy over water in the area came up recently when residents began protesting the construction of a huge water storage tank on Paseo de las Estrellas to supply Lower Riviera and the Seaside Ranchos area across the highway.

New Tank Built The California Water Service, whose offices are in Redondo, applied for and received permission from the city to erect a new tank after public hearings before the Torrance Planning Commission and City Council. The new reservoir is described as a 600,000-gallon steel tank. Constructed some years ago was a 50,000-gallon redwood tank which is slated for removal within a year after completion of the huge steel tank. A third tank, with a capacity of 250,000, also stands on the site. It was constructed about six years ago.

Opponents to the plan to switch over to Torrance water cite the heavy costs involved which they say will have to be borne by residents of the area.