

Board Asks Reinstatement of Demoted Fireman

America First Country To Honor Labor With Holiday

By MILDRED HUNT
It is a little known fact that the Labor holiday could have originated from the vivid stories written by the famous author, Charles Dickens.

He was among the first, if not the first, to call attention in bold print to the trials and troubles of the underpaid workers. The stories about their working conditions and treatment were widely read and quoted when the movement was sparked to give dignity and recognition to labor.

In this country, the first Labor Day was celebrated in 1882 and again in 1884 by the Knights of Labor who marched in a lengthy parade. The first Labor Day law in this country was passed Feb. 21, 1887, by Oregon which designated the first Monday in September as the day to honor the working classes. Other states followed until the holiday now is observed in Alaska, Canal Zone, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

Another phase of the Labor Day holiday is Labor Sunday which is marked by labor groups attending church services the Sunday preceding Labor Day. In some areas, this is included in the Labor week-end program and often begins a round of outdoor gatherings, picnics, meetings, speeches, athletic events, and contests.

The first Labor Day to be celebrated in Europe, according to records, was much later on May 1, 1890. It is observed in a different manner than in this part of the world. It is usually celebrated by large meetings of labor groups and demonstrations. In the past, violence has been the pattern of Labor Day programs.

Not only have governments honored labor but famous poets have written some of their best work on the dignity of labor. In fact, they have succeeded in elevating its standard to that of music and art. Kipling dramatized the man with the pick and shovel in his poem, "Sons of Martha," and Van Dyke added more polish in his poem, "Work." The noted Whitman wrote "Years of Moderns" and Whittier added "Songs of Labor."

Few holidays on our national calendar carry such a double meaning as does the September holiday. It could be called a betwixt or between holiday as it is considered to mark the arrival of the fall and winter seasons while at the same time signaling the end of the summer season. This does not mean weatherwise but custom-wise. It also serves as a gentle reminder to have that last summer outing or trip before settling down to the usual fall and winter routine. College students begin to pack their luggage for their trek back to the vine-covered buildings and other students of lesser standings are likewise busy shopping for clothes and school supplies.



AIR CONDITIONED . . . When C. E. Garrison, of 1524 W. 218th St., went to get his car out of the garage following one of last week's scorching days, he found the heat had been too much for the rear window of his auto. It had disintegrated as shown here.

Two Women Injured In Dump Truck Collision

A collision with a dump truck at 190th St. and Crenshaw Blvd. Thursday sent two Torrance women to Harbor General Hospital with serious injuries.

Optimist Day Set at Fair

The Optimist Club of Torrance is making plans to attend "Optimista," Friday, Sept. 24, the gala day devoted to all Optimists at the Los Angeles County Fair in Pomona.

Your Herald Carrier Boy Is Now Collecting for August

All Herald Carrier Boys are now engaged in their monthly collection drive. Papers left during August are now payable and when your Herald Carrier Boy calls, kindly ask for his Identification Card signed by Circulation Manager. Request receipt for your payment.

Soldier Serves With 7th Infantry Division

Pvt. Ronald M. Dulansky, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Dulansky, 21135 S. Harvard Blvd., is serving with the 7th Infantry Division in Korea.

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Local Fireman May Get Former Rating Returned

The City Council will be asked to reinstate Fireman Milton Langum to his former rank of Engineer with the Torrance Fire Department, it was decided last week.

Announcing its decision on the matter following a hearing was the city's Civil Service Commission. Langum was given a summary demotion last spring on charges that he left a pump gear engaged on a fire truck while en route to a fire.

The Civil Service Board recommended that the demotion order be rescinded, according to Secretary Walter C. Bradford. Langum was demoted by Fire Chief J. J. Benner on June 11.

Goal of 150 By Nov. 1 Set for Elks

A goal of 150 new members by Nov. 1 has been set by the organization committee for an Elks lodge in Torrance, according to J. C. Yates, chairman.

"The Grand Lodge has set this quota for us," Yates said Saturday, "and we hope to reach it in order to qualify as a complete lodge unit by April 1, 1955."

All Elks residing in the Torrance area without other affiliations as well as any prospective members are urged to attend preliminary organization meetings being held Wednesday nights at Alan-Richard hall on Carson St.

Polio Cases Head Report

Seven cases of polio headed the reportable disease lists for the week ending Aug. 28 in the Torrance Health District.

Three cases were reported in Manhattan Beach and three in unincorporated territory, plus one in Torrance. It brought the total for the week in the entire county to 80 cases—almost double the number of any other reported diseases.

The total of polio cases for the year is now 519 in the county compared to 446 in all of 1953.

Other diseases reported in Torrance during the week were one of mumps, one pneumonia, two syphilis and one tuberculosis.

Torrance Owl

One of the saddest truths in this life is that by the time a man has money to burn the fire's gone out.

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UNEXPECTED GUEST . . . This auto, driven by Mrs. Grant Barkdull, of 1321 Beech Ave., came to rest against a house at Beech and Eldorado after it had collided with another auto driven by Leslie Higginbotham, 16, of 21336 So. Figueroa. Mrs. Barkdull was treated at Torrance Memorial Hospital for minor injuries.

Maps for 154-Home Tract In Downtown Area Under Study

Tentative maps for a 154-lot tract in the downtown area were sent to committee by the Planning Commission Wednesday along with two other tentative tracts, while another subdivision was OK'd and a tentative tract held over to the next meeting.

The downtown area subdivision, located north of Carson St. between Maple and Madrona Aves., contains 154 lots and was presented by Home Saving and Loan Assn.

Engineering reports showed that the tract must drain into a drainage basin since there is no outlet for surface drainage and that a lift pump with force main must be installed to take sewage to Maple Ave. and Eldorado St.

Harbor City Dump Denied

Vigorous protests from Harbor area residents over a proposed dump at a former brickyard at 23601 Normandie Ave. in Harbor City led to the statement Friday by Zoning Administrator Hubert Smutz that he will deny the application for the dump.

Representatives of Kaiser Permanente Foundation have stated that they plan to construct a 60-bed hospital in the vicinity but will drop their plan if the dump is allowed.

Smutz said formal written notice of the decision will be entered early this week.

Pvt. Frank Lovell In 'Rock of Marne' Group

Pvt. Frank Lovell, 22, whose parents live at 1833 261st St., Lomita, is serving with the Third Infantry Division in Korea.

The "Rock of the Marne" division, which saw bitter fighting in the Iron Triangle and at Outpost Harry, is now training as part of the U. S. security force on the peninsula.

Pvt. Lovell, a cannoneer in the 555th Field Artillery Battalion's Battery C, entered the Army in April 1953.



MELODY MEN . . . Twenty entertainers from the Melody Music Center will play a two-hour program this afternoon at the Torrance Park bandshell as the latest in a series of free programs sponsored by the Recreation Department. The music starts at 2 p.m. Above, some of the members of the group work out on steel and Spanish guitars.

Residents Seek To Rezone 174th

Residents of 174th St. have submitted a petition asking that their street be rezoned for retail business, Planning Commission Secretary George Powell revealed Friday.

A petition from those living west of Crenshaw on the newly widened street rests in the Planning Commission office now, Powell said, and asks that the area be rezoned from R-1 (residential) to C-1 (retail commercial), which would allow restaurants, theaters, and small retail shops.

The request comes on the heels of Powell's presentation to the Commission Wednesday of a map showing areas which could be rezoned in a proposed massive commercialization of Torrance property.

In order to preserve land in the city for commercial development, the Commission plans to set aside large areas especially for retail development. Powell's map, the first step, has overlays on unimproved agricultural zones, mostly on major streets near major intersections, that would obviously be good for commercial development.

The Planners will study the map and then recommend certain of the areas to the City Council for rezoning. Powell guessed that the Commission would reserve either three or five "large" areas for commerce. Noting that Torrance is divided into three areas by General Petroleum refinery in the north and Standard Oil property on the south, Powell predicted that the city may divide into three "downtown" areas—in north, central

Reeves Named President Of Civic Group

The North Torrance Civic Improvement Association held its annual election of officers at their meeting Sept. 1 at McMas ters Hall, 174th St. and Yukon Ave.

The new officers are M. Reeves, president; Jack White, vice-president; Mrs. W. Throop, treasurer; Mrs. Joseph Prange, secretary; and Clint Beeson, the outgoing president, auditor.

Reeves, who came to Torrance only a year ago, first came to California in 1939 from Kansas City, Mo. Both he and his wife have taken an active part in the Association, serving as members of the Board of Directors during the past year.

In commenting on his aims as president of the Association, Reeves said, "I hope all of the residents of North Torrance will cooperate with me in developing a 'Know your neighbor program.' You only get out of a community what you put into it—that doesn't mean just work. We can have dances, picnics, and all sorts of gatherings which could be real fun. Jack White, our new vice-president, has promised me that we will have a top-notch program for every meeting."

All residents of North Torrance have been urged to participate in the Association. Anyone who would like to serve on one of the many committees as a chairman or member may contact Reeves at FRontier 4-2862.

Shopping Center In Pacific Hills Gets Green Light

Plans for a shopping center at Newton St. and Pacific Coast Hwy. got a green light from the Planning Commission Wednesday on the condition that a paved, 20-ft. wide alley separate the commercial from the residential areas.

The Planners recommended to the City Council for approval a petition of Abraham Litrov and Morris Schultz, owners, for a variance and permit to build retail stores, a barbecue restaurant, building supply house and other retail shops in the triangle between Tandem Way, Newton St., and the Highway in Pacific Hills.

Land Not in Use

The land is unoccupied at present and is zoned C-1, and R-1, 2 and 3. A committee appointed to study the request turned in a unanimous decision that the property should be changed from residential to commercial use, as it is in the center of two heavily traveled streets and obviously unsuited for residential development.

Residents of the area objected to the commercial buildings being backed up to their property and requested an alley between. They also objected to a projected fence along Newton St. and this was removed from the plans.

Funeral Services Set for Brothers

Gregory and Pat Scott, young brothers who were killed instantly Tuesday when the bicycle on which they were riding collided with a truck, will be laid to rest in quiet funeral services tomorrow at Smith and Salisbury Mortuary in Culver City. Rites will begin at 10 a.m.

Funeral services for the third youth involved in the tragic accident, John David Slatten, 13, were held Saturday in the First Baptist Church of El Nido, with the Rev. Leland Fisel, pastor, officiating.

Services for the Scott boys will be conducted by the Rev. William H. Blough of Grace Lutheran Church and interment will be held in Inglewood Park Cemetery. The boys, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Scott of 18231 Ashby Ave., were students at El Nido Elementary school. They are survived by a brother, Bobby, 8, and a sister, Sandra, 20 months.

Biding on Highway

The lads were believed headed for Ventura—three on one bicycle—when they were struck by a truck and trailer about five miles south of Pt. Mugu on Pacific Coast Hwy. They died immediately.

The Slatten boy is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John A. Slatten of 43229 Roslin Ave. Born in Lawton, Okla., he had lived here since the age of two. The boy is one of seven children. Surviving him are his sisters, Patricia Ann, 14, Mary Ellen, 11, Kaylen, 5, and Diane Sue, 1; two brothers, Charles Edwin, 16, and Ted, 4; his grandmother, Mrs. Clara E. Slatten of Salinas, Calif.; and maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Martin J. Cagle, of Duncan, Okla. Services were arranged by Hardin and Flanagan Mortuary of Hawthorne.

Retail Volume in Southwest L. A. Outstrips Sales in Indianapolis

The phenomenal growth of Los Angeles County during 1953 was reflected in the \$850,000,000 volume of retail sales transacted in the Inglewood-Fax District. The high retail figure of this one section of Los Angeles County exceeded totals recorded by Newark, Seattle, Cincinnati, or Indianapolis, and represented 13.9 per cent of all retail sales in the county, according to Carl P. Miller, chairman of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce Research committee.

Based on data in the recently published Los Angeles Marketing Atlas, the analysis of retail sales in the Inglewood-Fax District for 1953 indicated the area ranked high in trailer, motorcycle, boat, and farm implement sales.

accounted for a large portion of the retail figure.

A study of the area's population revealed that more people live in the Inglewood-Southwest Los Angeles section than reside in the cities of Louisville, Memphis, or Columbus, O., Miller reported.

A yearly increase of 28,037 persons in this southwestern part of the county since 1950 has brought the total population estimate, as of last April, to 427,769 residents. This accounts for 8.9 per cent of the total county population as compared to 4.7 per cent in 1940.

Westchester is listed as the largest community in the area with a population of 54,330. Growing at the rate of 4023 persons a year, the Westchester figure represents a 47.7 per cent increase over the 1950 total.

An increase of 6252 persons a year in Torrance has raised the population 112.4 per cent since 1950. The April estimate put the city's total population at 47,250. Officials now say the city has passed the 50,000 mark.

The Chamber analysis indicated that Redondo Beach had added 2931 persons a year for a 46.5 per cent increase since 1950. In 1940 the city had 13,052 residents as compared to 36,950 reported in the 1954 estimate.

In other cities mentioned in the report, Manhattan Beach has doubled its 1940 population total, and Palos Verdes Estates was credited with a growth of 124.1 per cent.