The Parking Problem

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Two of the city's leading downtown property owners put their signatures to petitions here last week end which will start the formation of Torrance's first off-street parking assessment district. Such action has been a long time coming, but indicates that now the first steps are being taken toward providing the growing thousands of customers in the downtown area ample parking spaces.

No one suggests that this first move will cure the city's parking problems. On the contrary, it is just a "drop in the bucket," but it is a step in the right direction.

The HERALD has stated repeatedly that there is no reason to discount the future of the downtown shopping center, even with the proposed development of large regional shopping centers in the peninsula area. There are still many attractions to downtown Torrance which will be enhanced by the provision of more parking.

We would suggest that those sponsoring the formation of the present assessment, district keep looking at the problem seriously. It is also a problem in which the city may well take a leading role, because status of the downtown area is of vital importance to the city's tax base.

With this in mind, those seeking election to the Council might give the situation some thought. It's a cinch they will be asked about their views on downtown parking some time in the next few weeks.

Clean-Up Costly

Recent figures compiled by City Manager George Stevens indicate that it cost the city about \$8000 last fall to pick up the tons of litterbug trash along Torrance streets.

This is \$8000 which need not have been spent had the persons using Torrance streets been more conscious of the evils of dumping trash along the side of the road.

And, current reports are encouraging. Stevens stated last week that the practice of littering city streets has been reasonably well stopped.

He credits the intensive campaign conducted by the city and the HERALD last fall, the posting of signs which pointed out that litterbugs could be fined up to \$300 for the offense, and a concerted drive to Torrance Police officers which resulted in the arrest and fining of several dumpers with the change in litterbug habits.

Residents of the area who are cooperating with the plan to keep Torrance streets clean are to be commended.

Swift arrest and stiff fines await the others.

The Squirrel Cage

By REID BUNDY

Dr. Joseph P. Bay, attending the board of education conference in Atlantic City last week, sent us an airmail note to say that it took him only six hours to fly to New York. He then attended the three-day convention, and missed by one day beating the letter back to Torrance.

Another optometrist, Dr. Allen Pyeatt, is chairman of the Optimist Citul's March party plans, and he is busy trying to sell the club on the idea of having a "Bridey Murphy" party, He explains it as a come-as-youwere-party.

A A Come DeBra has a new title, we hear. Fellow members of the Rotary Club are now calling him Oll Baron DeBra (Gene insists it should be "oil barren").

Gene hought some property near the Santa Fe Springs oil field many years ago and has just paid the taxes on it for years without realizing a thing. Finally General Petroleum hit a new deep-zone well near there last month and the activity in the surrounding areas has become intense again.

ss again.

So, Gene got a bunch of legal papers to sign in the of new oil leases, spent half a day with a notary public ting the finishing touches to the documents, then sat k and waited for his first royalty check, He got it the ar day... came to \$1.48.

The Rotary Club promptly fined him \$1 as his initiative into the "new rich" class, and his accountant in-med him that it would cost about 30 cents extra on his was tax.

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Now Gene wants to know what he should do with the went killing he made in the oil boom!

Bob Thompson says old soldiers don't fade away. If don't believe it, just try on your old World War II.



Hypnotizing His Home Folks

Glazed Glances



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Assemblyman Reports Findings On Cross Filing

LAW IN ACTION

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