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TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, JULY 5, 1956

WEEKENDER

Scientists Say Rare Fossil is Very Good Find

"A chance in a million," was the way M. D. McKay, foreman for the construction company doing earth moving in the land development of the Montemalaga, Palos Verdes Drive North, area south of Torrance, described the circumstances involved in the discovery and recovery of the fossil of a 25-million-year-old whale.

According to McKay the find was first uncovered by a bulldozer some two weeks ago but the formation didn't look like anything other than "just some funny shaped rocks."

The area of the find was slated to be lowered some 10 feet last Friday.

Fortunately F. S. Harrod, amateur geologist from Long Beach, stopped by on Thursday afternoon, in search of specimens and noticed part of the fossilized cranium protruding several inches from the shale and sandstone surface.

He notified McKay of his discovery and suggested that it might be of interest to some museum.

Lomita Studies Plan

Interest on the subject of incorporating Lomita and portions of the Rolling Hills area as a city reached fever pitch last week and as the Lomita Chamber of Commerce heard a report recommending the incorporation on the "Lakewood plan."

Guy Halferty, Lakewood public relations man, submitted the report at a dinner meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, saying tentative results of the survey he had been hired to make indicated that a city could be formed in the area without an appreciable change in the tax rate.

Publicity Plan Set

Groundwork for an ambitious program of securing greater recognition for Torrance in communications mediums, was laid at an enthusiastic meeting of the newly created Chamber of Commerce publicity committee held Friday morning.

Presiding was Dr. Gerald M. Eastham who delegated preliminary tasks to committee members present with the hope that a program of large scale effort, within the bounds of a limited budget, could begin functioning at once.

Industry Backs School

The school district's proposed 75-cent tax override received strong support last week end as the representatives of Torrance's leading industries approved the measure and declared the school had prepared "a very conservative budget."

In a meeting held at the National Supply Co., the Torrance Industries Tax Committee heard Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, and S. G. Waldrip, assistant superintendent for business, describe the school's financial status and the need for the additional tax funds to meet the ever-rising costs of the operating budget.

El Nido Park Building

Activities at El Nido Park will be in full swing this week as the County's new recreation building on the long-neglected recreation site has been completed, dedicated, and staffed with program supervisors.

A crowd estimated in excess of 400 turned out Thursday to witness official dedication of the new recreation building at the park and to welcome Stan Radon and Helen Thomsen, new program directors at the park.

Sunday Herald Due

For your copy of the new Sunday HERALD, call FA 8-4004 now. It will be carrier delivered each Thursday and Sunday mornings for 45 cents a month.



SLOW WORK . . . George Kanakoff, left, curator of invertebrate paleontology at the L.A. County Museum, begins the task of removing the surrounding shale from the fossilized whale recently found in Palos Verdes hills. HERALD reporter examines a portion of the specimen already removed.



OUT OF THE PAST . . . Slowly the outline of the 25 million year old whale emerges as George Kanakoff and museum preparator Leonard Besson brush and peel rocky flakes from around the specimen's vertebra.



MOMENT OF DECISION . . . Preparator Leonard Besson appears reluctant to render final judgement on whether to attempt to salvage the entire 35 foot whale, or just to take the cranial portion, just below his hands.



END OF AN ERA . . . Mrs. Etta Willis (right), Rural Free Delivery carrier, hands mail to John V. Carson at Carson's 21326 S. Normandie Ave. address Saturday to mark end of RFD service in Torrance. Also on hand for the occasion

are (left to right) Paul Aguilar, Carson's gardener, and Mrs. Carson. Carsons and others on route began receiving mail Monday from regular Torrance service. Mrs. Willis took up duties at post office this week, too.

Last Rural Mail Service Stopped

The last Rural Free Delivery of mail in the Torrance area came to an end Saturday at 2:33 p.m. at the John V. Carson home, 21326 So. Normandie Ave. Rural Route One was absorbed into regular city delivery at that time.

A magazine and some letters — routine mail to most, but a truly significant load for Mrs. Etta Willis, the carrier — comprised the final delivery.

Mr. and Mrs. Carson; their gardener, Paul Aguilar, and a dog, Butch, all were on hand to greet Mrs. Willis.

R.F.D. No. 1 was the last of a number of RFD routes established when the local post office, at 1433 Marcelina Ave., began operation. Gradually the routes were chopped down and absorbed into the city postal system.

Mail Carriers

Mrs. Willis, who planned to work in the local post office after her final trip, was the last in a long line of rural mail carriers on the route. She took over the mail lugging reins from J. R. Gately last fall. Gately, who was on hand for Saturday's finale, retired due to disability.

George Kohler, who still lives in Torrance, was the first RFD carrier on the route. He retired circa 1940 on a disability pension. Mrs. Margaret O'Toole was another carrier.

Saturday's impromptu rites brought together a number of historical moments in this area's past.

Famous Forefathers

Carson, who received the final load of mail, himself is a descendant of one of the Southland's famed lords of the

past, Manuel Dominguez. Carson, vice president of Dominguez Water Corp., is a great-grandson of the fabled land owner.

Aguilar, the Carsons' gardener and handy man, is a descendant of the famous Gen. Aguilar of early California settlement fame, according to Mrs. Carson.

And the Carson home, erected more than 40 years ago, is older than Torrance itself.

With city delivery taking over, no more will residents served in the past by RFD No. 1 look for the "traveling post office" to deliver their daily mail. Things have been modernized — just a bit.

O. R. Trueblood Named Director For Employers

Orville R. Trueblood, manager of McMahan's of Torrance was elected to the Board of Directors of the Harbor Area Employers' Council on Monday.

Trueblood, an active civic leader of Torrance, became a member of the 25-man Board of the Employers' Council at a meeting in the Hacienda hotel, San Pedro, presided over by A. J. McCown, president of the Council. Other Torrance members of the Board are Louis Arbetter, who is first vice president; Sam Levy, Paul Diamond, Harry Petro, James Squire, and Carl C. Duncan.

Other activities of Trueblood include membership on the Board of Directors of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, and the vice presidency of the Retail Merchants Division. He has been in the retail business in California and Arizona for 30 years, and came to Torrance with Mrs. Trueblood four years ago. They own their home here.

The Employers' Council handles the labor-management problems of its 250 retail members throughout the harbor district with 12 labor unions.

Families Meet Tonight At McMaster Park Fete

Family night will be held tonight at McMaster Park, 174th St. and Yukon Ave., recreation department officials have announced. The schedule of activities includes a picnic (bring your own), races and games, starting at 5:30.

Beverly Hastings, Carr School teacher, and North High Coach Cliff Graybill are co-chairmen.



COMPLETE TRAINING . . . Inspecting a machine gun are, left to right, Midshipmen Daniel F. Mayers, son of Mrs. Alva A. Mayers, of 2920 W. 174th St., James Patterson, of Gainesville, Ga., and Wesley Phenegar, of Chicago. Mayers was one of 950 Annapolis Midshipmen who completed two weeks of training recently at Little Creek Naval Amphibious Base, Norfolk, Va.

Citizens Group Plans Civic Center Program

A citizens' steering committee has been formed to spark the program for the dedication of the new Civic Center, set Aug. 11-12, here.

The group recently held its first meeting and launched preliminary plans for a parade, luncheon, rodeo, street dancing and an aqua show in the new city swimming pool. In addition, an open house will be held at the new city buildings on both days.

A huge community barbecue will be held Saturday, Aug. 11. Tickets for the affair will be sold at \$2 apiece under sponsorship of the Civitan Club.

The following committees and their members were suggested at the meeting:

Decorations, Rose Craig, Thomas B. Abrams, Rose Lynch; official host, Nick Dralle; street dance, Herma Tillim, Harry E. Van Bellehem; parade, George Vico, Bertha McNeil, Abrams, J. A. Beasley, Mel Hyde, Frank Paour, Paul Loranger; speakers, Al Isen, Forrest G. Murdoch, J. H. Hull.

Coordinator of grounds, Dale Harter; memorial dedication, Mervin Schwab, Dale Stanton; Rev. Paul Wenske, master of ceremonies; legn swimming pool opening, Herma Tillim, Van Bellehem, J. J. Mosley, Murdoch; publicity, Tom Watson; tickets, Dale DeSonne.

National Supply Builds Large Drilling Machine

One of the largest rigs in Canada is being used by the Brinkerhoff Drilling Company for deep drilling in the "crooked hole" country in the foothills of southern Alberta, and it was manufactured here in Torrance — at National Supply Co.

Pagen Resigns As Northrop Air Official

Roland J. Pagen, vice president and treasurer of Northrop Aircraft, Inc., last week announced his intention to retire, effective July 31.

Whitley C. Collins, Northrop president, said the board of directors had known for some time of Pagen's desire to retire and regretfully acceded to his request. In order to retain the benefit of Pagen's advice and judgment in financial matters, he was elected chairman of the company's finance committee and will continue as a director of Northrop, Collins added.

Charles C. Cilley, assistant treasurer for a number of years, was elected treasurer of the Hawthorne airframe manufacturing company, effective July 31.

Pagen, 69, joined Northrop in August 1944, as plant controller and subsequently was named treasurer.

Employers Plan Annual Barbecue

Members of the Board of Directors of the Harbor Area Employers' Council drew their final plans for the third annual barbecue of the organization at a meeting Monday in San Pedro Hacienda.

The barbecue, which celebrates eight years of service by the Council to its members, will be held Sunday, July 26, 1956, at Royal Palms, White Point, San Pedro.

Members of the Council and their friends will be served a barbecue dinner starting at 1:30 p.m. with service closing at 5 p.m., according to Frank S. Solover, executive secretary. There will be entertainment. Invitations, at \$5 donation each, good for two, may be obtained from any member of the Council, he said.