

Enthusiasm (and Gowns) of Graduates Dampened

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Torrance Herald

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Douglas-Torrance Awarded Big Order for Missile Components

Gets Bulk of \$8.5 Million Army Order

The lion's share of an \$8,540,057 contract for production of Army missile components has been assigned to the Torrance facility of Douglas Aircraft Co., it was announced here yesterday. The U.S. Army contract covers production of components for the Honest John rocket.

Approximately \$2 million of the contract sum will go to the Charlotte, N. C., division of Douglas, the balance to the Torrance facility, Douglas officials said.

IT IS EXPECTED that the new contract will result in the employment of several hundred new employees here when production reaches its peak. The Honest John missile is a free-flight rocket capable of carrying high explosives or a nuclear warhead, and is used to provide fire support for ground combat operations. It has been operational for several years.

AT THE SAME time, Douglas officials announced that a wage increase averaging seven cents an hour will go to approximately 23,000 hourly employees during the next few weeks.

Based on present employment, annual Douglas payroll outlay will be increased by an estimated \$3,500,000.

The wage hikes reflect second-year terms of the collective bargaining agreements negotiated in 1960. The increase has been extended by the company to non-bargaining unit hourly employees.

THE EFFECTIVE dates of increases will vary with the dates upon which the several contracts became effective, the majority ranging between June 19 and July 3.

The final draft of a new savings plan for salaried employees, a substantial benefit scheduled to be placed in effect in September 1961, is being prepared for final approval.

June 20

Rabies Clinic Planned

Rabies inoculation clinics for Torrance area dog owners have been scheduled for next Tuesday, June 20, at El Nido Park and WALTERIA. Mrs. Bernice Blomk of the South Bay Humane Society, who made the announcement, also said that times for the clinic would be from 7 to 9 p.m. at both parks.

Veterinarians in the Torrance area have volunteered their services and time to aid the Humane Society staff to provide inoculations for \$1.50.

Mrs. Blomk also reminded residents that all dogs four months old and older must be inoculated before licensing is permitted, and licenses will be due after July 1.

Persons bringing their dogs to the clinic are asked to keep them on leash and to observe the 7 to 9 p.m. hours.

Beasley Installed by ICHC

Councilman J. A. Beasley assumed presidency of the important Inter-City Highway Committee before approximately 100 members and guests at the group's annual installation banquet in San Pedro Thursday evening.

Pledging to "do everything possible to carry out the committee's program in the best interests of all its member cities," Beasley accepted the gavel of office from Richard G. Thompson of Hermosa Beach, longtime member and former secretary of the group. Other officers installed included Gerald Honey, vice president, and Murray Nixon, secretary.

On hand to witness the ceremonies were Supervisor Burton W. Chace and Edward Telford, state highway engineer. Telford told the group that one final contract was to be awarded on the San Diego Freeway to complete it from Long Beach to the San Fernando Valley. He said the entire project should be completed within two years.

Trial Begins In Murder of Policeman

Trial was under way yesterday in Inglewood Superior Court of two men accused of the murder of Los Angeles Policeman Richard D. Kent in a Dec. 8 holdup.

The defendants, Charles L. Pike, 27, and Richard D. Ceniceros, 35, of Monterey Park, are accused of fatally shooting Kent when the officer surprised the pair during a Los Angeles auto supply store robbery.

Phone Survey Phoney Says Torrance PTA

Reports were received this week by the HERALD that an unidentified caller has been making a telephone survey in the Torrance area, saying he represents the Torrance Council of PTA. The caller reportedly asks obscene questions of the women he contacts.

Mrs. M. H. Spaulding, Director of Communications for the local council of PTA, said that the PTA takes a stand against any telephone surveys. She continued that the Torrance Council is not now conducting, and never conducts, a telephone survey of any kind.



MARCHING IN . . . Members of the South High School Class of 1961 are pictured during the procession at commencement exercises last Thursday evening. The exercises, marking the end of high school careers for the 272 seniors, were held in the El Camino College Stadium. The class is the first to attend the South Torrance school for four years. (Herald Photo)

'Lucky' Bandit

Gunman Gets Five to Life For Robbery

A dapper ex-convict, found guilty of robbing a Torrance market of more than \$16,000 last February, has been sentenced to a five years to life term by a Southwest District Superior Court Judge.

Grady Arthur Webb, who was arrested in Las Vegas after a maid found a revolver in his hotel room, was handed the state prison term by Superior Judge Thomas Yeager in the Inglewood court after a jury had found him guilty of the charges.

Webb was picked up by Las Vegas police and returned here by Detectives Don and Myles Hamilton of the Torrance Police Department.

He was charged with posing as a district attorney investigator on the afternoon of Feb. 17, and forcing the manager of Lucky Market, 3860 Sepulveda Blvd., to surrender \$16,500 at gunpoint.

More than \$14,000 was recovered by police who arrested Webb in Las Vegas, it was reported at the time.

He was returned quickly to California by a bail bondsman who had been seeking him for jumping bail posted after an Oakland robbery. Torrance detectives took custody of the suspect just inside the state line and held him for this week's trial.

State Plans New Freeway On Artesia

Plans to convert Artesia Blvd. (174th St.) from an expressway into a freeway between the San Diego Freeway and Normandie Ave. to the east and from the freeway to Pacific Coast Hwy. on the west were revealed this week in a letter to the city from George A. Hill, district engineer of the State Division of Highways.

Alerting the councilmen that studies on the project would be scheduled in the near future, Hill said public meetings would be held at a later date "to secure all possible local reaction as to community benefits from our proposals."

Lawyers to Meet

Superior Court Judge George Francis will discuss trial factors for members of the Harbor Bar Assn. Friday evening, June 23, at the Fire-side in San Pedro. The dinner meeting will begin at 7:30.



GETTING THE WORD . . . Senior class president Jack Hewitt, addressing the graduating class at South High, recalls the four-year history of the high school for seniors, parents, and friends at the annual graduation ceremonies. The exercises saw the first Spartan four-year class end its high school career. (Herald Photo)

North High Class Gets A Taste of Automation

Seniors at North High School will have something to remember about their graduation that other schools can only talk about. Midway through ceremonies in the school stadium, the automatic sprinkling system came on and dampened the proceedings.

A quick-thinking student placed a folding chair over the sprinkler and the ceremonies continued.

ROBERT COSBY, Director of Operations for the school district, reported that the system, controlled by a time clock, had been shut off and checked before ceremonies were under way. He had no explanation

for the sudden burst of water. Cosby reported that the graduates controlled themselves very well during the brief wet interruption. The class of 353 received diplomas from Clinton Cooke and Robert Ellis, members of the Board of Education, and Dr. Albert Posner, assistant superintendent.

Commencement addresses on the theme "Horizons Unlimited" were delivered by Betty Jo Reading and Mason Wolpert during the exercises.

AT EL CAMINO College stadium, South High's senior class received diplomas from Mrs. Grace Wright, board member, and Dr. Louis Kaplan, assistant

superintendent. The 272 graduates heard commencement addresses by Jack Hewitt, senior class president, and valedictorians Donald Hickman and Alan Sherry. They spoke on their role in charting the future of mankind.

Board President William C. Boswell and assistant superintendent S. E. Waldrip presented diplomas to the 255 members of the Torrance High graduating class. The exercises were held in the school stadium.

VALDICTORIAN Kimiye Takeuchi, salutatorian Paula Blankinship, and DeAnn Goldsmith spoke on the theme "We Have a Responsibility."

A Penny for your Thoughts

With Torrance's three high schools conducting graduation exercises last week, the Penny Photographer asked five graduating seniors, "What are your future plans?"

The answers of the five, all South High graduates now, appear below:

Nancy Reynolds, 17, 22302 Redbeam Ave.:

"I plan to attend El Camino College starting next September and major in business administration. Then I plan to join the Women's Air Force. I will probably get part time job while I am going to El Camino."

Konrad Beck, 17, 241 Paseo de las Delicias:

"Next year I am going to Brigham Young University where I will take a pre-med course. After that I want to come back to Los Angeles and go to UCLA to get a doctorate in medicine. Then I will go into general practice."

Bill Steinhwachs, 17, 5320 Sharynne Ln.:

"I am going to the University of California at Santa Barbara next year to major in anthropology. After I get a degree, I may teach or join the staff of some museum. I'm not sure just now which it will be."

Elizabeth McPeake, 18, 18616 Figueroa St.:

"I plan to enter the field of business now, but in the near future I hope to return to school, either El Camino or perhaps Long Beach State College, to further my education so that I'll be better prepared for the field of business."

Diane Staral, 17, 25226 Weston Rd.:

"I plan to get a job in an office when the summer is over. During the summer I might take a course or two at El Camino College in business machines. After a year or two I may return to school, but I am not sure right now."

Zoning Hearing Slated Monday

A proposal to rezone property on the east side of Westwood Ave. at 240th St. will be heard tomorrow at a meeting of the Los Angeles City Planning Commission at the Wilmeton Branch City Hall at 10 a.m.