

Armed Forces Parade List Grows

Your Complete Community Newspaper Every Sunday and Thursday



Torrance Herald

Equality for Women Must Go (Hoppe, Page 4)

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POLICE HEARINGS IN RECESS

A Penny for your Thoughts

Little League baseball is now celebrating its 25th anniversary...

Randy Ashton, 4403 W. 233rd St., 12: "The Little League helps me to develop my skills..."

Gary Nordquist, 22903 Galva Ave., 11: "The Little League baseball makes me coordinated..."

Dennis Carpenter, 22923 Marjorie Ave., 12: "I have a lot of fun every summer playing Little League ball..."

Steven Ginter, 22907 Marjorie Ave., 11: "Little League makes you more active and teaches you good sportsmanship..."

Peter Koop, 22921 Galva Ave., 10: "Well, Little League helps me to take an interest in all sports..."

Hearings On Water Rates Set

Public hearings on the application of Dominguez Water Co. for a rate increase...

Kent C. Rogers, a Public Utilities Commission examiner, will open the hearings at 10 a.m. in the City Hall...

Rogers has scheduled sessions for Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. The Wednesday hearings are scheduled to open with a presentation of an independent investigation...

Dominguez Water Co. serves about 22,000 customers in the southwest area, including a small part of Torrance, Long Beach, and Los Angeles.

The company has asked for a rate increase of about 17 per cent for all residential, business, municipal, and industrial customers...

Manager Cancels Nazi Rally Permit

Permission for the American Nazi Party to hold a rally at the Torrance Recreation Hall tonight was withdrawn Thursday by City Manager Ed Ferraro.

The Nazi Party had obtained a permit for the use of Recreation Center for the 7:30 p.m. rally, but Ferraro, in a letter which was hand-delivered Thursday, notified the group the permit had been cancelled.

Ferraro said the cancellation was in the public interest.



SUSAN BROWN State Winner

Sue Brown Wins State Essay Title

Susan Brown, a 16-year-old South High senior, was named statewide winner of the "My True Security" essay contest at the annual state convention of the California Junior Chamber of Commerce Friday.

Doug Nelson, chairman of the Torrance Jaycee contest, said Miss Brown would receive a U. S. Savings bond, an engraved plaque, and a certificate of merit from the Torrance Junior Chamber of Commerce.

The statewide competition involved about 250 Jaycee units and more than 1,000 high schools. South High will receive the "My True Security" traveling trophy for the next year.

Miss Brown, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William C. Brown of 1923 W. 234th St., has been active in several speech and debate groups at South High. She plans to attend Whittier College and major in foreign languages.

Hamilton May Hear Ruling Wednesday

Testimony heard by members of the city's Civil Service Board Friday ended two days of hearings in the efforts of former police lieutenant Douglas C. Cook to reverse an order firing him from the department last March.

Roger Jacobson, former vice squad officer under Cook's command, was brought to the City Council chambers under guard to testify as a witness for Cook. Jacobson, convicted of robbery after a holdup in Los Angeles last July, was brought from his county jail quarters where he is closing out a nine-month sentence.

JACOBSON SAID he was afraid to testify in public, and asked to have the Council Chamber cleared. The commissioners agreed, but Mayor Isen objected, maintaining the commissioners could not legally close what he identified as a public meeting.

City Attorney Stanley Remeleyer, acting as an advisor to the commissioners, backed their move and said clearing the chambers was legal, and had to do with "safety of the witness."

TESTIMONY in the trial of former detective lieutenant Donald S. Hamilton was concluded in a night session Wednesday and commissioners indicated they might announce their findings at their regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday evening. Deputy District Atty. Benjamin Vega, explaining the events of last July 19, testified Wednesday afternoon that Hamilton came to him to ask for a rejection of a criminal complaint.

VEGA TESTIFIED, however, (Continued on Page 3)

Bandit Robs Store Clerk At Closing

A lone bandit held up a north Torrance liquor store Thursday evening and made his get-away with more than \$300.

Clerk Bud Carl Kirchner, 33, was forced to wait in a walk-in cooler until after the bandit left the store at 5126 W. 190th St.

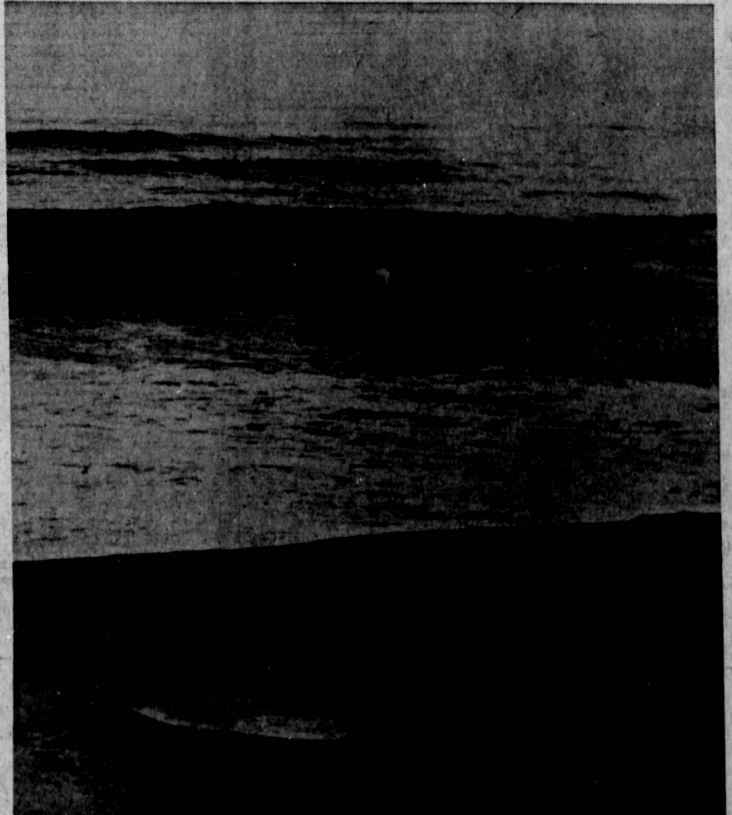
Kirchner said he was preparing to lock the store when the bandit entered.

Automobile Hits Cycle, Hurts Youth

Gary David Perkins, 20, of 1431 W. 251st St., Harbor City, was seriously injured Friday after an automobile knocked him from his cycle and then ran over him.

Perkins was taken to Kaiser Hospital with possible hip and leg fractures after a fire crew pulled him from under the car. The firemen had to jack up the car and take off a wheel in order to remove the injured man.

Police identified the driver of the car as Mrs. Ruby S. Brown, 49, of 506 Harbor Hills, Lomita.



TOUGH SURFING... Early surfboard buffs had company when they reported to Torrance Beach yesterday morning - they found a 10-year-old sedan in the water and police and newsmen keeping a watch from the shore. Here a pair of surfers leave their boards long enough to look into the car. Police recovered the vehicle later yesterday, identified the registered owner, and were trying to determine why the car took a dip. (Herald Photo)

Armed Forces Day Parade Will Salute U.S. Services

Fireworks, bands, drill teams, tanks, and units from each of the nation's Armed Services will be in evidence next Friday and Saturday as Torrance salutes the nation's Armed forces through the

annual Armed Forces Day Parade.

Festivities are slated to begin Friday evening with a giant fireworks display at 9 o'clock on the Civic Center grounds. Vernon Coil is chairman for the pyrotechnics display.

Following the fireworks festivities, several of the exhibits will be opened at the Civic Center. Among the items to be seen are defense missiles such as the Polaris Submarine Missile, the two-stage Nike-Hercules, and the Bomarc, largest of the surface-to-air missiles.

THE CH 37C helicopter used for the 3rd Marine Air Wing at El Toro Air Station will be displayed, along with a 2,000 square-foot aerospace exhibit on U.S. Air Force Space Systems with scale models of launch vehicles, and continuous movies on aerospace projects.

Assistant Secretary of the Army Edmund T. Pratt Jr. will arrive in Torrance early Thursday evening to assume his duties as grand marshal of the

parade. Pratt will tour several facilities in the area on Friday.

The parade will move promptly at 10 a.m. Saturday from its formation area on Cabrillo Avenue down Torrance Boulevard to the reviewing stand. Pratt will lead the parade to the reviewing stand, where he will disembark and take a place on the stand.

THE PARADE will move up Cabrillo Avenue onto Cravens Avenue, then down Torrance Boulevard to Madrona Street.

(Photos on Page 12)

Cabrillo will be closed between Plaza Del Amo and Carson Street from 8 a.m. until the end of the parade. Cravens Avenue and Torrance Boulevard will be closed to traffic at 10 a.m. until the conclusion of the parade.

Among the units marching in the parade are the South High Spartan Band, North High's Saxon Band, Torrance High Marching Band, and the West High Varsity Band.

(Continued on Page 3)

Oil Boom Exciting Highlight in City History

By JERRY REYNOLDS Herald Staff Writer

Few people who live, work, or shop in Torrance today pay any attention to the many fenced and ever-moving pumps which dot parking lots, residential areas, and open fields throughout the city, for they are a familiar part of the landscape. Yet, behind each of the pumps—indeed, with every motion of the rocker-arms—there is the story of an exciting, and a passing, era of the history of Torrance.

That era began on a quiet February day in 1921, and it reached its peak in the late 1930s. It was a great boom for a growing industrial town, and it filled the veins of a city with black gold. From the day the earth beneath the city first bled until the great boom of the 1950s, Torrance has been marked by the oil which was, and is, beneath her. And history will not erase that mark.

Speculation about the possibility of oil in the Torrance area brought representatives of many oil companies into the city following the First World

War, and numerous leases had been signed by early 1921. The first formal step toward drilling, however, was not taken until Feb. 21, 1921, when the Chanslor-Canfield-Midway Oil Co. (CCMO) filed a notice of intent to drill with the State Department of Natural Resources.

THE CCMO drill began to make its way into the earth on Feb. 26, 1921, and within a few weeks other companies had begun drilling operations of their own. CCMO began to sink a second well in July, 1921, when indications of high-grade oil were found at the site of the earlier well.

Work proceeded almost without notice until Aug. 19, 1921, when the first well hit oil near the 3,000-foot level. It was a gusher—some 500 barrels according to The HERALD's extra, published a few hours after the well first struck oil. The first well was completed and placed on production on June 6, 1922, nearly 18 months after the first earth was turned, and it produced a scant

300 barrels a day, extracting the oil from 3,500 feet below the surface.

The first well, known officially as Del Amo No. 1, was located on what is Kent Avenue today, about halfway between Torrance Boulevard and Carson Street in the Southwood area. It pumped the black gold for 18 years and was abandoned in 1940.

LESS THAN three months after Del Amo No. 1 was completed, CCMO drills located Del Amo No. 2, a well located on the northwest corner of the intersection of Madrona Avenue and Carson Street. Del Amo No. 2 was placed on production Oct. 9, 1922, barely a day before the Standard Oil Co., Fullerton Oil Co. (now Tidewater), and the Union Oil Co. brought in wells.

Del Amo No. 2 is still on the books as a producing well—the oldest of the 682 active wells remaining in the Torrance Oil Field. Its pump has been idle recently, but The HERALD has been unable to learn if the well is closed for

repairs or idle. It remains, nevertheless, as the oldest outward sign of the beginning of an era in the city's history.

In the years that have passed since that first well was "brought in," the Torrance Oil field has seen many events. There have been 1,492 wells drilled in the field—and the field stretches its way in a half circle from the west end of Del Amo Boulevard through Torrance, Redondo Beach, South Torrance, Lomita, and unincorporated territory to its eastern edge at Main Street.

TOTAL production for the field, through December, 1963, is 161,754,834 barrels of crude oil and 112,676,225 mcf of natural gas. The field is the 10th largest producing field in the 81 known oil fields in the Los Angeles Basin for total production, and it ranks 11th in yearly production at the present time, producing nearly two million barrels of oil and four million barrels of water in 1963.

Within the city today, there are 385 licensed wells; another

400 or so are located in parts of the field outside the present city limits, most of them located in county area to the east of the city.

Average production per well is about eight barrels a day, with production from three basic levels. The original oil sand was discovered at 3,500 feet, the main zone which was first discovered when Del Amo No. 1 was brought in. The Del Amo zone, discovered in 1921 when the field underwent a new boom, produces oil from 4,400 feet. A third zone, located at 6,500 feet was discovered in the mid-1950s when about

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In The Herald Today

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