

# Torrance History In Review!

## Here Are Top News Stories for 1951

As this issue goes to Press, 1951 has hit the dust, and everyone is faced with the problems and triumphs that will be presented by the year 1952. Undoubtedly many of the joys and also the headaches which will be encountered are holdovers. Here are some of the more important stories that turned out to be top news in Torrance during 1951:

**JANUARY—**  
Rent decontrol for the Torrance area was confirmed by Senator William Knowland and Representative Cecil King.  
Civil Air Patrol Squadron 95 Headquarters was established at the Torrance Airport. The CAP was moved from the defunct headquarters at Wilmington Airport.

tion by the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company was begun.

Victor Benstead announced his resignation from the Civil Service Board.

Kettler Knolls residents demand closing of City Dump at Plaza Del Amo and Western.

**MARCH—**  
Torrance Youth with the 40th Division were sent to Japan.

Torrance Airport gains new facilities. "Slim" Kidwell, operator of the Central Airport moves facilities here. Two acres leased by Council on 20 year basis.

Alondra Park Annexation was requested by Councilman Nick Drale.

Hollywood Riviera Bus Line abandoned by Council.

**APRIL—**  
Alondra Annexation idea dropped by City Council.

Queen of Torrance Contest won by Pat Merola.

**MAY—**  
Fire Captain Roy Winters retires.

Jacob Joseph hired as city engineer at \$550 per month.

Clarence H. Vetterli — former El Camino journalism instructor stands trial accused in spy probe.

**JUNE—**  
\$9.00 per year garbage tax proposed by Haggard for recreation. Garbage tax was to bring in \$90,000. Tax dropped during same month after pressure by residents.

**JULY—**  
Judge John Shidler reelected as School Board chairman.

City Manager George Stevens receives \$1000 per year raise.

Council orders Parking Meters.

**AUGUST—**  
William Stanger quits as Superintendent of the Water Department after devoting 18 years to this job.

Council kills parking meter law after frequent citizen protests at previous action.

**SEPTEMBER—**  
Pacific Hills residents complain about gravel pits, oil sumps, and other nuisances in their community.

**OCTOBER—**  
Two million dollar water bond issue proposed. Councilman Nick

**NOVEMBER—**  
Engineer Joseph Ouster reported exclusively by the Press.

Special Local Census asked by City Manager George Stevens.

Three Million School Bond request to be presented to voters in February.

J. J. Benner ends probationary period as acting fire chief and is appointed to the full status of fire chief.

Acting Water Superintendent Angus McViears is appointed to full superintendent of the water department.

**DECEMBER—**  
City Treasurer Margaret Fordyce's office vacated. Harriet V. Leech appointed new treasurer.

Columbia Steel Strike looms as U. S. Steel officials and union leaders huddle in Washington.

Harvey Machine Corporation \$50,000 expansion program disclosed exclusively in the Press.

Cinderella Story breaks. Martha Morris meets Swedish Millionaire in malt shop. They elope in Arizona, travel to Europe and finally separate.

Danny Arellano, only Torrance boy so far reported as a prisoner of the Chinese Communists.

Drale suggests Pay As You Go program. Bond election set for Jan. 8.

School Bus Survey ordered by Board of Education after parents protest taking off busses for youngsters who had to travel through hazardous territory on foot.

### MORE ABOUT SHIDLER

(Continued from page 1)



JUDGE JOHN SHIDLER

would miss their noonday meal. "I couldn't see why a little discomfort on my part should cheat a man out of his food," Shidler said.

He conducted court right on the operating table at the emergency hospital. Shidler explained that as the South Bay Cities Justices Court Judge, he handles all criminal cases for the unincorporated areas. Prisoners who face Shidler are first booked at the Lennox Station and then taken to the County Jail in Los Angeles.

A regular bus picks up prisoners from the County Jail and distributes them to the various jurisdictions on the day that they are to be tried. At the emergency hospital, Judge Shidler was given a heavy dose of Novocaine during the operation. His left arm and hand and his right hand are bandaged. At last reports, he was still conducting business.

## Anti-Polio Campaign Underway

Kickoff for the Torrance March of Dimes annual infantile paralysis campaign began yesterday. Serving as Chairman for the third year is Mrs. Clara A. Conner, Postmaster. Vice-chairman for the current money raising venture is Jim Felts. George Post was appointed treasurer. The campaign ends January 31.

With the help of volunteer workers, the iron lung coin boxes are being placed in the business establishments of Torrance. Mrs. Conner reported today.

Weekly activities will appear in the business area to promote March of Dimes activities, it was disclosed.

Mrs. Conner said that 100 iron lungs made out of cardboard are being used for a part of the collection. These collection boxes were sent to Torrance from the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

It was also revealed that pin-on collar collection boxes will be used. So far donations received through the mail total \$58.50. Mrs. Conner reported. She said that the money sent in includes contributions made by 29 people. There were two donations for \$10, two for \$5, five for \$2, nineteen for \$1, and one for fifty cents.

### MORE ABOUT H. B. Bolas

(Continued from Page 1)

He said that there aren't enough hours in a day to take care of his business and the Planning Commission work. Bolas pointed out that he was responsible for writing a large number of the policies and procedures for the Commission.

Bolas has four children, aged 2, 4, 6, and 8. The main office for his real estate operations is located in Beverly Hills, he reported.

Ernest Maag, Supervising Structural Engineer for the State of California, who gave the "go ahead signal" to permit the Torrance Board of Education to construct the new tilt-up school buildings, also visited the Madrona school building project, this week.



GROUND BREAKING — George Nelson, president of the Lomita Chamber of Commerce, turns the first shovelful of dirt at informal ceremony marking the start of construction work on Lomita's new dial central office building. Looking on (left) are F. Y. Snyder, district telephone manager, and A. B. Smith, Lomita exchange manager.

## Ground Broken for Lomita Dial Phones

With the turning of the first shovelful of dirt at informal groundbreaking ceremonies, The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company yesterday marked the start of construction work on its new \$135,000 Lomita dial telephone building at the northeast corner of Walnut avenue and 25th street.

Chamber of Commerce President George Nelson performed the spade work at the brief ceremony as Floyd Y. Snyder, district telephone manager, and A. B. Smith, exchange manager, stood by.

The new central office building, being constructed for the telephone company by Beyer and Abraham-

son, general contractors is scheduled for completion late this year. When the building is finished, the company plans to start installation work on large new units of switching equipment which will bring dial service to Lomita telephones.

Manager Smith said the new one-story building will be of steel frame and reinforced masonry construction, will face on Walnut avenue and will provide nearly 8900 square feet of floor space to house the maze of complicated dial equipment involving gross plant expenditures of nearly a million dollars.

**TORRANCE**  
1403 Sartori Ave. Ph. Torrance 132  
NOW — ENDS FRIDAY

Mighty as Goliath!  
Fiery as their love!

20th Century Fox presents  
**DAVID AND BATHSHEBA**  
TECHNICOLOR

starring  
**GREGORY PECK SUSAN HAYWARD**

PLUS — "THE GUEST"

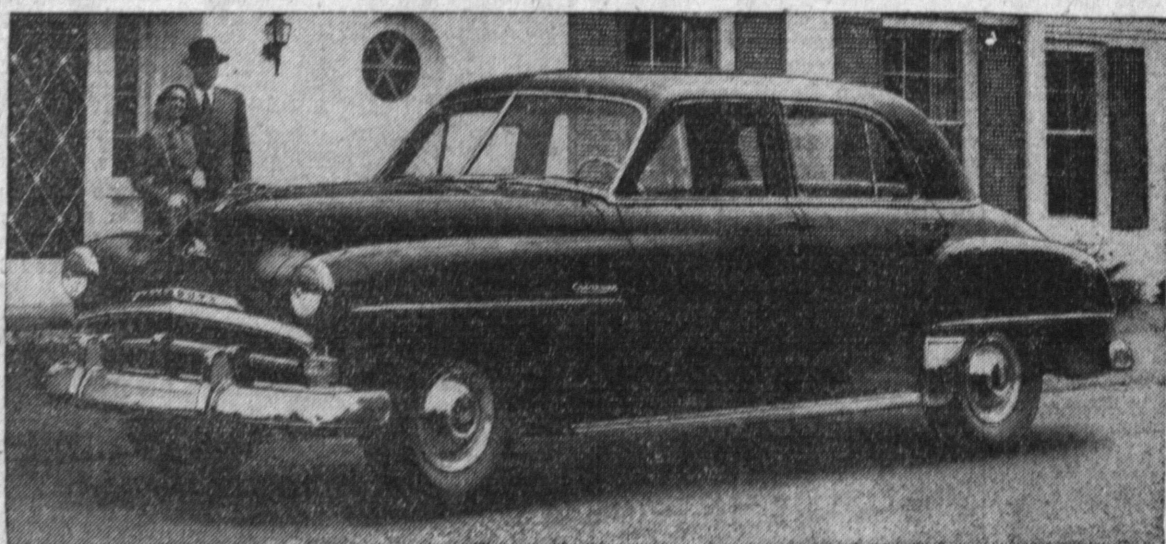
PLEASE NOTE — This Engagement Only  
ADULTS—\$1.00; JUNIORS—65c; CHILDREN—25c  
Tax Included

### MORE ABOUT STRIKE

(Continued from Page 1)

didn't show up. Union officials claimed that the men on the following shift did show up but refused to do any work until the safety factor was straightened out. Then, according to union reports, they also were suspended.

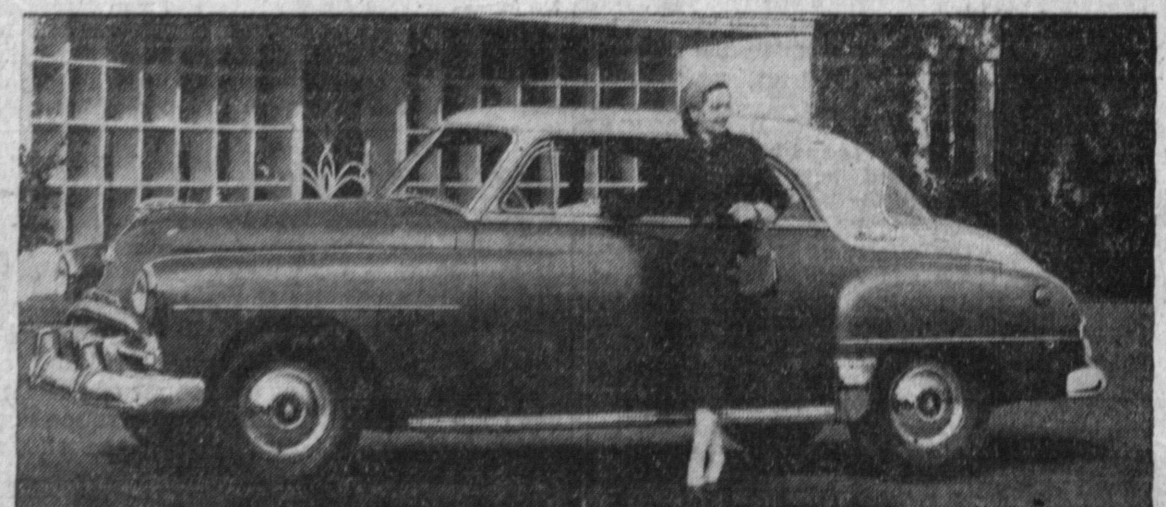
Burns emphasized that the lack of crane workers made it necessary to send 100 men home at Noon on last Thursday. By 4 p.m. of that day, the strike had been settled. "Had the strike continued," declared Burns, "the whole plant would have been shut down."



WE INVITE YOU . . . .  
COME SEE THE

## 1952 PLYMOUTH

ON DISPLAY FRIDAY, JANUARY 4



DICK BARTON

CHRYSLER - PLYMOUTH  
1885 Torrance Blvd., Torrance

WHITTLESEY MOTORS

DE SOTO - PLYMOUTH  
1600 Cabrillo Ave., Torrance

**HARBOR DRIVE-IN THEATRE**  
1144 10th Street, Torrance  
ENDS SATURDAY

**Close to My Heart** RAY MILLAND GENE TIERNEY  
**THE LADY FROM TEXAS** HOWARD DUFF MONA FREEMAN JOSEPHINE HULL

Sunday - Monday - Tuesday  
**THE FROGMEN** RICHARD WIDMARK - DANA ANDREWS  
**REUNION in RENO** MARK PEGGY GIGI STEVENS - DOW - PERREAU

**STADIUM**  
NOW PLAYING  
A Terrifying View of Shattered Planets  
**"WHEN WORLDS COLLIDE"**  
Color by Technicolor  
—Plus—  
Wayne Morris - Adrian Booth  
**"YELLOW FIN"**  
Also in Color

Sun. - Mon. - Tues.  
The story that shows a Blinded Veteran conquer his handicap so dramatically that you will be spell-bound!  
**"BRIGHT VICTORY"**  
—Plus—  
Chas. Coburn - Wanda Hendrix Cecil Kellaway  
**"THE HIGHWAYMAN"**  
In Color

**TORRANCE**  
NOW PLAYING  
**"DAVID AND BATHSHEBA"**  
—And—  
**"THE GUEST"**  
See Our Ad on This Page  
Starts Friday—Ends Tues.  
Joan Bennett - George Brent  
**"TWIN BEDS"**  
—Plus—  
Dennis O'Keefe Marie McDonald  
**"GETTING GERTIE'S GARTER"**

**Day of Decision for Torrance**  
NEXT TUESDAY  
At the Election Booths

**TUESDAY 8 JAN. 1952**

**More WATER**  
MEANS: --- MORE JOBS  
--- BETTER PROTECTION  
--- ADDED SECURITY  
Through Industrial Growth  
From Fires At Your Home  
For Your Investments, Including Your Home

**All at NO INCREASE In Property Taxes**

What the \$2,000,000 Worth Of Improvements Will Provide For You:

1. Ten Million Gallon Reservoir in South Torrance
2. One Million Gallon Reserve and Booster Plant at 174th Street
3. Installation of Distribution Mains to Bolster Weak-Pressure Areas
4. Interconnection of All Parts of the Present Three Water Systems
5. New 24-inch Pipeline Along Crenshaw Blvd., to Give a "Backbone" to the Entire Consolidated Water System.

What All Improvements Will Cost:

1. Nothing in Increased Property Taxes
2. Small Increases in Water Rates
3. Entire \$2,000,000 Cost Will Be Repaid Out of Water Department Revenues

Naturally a big portion of the cost will be paid by big users of water—and that means Torrance Industries.

The most that the typical home owner will pay will be 4 1/3 cents a day for the average family of four or five. In some areas of the City, the North Torrance and South Torrance where the water rates are already somewhat higher than Central Torrance, the average increase in the water bill will be from 1.2 cents per week for the entire family up to 1.4 cents per day, depending upon the area. Just a little over a penny a day.

**YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO FORGET TO VOTE "YES" NEXT TUESDAY, JAN. 8 --- Polls open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.**

(Paid Advertisement)