

UNFENCED OIL SUMP DANGER DRAWS FIRE

Citizen Says Holes Bad For Children

The danger of unfenced oil sumps in Torrance continues to menace children and animals in Torrance, according to a police report made by F. G. Williams, 1932 West 238th Street.

Williams told police that one of his goats fell in an unfenced sump near his home, and had to be killed by humane society officers.

"I have lost several animals in that sump," Williams told police, "including chickens and cats. I am afraid that some child will fall in there unless something is done about it."

A city ordinance requires fencing of all oil sumps and areas which might prove death-traps, to humans or animals, it was said.

Investigation revealed that there are four other open and unfenced sumps in the area near the Williams home.

City officials admitted that they are aware of the open oil sump of which Williams complains, but no action to fence the area is on record.



UNFENCED OIL SUMP in South Torrance is of the five-foot-deep hole. Despite a recent spelled death for several animals. Residents of area fear that a child will be the next victim taken to compel owners to fence sumps.

Torrance Building Gains As New Tract Authorized

Home building activities during the month of April equaled \$1,964,246, bringing the total for the first third of the year to \$6,561,037. April's total this year far exceeds last April's figure of \$1,209,988. Permits issued during the first third of 1951 equaled \$4,873,568, the Building Department said.

Largest single project started last month was 174 homes in the southwest section by the Allied Gardens Corps. An additional 24 homes will go into the North Torrance section. Loyola Building Corp. is the subdivider of this group.

The Building Dept. states that these homes will be ready for occupancy in about six months.

Pending issuance this month are permits for several hundred homes on Pacific Coast Hwy. and Crenshaw Blvd. by the January Co. and 24 homes in the southeast section by the Stoll Investment Co.

City planners estimate that homes now under construction will increase the city's population by more than 2000 persons. To accommodate the crop of children that will live in the new development of the Allied Gardens Corp., four classrooms are being added to the Seaside School, which they will attend. In addition, half the students already enrolled in the Seaside School will be transferred to the Hollywood-Riviera School, now under construction, the School Board announced today.

City Workers See Disaster Relief Film

"This Could Happen in Torrance" is the theme of a film showing conditions that would face Civil Defense and Red Cross workers if a disaster struck this area. The film is being shown this week to the fire and police departments and to all city employees and various service organizations by George Powell, assistant director of Civil Defense in Torrance.

The movie was made by television station KTLA during the razing of buildings to make way for the new freeway system in Los Angeles. TV cameras recorded rescue and relief activities of Red Cross and first aid units in a mock disaster drama during the demolition.

Avalon-Carson Area to Get Water Vote

The West Basin Water District Monday received and filed a petition signed by 760 residents of the Avalon-Keystone area for annexation to the Water District. The public hearing was held at the District office in Hermosa Beach.

District officials said that the Metropolitan Water District will be notified and an ordinance granting the petition will be given soon.

The date of the vote on the annexation proposition has been set tentatively for July 17, the spokesman said.

J. G. Caldwell, chairman of the Citizens' Water Fact Finding Committee, appearing before the Board at the public hearing said that there was no apparent opposition to the annexation in the Avalon-Carson area.

If successful the annexation will allow persons living in county territory bounded by Wilmington on the south, Compton on the north, Shoestring on the west, and Long Beach on the east, to use water imported from the Colorado river.

This area is now being supplied largely by the Dominguez Water Corp. The annexation will permit the corporation to tap Colorado water from Metropolitan water district lines when and if local pumping is curtailed by the courts.

Carl Fosselle, secretary of the West Basin water district, reports that approximately 25,000 live in the area being annexed. There are over 30,000 persons living in the affected area, the assessed valuation of which is over \$20,000,000.

Lion Convention

Ten days fun and sight-seeing are on the agenda for Lions' Fred Boren and Paul Diamond when they attend the Lions' International annual convention in Mexico City, June 24 through 27. Accompanied by their wives, they will leave on June 20 or 21, Diamond said.



CHAIRMAN PAUL LORANGER opened last Wednesday's meeting of the Ballot Battalion by outlining to the audience of over 40 persons, their individual parts in the campaign to stimulate greater interest in our right to vote. Nominating, transportation, and publicity committees were established at this meeting. Loranger urged every citizen to become active in the Ballot Battalion.

Finch Given 68th Assembly Endorsement

Endorsement of Bob Finch, Republican candidate for Congress in the 17th Congressional District, by the 68th District Republican Assembly was announced today by Frank S. Selover of Torrance, secretary of the group.

Selover said the endorsement was unanimous and warned voters to watch out for other names on the GOP primary ballot.

"Finch," Selover said, "is the only official Republican candidate in this district and his can- (Continued on Page Two)

Concert Drive Gets Underway

More than 100 volunteers are needed to sell subscriptions to the Community Concerts, said Mrs. Ella Schwartz, chairman of the subscription drive.

The drive lasts only one week, May 19 to 26, she stated, and 900 season tickets must be sold. The drive will kick-off next Friday with a dinner meet for all concert workers.

Tickets for the three-concert program to be presented in late summer and early fall will be available only during the one-week subscription drive, Mrs. Schwartz pointed out.

House Candidate Bob Finch Visits Torrance Today

Did you think the street-car riding, hand-shaking campaign was passed? If so just-look again today—right on the streets of Torrance—for Bob Finch, Inglewood attorney and Marine lieutenant hits the streets of Torrance today in one of a series of "I want to meet the voters" day in the cities of the 17th Congressional District.

Today has been termed "Bob Finch" day in Torrance by the Republican organizations sponsoring the campaign and Bob, a life-long resident of this region, has mapped out a hard-hitting day.

The only official Republican candidate for the Congressional seat from this area, Bob will conduct a personal section-by-section, house-by-house campaign of Torrance today with the purpose of meeting as many voters as is humanly possible.

Boris Woolley, local attorney, is chairman of the local "Bob Finch" day and promises a day of campaigning that will set records in Torrance.

"Bob Finch is the first true Republican candidate we've had in many years, and he's waging the first real campaign we've had in the past four elections. I hope the citizens of Torrance will take advantage of this day to get acquainted with a real citizen's candidate."

Finch is determined to meet the voters, stating "I believe the voters of this district are unaware of the unsavory record of the current incumbent who is personally mixed up in tax white-washes, and who, by his fence-straddling on important issues, has left this district without ad-

Let People In On Schools, Says Beasley

"Let the people know what is going on with our schools," J. A. Beasley, candidate for Board of Education in the May 16 school district election, urged in an appeal to the electorate for a change on the education board. "I believe that there should be a more close relationship between the school board and the people, and I intend to bring this about," he said.

Beasley, prominent Walteria civic, church and business leader, claimed present half-day sessions can be eliminated with proper planning including temporary classrooms, and that in school buildings can be built for less money by a Board of education really determined to save money for the taxpayers.

"I believe that a saving can be made in administrative costs at the higher levels, and that this saving should be used to construct classrooms," Beasley said. "The child should have first consideration, and lastly, the frills."

Shell Oil Book Available Now

Shell Chemical Corporation of Torrance has announced the publication of "The Oilmen." In this photographic book, one of the nation's most important industries is pictured completely and dramatically for the first time, the oil company said.

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High School Teacher Gain Noted In Torrance System

Darby Backs Bixby Slough Reclamation

Action to transform Bixby Slough from a death trap to a beautiful park and wild life preserve was taken by the Board of Supervisors Tuesday, on motion of Supervisor Raymond V. Darby.

Action of the Board followed appearance of Miss Mary J. Olson, Secretary of the Waitresses' Union in San Pedro, and Mrs. Sylvia Zankich civic leader, asking that \$50,000 be placed in the County Budget for the coming fiscal year to establish a regional park in this area.

They recited that Bixby Slough has long been an eyesore in the community and that last summer, four little children were drowned. In prior years, several other children also were drowned and Tuesday's action is the result of a campaign extending over many years to rid the community of this menace. The ladies informed the Board it was their intention to seek the cooperation of the Los Angeles City Council in furthering their plan for a regional park. They also stated that the State Fish and Game Commission has allocated \$100,000 in furtherance of such development. The proposed park will serve approximately 175,000 people in the area.

218 Teachers for Torrance Schools

Back in 1947 when the Torrance School District first separated from the Los Angeles School system, the Board of Education hired a new superintendent, then a business manager, and 52 teachers, and operated a school in four buildings with a budget of \$465,000.

Today the Torrance School system has 218 teachers and next year will have a payroll of \$1,529,000 with a budget of nearly \$2,000,000 — 13 elementary school buildings and a high school, with the planning of a second one under way.

The people of Torrance said it would take 5 to 10 years to build a new school system. Today we have it and are well on our way. Such things have been developed as a teachers' handbook, administrative policy handbook, and a new reporting system to parents.

The Board has been farsighted enough to build a district warehouse, a district library, a bus garage, a carpenter shop, and other service units and provide nine school buses.

The district has a central library that distributes daily to the schools the books which they need and returns the books which they are not using, which reduce the number of books necessary to keep on hand in the district and reduce the library budget thereby.

There are many areas which the district has to work on in connection with the building program—the financing of schools, the development of the instructional program, and the various things that make up a school system, but we are well on our way and given a little time, will continue to have a school district of which the people of Torrance may be proud.

Train Hits Car; Woman Injured

Minor lacerations sent Mrs. Rose Pelavin of 2634 Cloverdale, L. A., to Harbor General Hospital after the car in which she was riding was struck by a Santa Fe train on tracks crossing Sepulveda Blvd., west of Western, Monday afternoon.

Her husband, Abraham, driver of the car, was unhurt.

Pelavin told Torrance police that he did not see the train until it was too late. He tried to back off the tracks, but stalled the car in his excitement, police reported.

J. S. Freborg, engineer of the train, tried to stop, but he was too close to the stalled vehicle, reports indicated.

CITY NETS \$100 MONTH ON AIRPORT

Torrance Municipal Airport is approaching the \$1000 a month classification in business, according to survey of returns made by the Torrance Press of operations during the past nine months. July, 1951 through March, 1952. Of this, the City of Torrance gets about \$100 per month.

Gross income of approximately \$9183 was realized, it was reported, with the management firm of Collins & Dietrich retaining approximately \$7787 and paying \$1376 over to the City of Torrance. The firm gets 85 percent of gross receipts.

In addition, the city received \$1137.31 in gasoline sales commissions, \$2721.90 in ground lease payments and rents, and other income of \$457.61. The total income by the City of Torrance for nine months was \$5693.31.

However, the City of Torrance paid a total of \$4785.10 in operation expenses on the airport, leaving a total net gain to the city of \$908.21, or about \$100 per month.

Full Scale Production At Columbia

Columbia Steel Company went back into full operation last Monday, as CIO President Phil Murray called off the strike that sent the huge mill's 1,400 workers home last week.

U. S. Steel ordered all four furnaces of the plant fired on Monday. The order brings relief to the families of the steel workers, who are only now recovering from the effects of a 28-day strike earlier this year.

Washington observers believe that the return to work and the re-firing of the furnaces, mean that U. S. Steel has been given some assurance by Murray that no new steel strike would be called.

Meanwhile the Supreme Court announced that the government could not grant a pay hike unless the terms were accepted by the industry.

The court set May 12 as the date to hear arguments on the legality of the seizure. At this time industry and union officials will present their cases to the court.

Business Firms Back Blood Drive

Because of the urgent need of civilian donations of blood for the armed service, local manufacturers, business firms, and professional men and women have joined in making an educational campaign to assist in the collection of blood from this area.

The appeal for donors will be made in a series of announcements made in this newspaper during the coming weeks, urging the public to fill out and send in the front page coupon for the visit of the American Red Cross Mobile blood unit.

The Press urges its readers to call attention of friends and neighbors to these announcements.

Mail Coupon to
AMERICAN NATIONAL RED CROSS
1754 Torrance Blvd. Torrance, Calif.

YES . . . I WILL GIVE A PINT OF BLOOD FOR OUR BOYS IN KOREA.

Name _____
Address _____
Telephone _____

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOODMOBILE

A BLOOD MOBILE similar to the one pictured above will be stationed in front of the Civic Auditorium on Monday, June 2, between the hours of 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. The Red Cross has urged everyone to donate a pint of blood to fill both civilian and military needs. Further information may be obtained by calling the Red Cross office, Torrance 3447.