

'I'LL SEE YOU IN COURT'

TORRANCE PRESS

Conveniently Located at 1406 Cravens Avenue — Phone FAirfax 8-2345

VOLUME VI

THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 1954 — TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA



5¢

100,000 READERS

EDITORIAL

THERE IS AN ANSWER

Torrance High School will go on half-day sessions in the fall, according to a recent ruling of the Board of Education.

The Torrance Press last week pointed out one way of avoiding this highly undesirable trend.

There are additional measures which we feel the Board should adopt to cope with the menace of half-day sessions.

Here is a plan worthy of consideration.

Instead of the present system, Torrance schools should be converted to a quarter system. This would mean the use of the school buildings 12 months out of the year instead of the present nine months.

There would be three semesters per year with students attending school two out of the three semesters. Vacations would be staggered. When we consider the big investment involved, it is a waste to use our schools just nine months out of the year.

There are numerous benefits to be derived from such a plan. We could reduce the number of new school buildings needed, thus reducing our building costs at the same time that we are providing increased teaching facilities.

While there is a large population influx into this area at present, it is conceivable that the trend will be reversed some day. If we build too many schools now, we might be faced with a lot of empty schools at such a time.

The community would be able to cope with juvenile problems much more easily, since only one-third of our youth would be out of school each quarter. Now the entire student body is let out at one time.

Not everyone will have vacation during the summer months as is presently the case, but California's weather makes vacations possible and desirable the year round.

Industry, no doubt, would cooperate in rotating vacations for its employees to correspond with children's vacations. The same ought to be done by the schools.

Teachers who are willing and able to teach an extra quarter could be given the opportunity to do so and thus help solve the so-called "teacher shortage" and "higher cost of living."

The quarter-system will afford better opportunities for high school youngsters to obtain jobs, since only one-third of them would be out of school at a time.

We believe that the quarter-system has great merit and deserves the consideration of the Board of Education and the community.

We welcome an expression of ideas on this subject by our readers.

Summer Play Program Gets Under Way

Eight school playgrounds and four parks in Torrance are offering a wide variety of organized sports and games, training in the field, drama and entertainment.

These facilities are being offered free to the public under the supervision of experienced personnel, according to Harry B. Van Belleh, Director of Recreation.

In addition to the usual sports activities, children will receive training in woodshop, ceramics, flower making, metal work, puppetry and jewelry making.

Talent shows will be organized so that children can participate in various entertainment programs.

Children of school age are asked to contact the director of the park or playground nearest them.

Road Denied

A request to make the entrance to El Retiro Park into a road for vehicles was denied last week by the planning commission. Denial was based on the danger such a road would be to children.

CRENSHAW UNDERPASS PLANNED

Plans are being made to construct a pedestrian-vehicle underpass beneath Crenshaw boulevard between the two sections of the General Petroleum refinery which are bisected by Crenshaw boulevard.

This announcement comes from A. E. Thompson, manager of the local refinery.

Savage Dog Bites Boy's Face

'FIND DOG', PARENTS PLEAD

Three-year-old Billy Britt of 2116 Gramercy ave. is receiving a series of 14 painful daily Pasteur shots. He must undergo this agonizing treatment because the vicious dog which bit a deep gash into Billy's lip cannot be placed under observation and has eluded every attempt at capture.

Immediate Treatment
Billy was bitten by the dog Sunday afternoon at 209 West 214th street, Torrance. Because of the bite's proximity to the brain, doctors immediately began a series of Pasteur treatments. These treatments are the only safeguard against rabies which are always fatal. The injections must be applied to the sensitive abdominal region. Billy has been suffering from severe abdominal pains and cramps, the parents have asked for help in locating the dog.



BITTEN . . . Little 3-year-old Billy Britt was bitten on the lip by a vicious dog at 209 West 214th street, Torrance. Since the dog has not been caught, Billy has been subjected to a series of painful Pasteur treatments. The parents have asked for help in locating the dog.

RESIDENTS EXPRESS IDEAS ON PARKING METER ISSUE

Arguments for and against parking meters were voiced at a special hearing before the city council Tuesday night. No date has been set for formal action on the matter.

Paul Loranger of 1448 Post avenue read a detailed report explaining the need of solving the parking problem and why parking meters were the answer.

Parking, to begin with, was definitely a problem, Loranger stated. He pointed out that the only cost to the taxpayer was the penny parking fee they would have to pay and compared this nominal cost with the exorbitant cost of parking facilities in downtown Los Angeles.

Cost
He established that the cost of off-street parking would be borne by the businessmen themselves and not by the residential property owners. This would be done through an assessment district.

"All other cities have taken (Continued on Page 4)

COUNCIL BRIEFS

HOSPITAL COMPROMISE:

The Torrance Hospital association offered a compromise solution to the city council and Nativity Catholic church. Not willing to buy the First Christian church building because it was inadequate, the association offered to modify its original request. The new hospital wings will only come out as far as the church buildings on either side, instead of farther as originally intended. Sound-proofing will be provided. The plan was acceptable to all parties.

NEW PLANNER: Bert Lynn was appointed to the planning commission to fill the unexpired term of R. J. Deininger. Deininger resigned because of ill health.

BUDGET HEARING: The city council will meet with City Manager George Stevens tonight at 8 p.m. to talk over the budget. The budget, which has been balanced, is the biggest yet, with a general fund over \$1,500,000.

GAS REVENUE: The city will receive an estimated \$131,150 gas revenue from the state. The money, plus a hold-over fund of \$30,000, will be used for road improvements. Included is the improvement of Torrance boulevard from Madrona to Crenshaw; Crenshaw between Sepulveda and Carson; traffic signal at Sepulveda and Hawthorne.

WATER DISTRICT: Immediate steps are to be taken to annex Rlington Plaza home-owners to the Torrance municipal water district. The area is now being serviced by Moneta water district.

STAMP MACHINE: The city clerk's office will obtain an automatic stamp machine for metering mail upon the recommendation of City Clerk A. H. Bartlett.

DRIVING RANGE: Two requests have been submitted to (Continued on Page 18)

Late News!

INDECENT EXPOSURE: William Truair, 32, of 2602 West 179th street pleaded guilty to two counts of indecent exposure in the South Bay municipal court last week. He will be sentenced July 22. Truair was given three years' probation on a similar charge in 1951.

GRAND THEFT: Detective Captain Ernie Ashton has left for Portland to extradite Paul S. Franks, alleged accomplice in the \$30,000 robbery of the National Supply company Employees' Credit Union over a year ago. Franks was captured in Portland in recent weeks. Two other accomplices have been convicted.

PROTESTS DEMOTION: Milton Langum has asked for a civil service board hearing of his recent demotion from engineer to fireman in the Torrance fire department. It is claimed that the demotion was unjust and discriminatory. A hearing date is to be set soon.

MORE HOMES: Approval for the construction of 508 more (Continued on Page 18)

FAIR QUEEN CONTESTANTS TO START TICKET SALES

Tickets will be issued in the race for title of queen of the Torrance community fair, Monday night, June 28, at the Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

Representatives from each of the participating organizations and their candidates will be present and rules will be explained.

Bob Owens, general chairman for the queen contest announced today that 10 service organizations have already entered the contest.

The Torrance community fair will be held at Torrance boulevard and Maple avenue August 11 to 15, and will feature entertainment for the entire family. Commercial and industrial exhibitors, queen contest, nightly entertainment, hobby and home-craft show, pie and cake baking contest and special kids' day.

City Needs Derrick Ordinance

Abandoned oil derricks which serve no useful purpose and clutter up the Torrance landscape continue to stand because Torrance has no adequate laws to deal with the situation.

The last survey of the Torrance oil field indicated that there were about 39 abandoned wells. This survey was made over a year ago. It covered the area from Sepulveda boulevard to the Torrance boundary.

A few, simple legal provisions could easily remedy this condition, it was learned.

These facts were revealed in a study of the situation made by the Torrance Press.

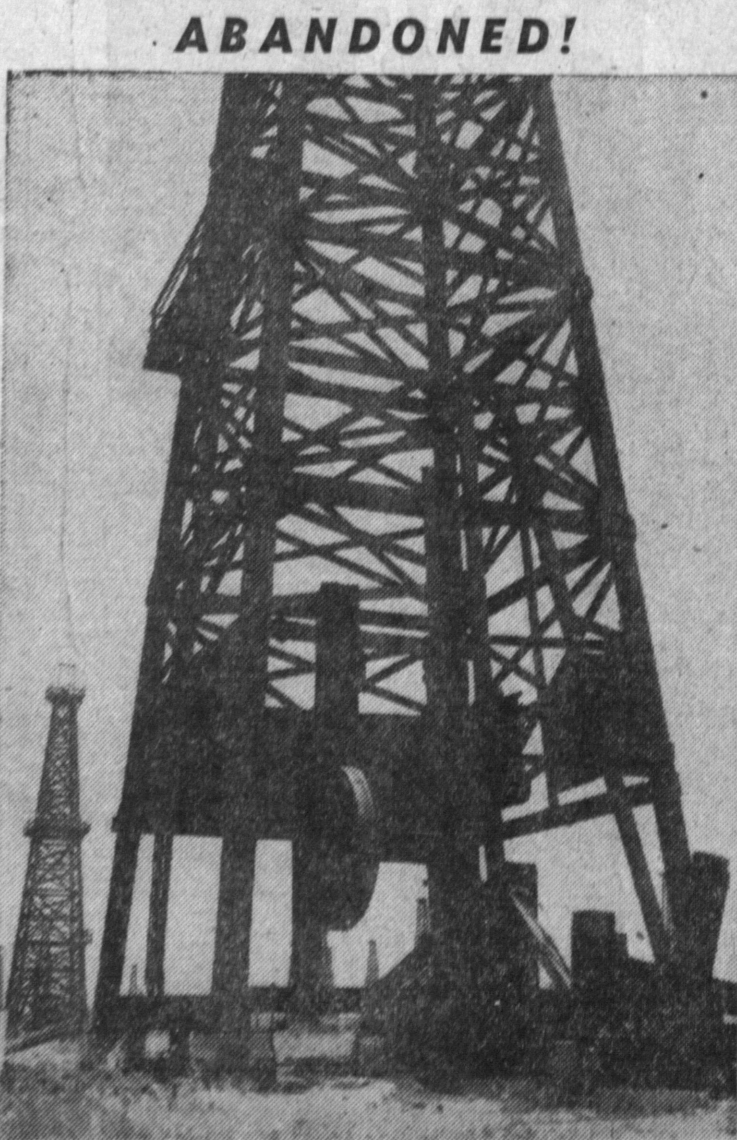
Needed Provisions
Three provisions could eliminate unsightly oil derricks which no longer serve a useful purpose:

1) An ordinance which calls for the removal of any derrick without visible means of pumping equipment within 180 days;

2) Specific delegation of authority;

3) Making the oil well owner responsible for the removing of the derrick; if the responsible party cannot be determined, have the city assume that responsibility.

Idle Wells
Not all wells standing idle are abandoned wells. Many wells are pumped from time to time only, with a time-period of a few days to a few months elapsing sometimes between pumpings. It is difficult to legislate against such wells, it was learned. But legislation against actually abandoned wells is both possible and desirable, it was found.



THIS IS ONE of numerous abandoned oil derricks dotting the Torrance landscape. The city has no proper law to enforce removal of these derricks. The above is owned by the Woolner Oil Co. and is located at 229th st. and Pennsylvania ave.

2ND WINNER ANNOUNCED IN PRESS PHOTO CONTEST

Emerging as second finalist in the Torrance Press annual amateur photography contest this week is Mike Chambers of 1603 W. 224th St., Torrance.

Doin' What Comes Naturally
Chambers' prize-winning photo, entitled "Grey Goose—Mad! Real Mad!", was taken while teasing the goose with one of her new-born babies until the goose got fighting mad and turned on Chambers. "I just about lost a brand-new Argus C-4 in the process," Chambers explained.

First Prize
A first prize of \$50 in cash will be awarded by the Torrance Press when the contest ends. The winners of the top three prizes will be chosen from among the six finalists. Four more finalists will be chosen through Monday, July 10.

Second prize in the all-amateur competition is a Kodak Dual-flash F8 deluxe flash camera outfit (\$200). It consists of a camera, flash attachment, eight bulbs, two rolls of film, two batteries, and flash shield. Second prize will be awarded by A-1 Photo Supplies, 1312 Sartori avenue.

Third prize, consisting of \$15 worth of either film or paper or both will be awarded by Photo Arts Studio, 1311 Post avenue.

There will be three \$5 cash prizes. (Continued on Page 4)



GREY GOOSE — MAD! REAL MAD! . . . That's the title of the prize-winning picture of the week. Mike Chambers, of 1603 W. 224th St., emerged as the second finalist in the Torrance Press annual amateur photography contest this week.

Abandoned Derricks Big Local Headache!