

# NUMEROUS PRECAUTIONS TAKEN AS DIATOM OPERATIONS START AT PALOS VERDES MINE

## Great Lakes Hopes To Be 'Good Neighbor'

Great Lakes Carbon Corporation started in August to strip top soil and overburden on their Palos Verdes Radar Hill diatomite deposit. Actual removal of the diatomite for processing at the Dicalite mill, near, Welteria, is expected to start in the very near future, according to E. A. Harris, operations manager of the Dicalite Division.

Granting of a permit for this mining operation caused a great public furor several months ago on the part of residents in the South Bay area. Numerous hearings before the County Board of Supervisors were held on the issue. The permit was granted finally by a narrow-margin vote.

To Protect Residents Harris stated that original plans were to start the operation sooner, but that additional time was required for the necessary planning and engineering.

An exploratory survey was made of the deposit site of approximately 165 acres so that

operation of the borrow pit could be planned in a way that would not disturb the community.

All operations will be according to the conditions of the permit. Actual operation will be limited to an area of only 6 acres exposed at any one time.

Installation of facilities and equipment has been going on quietly for some months and is now complete. A private road leading to the deposit site was graded and surfaced to prevent dust being raised by passing vehicles.

On this road, next to the building stone plant and the old radar station, Great Lakes Carbon Corporation installed a weighing and cleaning station for loaded trucks, including a 100,000-gallon water storage tank.

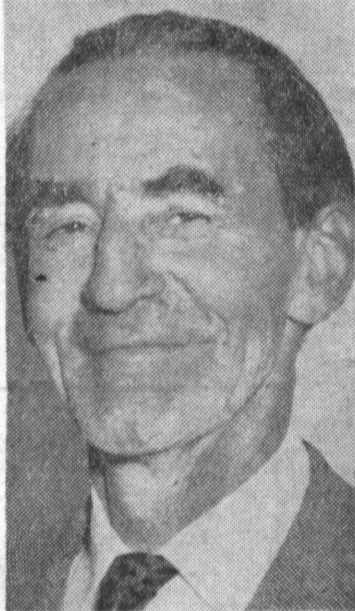
The water system to supply the operation is in itself a considerable project. Over a mile of pipe was laid, leading to the storage tank and on past this to the deposit site. Frequent sprinkling with water over the working area of the deposit will be carried on.

After leaving the deposit, a truck loaded with diatomite will stop at the "truck shower" station where by means of an automatic spray all diatomite will be washed from the body and running gear. Top of the truck will be tightly closed with a canvas cover.

The large storage tank was installed so that water can be drawn from it during the working day with a minimum coming directly from the public supply mains. This is to prevent lowered pressure for home supply. Storage in the water tank will be replenished by night pumping.

Planting of the trees and shrubs to screen the deposit site is completed. The planting is in a band approximately 150 feet wide and completely surrounds the deposit site.

'Unusual Measures' This installation of facilities and equipment is unusually complete for an operation of this type, Harris stated. "Using ideas developed during the preliminary survey and engineering work we are going farther than originally planned," he said. "We want to be a good neighbor besides meeting obligations assumed when our permit was granted."



MIAMI - BOUND . . . Harry Sanders, salesman at Paul's Chevrolet, won a one-week vacation to Miami in a National Chevrolet Selling contest. Sanders emerged as the leading salesman in his class in the Southern California area. Sanders and his wife, who also won a free round-trip flight, preferred to go by car—"Chevy," naturally.

## COUNCIL BRIEFS

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tion by Councilman Victor Benstead.

PAY HIKE: The Council will meet once more Friday at 5 p.m. to discuss pay hikes for

## DEAR EDITOR....

### Barricades

Editor, Torrance Press:

In the headline of your paper's edition of August 26, Mr. Willys G. Blount, made some rather dramatic statements in regard to Palos Verdes and Torrance boundaries.

I am not a resident of Palos Verdes, Redondo Beach or Torrance, so therefore have no direct interest in the actions of their respective city councils. However as I am a resident of that little stretch of county "No Man's Land" on Avenue E bounded by Tullita in Redondo on the Torrance, Redondo border, I feel I have a perfect right to make this report.

It is my opinion that Mr. Blount is omitting some very important facts in getting his point across. Not only omitting, but as is the case of Avenue E making a mountain out of a mole hill.

The barricade erected at the Hal Muldoon is first baseman on the Seaside Playground softball team. The team belongs to the Junior Boys Softball League.

city employees. A study was made of salaries paid by other cities. Most cities are on a five-step plan, while Torrance has a three-step plan. The Council discussed adopting the center three or the top three steps. The top three steps would bring Torrance a step higher than the average. No cut in salaries is contemplated for anyone. Funds for any of the proposed raises are available.

SUNDAY DANCING: No dancing on Sundays in public places will be permitted. An ordinance regarding dancing was amended to that effect. Dancing in private homes is permissible.

Torrance and Redondo Beach border on Avenue E was put up for one express purpose, that being the protection of some 70 children in the section between Tullita and the Torrance-Redondo boundary. The people asked for a remedy to the situation of vehicles being driven at excessive rates of speed over a street that is approximately 20 feet wide at its widest point.

This need for some control over these speeders was not a spur of the moment decision. The people along this stretch protested the above stated condition over a year before the barricade was finally erected.

Mr. Blount can be assured that this is no case of mass hysteria, if he would care to talk to some of the residents of this section. Furthermore, it would be proof to Mr. Blount that the people of Avenue E bear no malice toward any resident of Torrance if he would be kind enough to attend one of our community meetings, if he is as interested in the problem as his booming disclosures seem to feel. I request that he call my home for information as to our next meeting.

This problem of unsafe streets can't be ended by the erecting of a barricade, but neither can it be solved by hysterical outbursts by neighboring city councils.

The answer to the particular problem of Avenue E is widening and modernization of the street to handle the traffic that normally traveled this avenue.

If this were accomplished there would be little need for name calling.

Sincerely yours,  
(signed) JOHN M. BARNES  
1057 Avenue E  
Redondo Beach,  
California

## LATE NEWS

(Continued from Page 1)

The Chamber of Commerce will hold a series of monthly community breakfasts starting Monday, October 18. The breakfasts will be held every third Monday. A speaker will be provided for each breakfast.

COMMUNITY FAIR: The senior and junior Chambers of Commerce each netted \$1750 from the Community Fair sponsored recently by the two groups.

MORTUARY: The City Council and the Planning Commission were served court notice to appear at a Superior Court hearing September 29, 9:30 a.m. to show cause why the variance for a mortuary at Cravens and Engracia should be granted. The legality of the city's recent action granting such a variance is being questioned by a local resident.

## CARE CENTER

(Continued from Page 1)

mothers who are the only means of support for their children. Private care centers would be too costly, it was established.

The Welfare Board recommended that the School Board reconsider its decision to end the Care Center, which provides before and after-school care for 35 school-age children of 24 working families. Thirty-three of the children come from one-parent homes.

The Welfare Council called the discontinuance of the center an "encouragement of state dependency" because it could force some working mothers to quit their jobs and become dependent on the state and county for public assistance.

School's Stand The reasons given by the School Board for ending the center were a) that the board is primarily responsible for the education of the children;

b) The building formerly used by the Care Center is urgently needed for classroom purposes due to the increase in enrollment anticipated in September.

c) The building has already been moved to 230th street and Hawthorne boulevard, where it will be used for classrooms.

d) Moving the building will prevent 70 children from having to attend double sessions this year.

Pay \$5 Per Week Mothers at the meeting made the point that they may have to leave their jobs if the Care Center is killed. The mothers pay about \$5 per week for each child cared for, and the state pays the rest. Two private care schools have listed their prices at \$12.50 per child per week while another has set its rate at \$20 or \$25 per week, according to one of the mothers.

School district representatives stated that the average cost for private care is \$2 per day, per child.

Continuation of the Care Center will not cost local taxpayers any additional money, it was brought out, because the legislature has appropriated funds to continue Day Care in the state through June, 1955.

Represented at the meeting were the Harbor Area Welfare Council, director of the Extended Day Care Center, Welfare Planning Council, Los Angeles region, the mothers, Torrance Unified School District, City

## CHEST DRIVE

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volunteer help to relieve members of the office staff currently facing a surplus of work. Anyone able to volunteer services, if only for a few hours at a time, is asked to call the campaign office at Terminal 3-4483.

Council, Chamber of Commerce and Retail Merchants, Superintendent of Recreation, and the City Manager's office.

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