

Covers the Torrance District Like a Blanket.

# Torrance Herald

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## TORRANCE HERALD ASKS TRUSTEES TO INVESTIGATE POLICE ACTIVITIES

### Board Quickly Conducts Probe Into Case Of Five Compton Men Nabbed Here

Ugly Rumors and Definite Facts Demand Thorough Sift Into Police Connection With Recent Torrance Case, Letter to City Officials Asserts

On receipt of a letter from The Herald yesterday afternoon, the Torrance board of Trustees met in special session last night and immediately instituted a thorough investigation into the activities of certain members of the Torrance police department in connection with the case of the five Compton men who were arrested here last month on various charges and dismissed on account of "lack of evidence."

The board continued in session over the case until a late hour, and a special investigating committee, with J. S. Torrance chairman, continued the preliminary investigation until 3 o'clock this morning. Early this morning Mr. Torrance, with other city officials, again went to work on the case.

"The board of trustees is exceedingly grateful to The Herald for calling this case to its attention," said Mr. Torrance this morning. "If any material developments arise, the trustees will notify the public through The Herald."

The Torrance Herald Monday requested the Torrance board of trustees to investigate the activities of the Torrance police department in connection with the cases of J. A. Draffen, E. L. Foster, F. Mangole, E. F. Frymier and A. A. Higgins, all of Compton, who were arrested here on July 27, charged with resisting an officer, and who were dismissed for insufficiency of evidence on July 29.

The Herald directed a letter to the mayor and board of trustees, pointing out that an affidavit made by Dr. George P. Shidler after an examination of the five men WAS NOT INTRODUCED at the trial.

Draffen, who faced three charges, one for resisting an officer, one for reckless driving and one for driving while intoxicated, paid \$100 fine for reckless driving. The other two charges against him were dismissed.

At the trial the very officer who had sworn to a complaint against the men for resisting an officer did not testify that any of them had resisted him.

In the letter to the board of trustees The Herald agrees to furnish the board with names of individuals who profess to know certain details regarding the case of the five men.

The Herald's letter to the board of trustees follows: Aug. 25, 1924.

To the Honorable Chairman and Board of Trustees, Torrance, California.

Gentlemen:— In the interests of good, clean and efficient government we recommend that you, as an official body, institute immediate and thorough investigations into the circumstances surrounding the arrest, trial and disposition of the cases of J. A. Draffen, E. L. Foster, F. Mangole, E. F. Frymier, A. A. Higgins, who were arrested in Torrance on July 26, 1924, on various charges.

We make the request as a result of ugly rumors that are circulating throughout the city and also as a result of certain definite knowledge that material evidence in the case was not presented by the police department at the trial of the men named above.

We believe that these rumors are of sufficient persistency to warrant investigation, if for no other reason than to protect the integrity of the men about whose activities the rumors are being circulated. It is by no means our intention to usurp any of

the official authority of your honorable board, but we act with the certain knowledge that you share with us a desire for the best sort of city government in the city of Torrance.

On July 26 the men whose names appear above were driving an automobile on the streets of this city. Two officers stopped them on El Prado street. While they were preparing to write out a "ticket" for the driver of the car, Officer Stanley Abbott drove up and recommended that the "ticket" be made out for reckless driving. This was done. Officer Abbott left the scene and proceeded out Carson street, where he was overtaken by the car in which the five men named above were riding.

Just what took place at this meeting, we are not able to assert. Suffice it to inform you that the five men were brought to police headquarters by Officer Abbott, whose head, according to witnesses, was bleeding and whose policeman's badge was broken.

Draffen was charged on a complaint signed by Officer Abbott with resisting an officer and driving while intoxicated. The other four were charged with resisting an officer.

At this time Dr. George P. Shidler, a Torrance physician, was called to headquarters, where he examined the five men. As a result of his examination he made the following affidavit:

"7-27-24  
5:30 p. m.

"This is to certify that I have this day examined J. A. Draffen, E. L. Foster, F. Mangole, E. F. Frymier, A. A. Higgins and find that each and every one has been drinking, and, is in no condition to be driving a car on the highway.

"Submitted,  
"GEO. P. SHIDLER, M. D."

On the following Monday the five men came to trial. At the trial this affidavit was NOT INTRODUCED.

As a result of a lack of evidence the charges against E. L. Foster, F. Mangole, E. F. Frymier and A. A. Higgins were dismissed. Two of the charges against J. A. Draffen were dismissed and he was fined \$100 on a charge of reckless driving.

Since that time the ugly rumors concerning certain members of the police department in connection with this case have been so persistent that they are destroying the confidence of the people in this branch of the city government.

It is not our habit to deal in rumors, but we realize, as you must, that confidence and respect of the public for such an important department is essential to good government. At the same time the very men with whose names these rumors are dealing should either be vindicated by an investigation by you, or alternative action taken.

The Herald will, in the interest of good government, provide your honorable body with names of individuals who profess to have definite knowledge of the case cited above and will co-operate with you to the fullest extent in any manner you may desire.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

TORRANCE HERALD,  
By W. HAROLD KINGSLEY.

### STANDARD CENTER HERE

Doctors Lancaster and Shidler Named District Physicians and Surgeons

Corporation moves Trade Center from Redondo Beach to Torrance

With the appointment of Doctors J. S. Lancaster and George P. Shidler as district physicians and surgeons, the Standard Oil Company Monday took one more step toward making Torrance the center of the organization's activities in this territory. The company has decided to make this city the trading center to serve a large surrounding territory. The center formerly was at Redondo. The company now maintains a central sales department here and the district medical center was moved from Redondo to Torrance. Doctors Lancaster and Shidler will make all examinations for the company and attend all Standard Oil Company patients in the entire district.

### Thousands See Klan Outdoor Naturalization

Western Avenue Scene of Ceremony Saturday Night, When About 100 Join

Several thousand persons witnessed a "naturalization" ceremony of the Ku Klux Klan east of Western avenue in Torrance Saturday night. The ceremony was conducted by Torrance Klansmen under the light of a large electric cross. About 100 candidates were "naturalized."

During the ceremony an aeroplane with four lighted "K's" circled over the field. The ritual of the Klan was distinctly heard by the thousands who stood outside the ropes. The Klansmen used loud speakers. All of the Klansmen were unmasked.

Before the ceremony proper started a Klansman delivered an address on Klansmanship.

### Operators Put 4 New Wells On Production

C-C. M. O. Gets 500-Barrel Hole, While Standard Completes Three

Four wells were placed on production in the oil field here Sunday and Monday. The Chandler-Carfield Midway Oil Company brought in the best producer, when Torrance No. 64, drilled to 3655 feet, started to flow at the rate of 500 barrels a day. No. 64 is a third line well on the Torrance lease.

The Standard Oil Company made three completions over the weekend, one in each of three sections of the field. Marble No. 19, located on the east side of the Standard, was completed at 3750 feet and is pumping 270 barrels a day. On the Joughin lease, Standard brought in Sentinel-Joughin No. 6. The well is 3825 feet deep and is making 250 barrels a day. In the northeastern part of the field the Standard completed its tenth well on the Dominguez lease, Dominguez No. 10, drilled to 3550 feet, is pumping 250 barrels a day.

Miss Alice Luty and brother, of San Francisco, are spending their vacation in Torrance, the guests of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Ferguson of Gramercy avenue.

### Observations

Vote Today—The ZR-3 and Future Flying—Mrs. Ferguson and Political Reforms—Conceited Humanity—Good for Wales—A Monkey in the Pulpit

W. HAROLD KINGSLEY

TODAY is primary election day. Go to the polls and vote. It is a privilege which came down to you because your ancestors shed their blood for their bill of rights.

The polls will be open until 7 o'clock. If you have not already voted when you read this, for the sake of your country and out of respect for your ancestors and hope for your children, go and do so.

Vote for whomsoever you wish, but vote!

IN a few weeks the largest dirigible ever made and the most modern in point of convenience to travelers will start on a flight across the Atlantic. It is the ZR-3, made by the Zeppelin factory under contract from the United States government. In every particular this giant motivated balloon surpasses any lighter-than-air machine ever built. Spacious accommodations for passengers and crew are provided, including "Pullman" compartments and sleepers.

Builders of the dirigible have no doubt regarding the ability of the big ship to cross the Atlantic without difficulty. During the year in which this new giant of the upper levels has been under construction every part has been tested time after time and improved repeatedly. The motors that will propel the ship are said to be of the most powerful and advanced design. The ship will be provided with an auxiliary set of motors.

Today three American aviators, piloting ships heavier than air, have almost circumnavigated the globe. It now seems that American pilots will be the first to guide a lighter-than-air ship across the Atlantic.

In a few years transoceanic travel in great dirigibles will be commonplace. The trip to Europe will be made more quickly, through the clean spaces over the sea, without noise, the stench of the hold, and minus the mal de mer.

After that what? Probably great planes and balloons routed all over the world, taking their power through the ether from plants moved by water or receiving their energy from burning gas or oil on land.

When such a mode of travel becomes general, the state must own the power at the source. Transportation by that time will have become socialized.

Government may not now be fit to operate and own our utilities, but that operation and ownership is being forced on us by circumstances.

MRS. MIRIAM A. FERGUSON is the Democratic nominee for governor of Texas. She defeated Felix Robertson, Klan candidate, by at least 100,000 votes. It is more than possible that she will be the first woman governor in the United States.

Women are just getting into politics in earnest. Feminine delegates to the two big conventions came home from Cleveland and New York disgusted at the antics of the men. Those two meetings did more than anything else to convince women that big politics is governed by a handful of bosses, that the majority of men have accepted this condition slyly, that if political reforms are actually to be accomplished they must be accomplished by women.

Women have not voted for long. The generation now casting ballots were not trained in civics as were their brothers. But with the receptivity that is characteristic of their sex they are learning fast—too fast to suit the disciples of bossism.

When the womanhood of this country has passed through the period of political training, look out, you old-time politicians. They will clean house with politics just as they still clean house at home, so thoroughly that no man will wish to be about while the process is going on.

HUMAN life on Mars? Why not? Is it possible that the Almighty created this entire universe and placed "brave little bipeds" on but one body, this infinitesimal globe that we call Earth? We are a conceited lot, we worldly humans. We strut about our little affairs oblivious to the great laws of the cosmos, ignorant of most everything outside our own world, and ignorant of much even on our own sphere. We pride ourselves on our knowledge, our successful interpretation of natural manifestations. But we really know very little after all. That thing we call progress has proceeded but a little. The advancement of the future will begin the forward movement of the past. We are young, selfish, unenlightened and boastful. During the past century we have advanced rapidly as regards the material. How far we have proceeded spiritually and morally is moot.

If there are people on Mars they probably look down on us as an adult regards a child, keeping certain facts and explanations from him until his intelligence matures to a point where he can understand them.

SCORES of bejeweled matrons, dowagers, widows and flappers crowded the ball room of the Berengaria the other night, hoping to catch the admiring eye of the Prince of Wales when he came in to dance. They were all disappointed. The prince, aware of the feminine ambitions that made feminine hearts flutter, did not come in to dance. Good for Wales. Every day he proves himself more decent, more human, more of a man, hating sham and pining for natural companions. He likes to dance with pretty girls. But apparently he is not fond of dancing with girls who lie in ambush for him.

REV. Z. COLIN O'FARRELL took a monkey into his pulpit Sunday to help him prove that man is not descended from the simian. The monkey made such a fuss that the divine of Butte was forced to usher the beast out of the pulpit. Just what Rev. O'Farrell sought to prove by the presence of the monkey is doubtful. Had he taken the skeleton of an ape to the pulpit he would have found that it contained the same bones as the skeleton of a man. Nor would such a discovery have necessarily have caused doubt as to the divine origin of humanity. Science points out clearly the steps in human evolution. But it does not refute the doctrine of creation by God. Science must turn to metaphysics for solution to the mystery of the living cell. Evolutionists and religionists differ when there is no need for difference. They meet on common ground, if they will only admit it.

Rev. O'Farrell's burlesque in the pulpit contributed nothing whatever to knowledge, faith or religion. He made a burlesque stage of the pulpit and went as far wrong as the evolutionist who traces the rise of man and yet attempts to refute the divine origin of the material from which man's ancestors sprang.

COME ON, BOYS

Fire Captain Burke is asking for eight "call men" for the fire department. There is a small remuneration attached to this position.

See Burke for details.

FIRE PLUGS GOING IN

Narbonne Ranch Water Company No. 3 has begun the work of installing fire plugs in the oil district and will do install plugs in the business district for Water Company No. 2.

### VOTING IN MORNING LIGHT

Observers, However, Forecast Large Vote for General Primary Election

CONTESTS DRAW MANY

Peck-McClellan and Keyes-Sheldon Races Spur Interest in Balloting

A light vote in comparison with the number of citizens registered, but a heavy vote for a primary election, was forecast here today by the number of ballots cast this morning.

Political observers believe that the warmth of the contest between Keyes and Sheldon is attracting many to the polls, while the desire of many in this district to vote for Walter L. Peck is accomplishing the same result.

The polls will be open until 6 o'clock tonight, so that those who have not voted during the day may still do so.

### Nab San Pedro Man For Carrying Gun

Nicholas Ferrara of San Pedro was arrested Sunday night by Officers Dillon and Abbott and is now facing a charge of carrying concealed weapons. Judge Hunter fixed his bail at \$100. Ferrara had a 1923 license permitting him to carry firearms, but none for this year. He was arrested in an automobile at 10 o'clock, after Redondo police had requested local officers to be on the lookout for individuals who might be connected with a highway robbery committed at the beach city earlier in the evening. Police ascertained nothing which implicated Ferrara in the holdup.

### Society Wife Who Quit Movies Will Try Shoppirl Life



Mrs. Morgan Belmont, member of New York's most exclusive social set, is one of those women who simply must "do something." She made a hit in the movies, and then dropped out. Now she has decided to take a position in a Fifth avenue modiste's establishment as a saleswoman.

See Our Want Ads for Results

### Sidetrack in Deep Hole and Drill Ahead

Crew Coring Monday at 4426 Feet in Deep Test Kettler Hole

The Shell Oil Company crew working at Kettler No. 2, deep test well near the Pacific Electric tracks on the east side of the Torrance-Lomita field, has sidetracked the fish that held up drilling at 4401 feet, and the well is now being drilled and cored ahead. The depth of the hole Monday was 4426 feet.

MACCABEE NOTES  
The regular meeting of the Maccabees will be held this evening in the American Legion hall. All members urged to attend.

### ENTERTAINS FOR HUSBAND

Mrs. Samuel F. Webb of Andreo avenue entertained at a beach party Saturday evening in honor of her husband's birthday. The affair also was in the nature of a farewell party for their guest, Frank S. Carmoni, of San Francisco.

Upon their return to the Webb home a delicious luncheon was served and several songs by Mrs. Orchid Carlson were greatly enjoyed.

Those who were present included the honoree, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Carlson, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Schaefer, Mr. and Mrs. Phil Huggard and son, and the hostess.

### WATCH FOR DATE

An all-day meeting of the Ladies' Aid Society, to be held at the home of Mrs. James Budge, is planned for the near future. The exact date will be announced in these columns later.

Use our Want Ads for results.

### Fire Destroys Narbonne Ave. Oil Rig Here

A derrick of the Verpillat Oil Company on Narbonne avenue burned to the ground at 2:45 o'clock Saturday morning. Lomita and Torrance firemen answered the call, but were unable to extinguish the derrick flames. They directed streams on adjacent buildings and saved them from destruction. The derrick ignited while the crew was pulling oil string. The well had been on production, but was sanded up. Friction ignited oil and gas in the hole and the flames spread almost immediately to the crown block of the oil-drenched rig.

Miss Doris Beatty was a guest Saturday of a cousin in Los Angeles.

### Peck Supporters In Parade Here

Lomita was enlivened Saturday afternoon by a parade of Walter L. Peck Boosters, who made a journey, headed by a brass band on a truck, throughout the harbor district. They received much applause as they drove through here.

### ENTERTAIN FOR NEWLYWEDS

On Thursday evening Mr. and Mrs. J. U. Hemmi entertained a few friends at their home on Gramercy avenue in honor of their son, Stephen R. Hemmi of Long Beach, who was recently married to a young lady from Illinois. Among the guests were Dr. and Mrs. J. W. Morris and Prof. and Mrs. G. L. Mowry. At 6 p. m. all enjoyed a fine chicken dinner. Mr. Hemmi Jr. has charge of all the oil production of the Union Pacific Oil Company at Long Beach.