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GENERAL PETROLEUM BEGINS WORK ON \$1,500,000 EXPANSION AT TORRANCE

To Employ 500 To 700 Men On Construction Work at Refinery Starting Oct. 1

100 ALREADY WORKING ON EXCAVATIONS

Announcement By S. J. Dickey, Corporation's Vice-President Hailed With Enthusiasm By All; To Use Local Material and Labor

Involving the expenditure of approximately \$1,500,000 and the employment of several hundred men, the announcement made today by the General Petroleum Corporation of California of a program of expansion at its Torrance refinery has been received locally with great enthusiasm. This activity will unquestionably mean a great deal to this community in the return of prosperity and the stabilization of local conditions this winter, and is evidence again of the value to this community of General Petroleum's operations. The program as announced by S. J. Dickey, vice president, contemplates the immediate erection of additional distillation apparatus, as well as equipment for the further rectification and chemical purification of its products.

Auxiliary tanks, pipe lines, pumps, steam boilers and water treating and cooling systems made necessary by the enlargement of this refinery, will bring the total expenditure to approximately one and a half million dollars. The technical and engineering details of the new plant are the work of the permanent staff of General Petroleum, based on an intensive research study for the past two years, approved by the refinery processes committee of the parent Socony-Vacuum Group.

Practically all the special apparatus will be fabricated in Southern California shops, with local labor, Mr. Dickey stated. At the refinery itself, about one hundred men are already engaged in the clearing of the site. Construction will begin by October 1st, and it is estimated that 500 to 700 men will be engaged in active construction work for the succeeding four months. The General Petroleum Corporation, through its personnel and safety department, will engage and supervise all labor during the course of construction and expects to beat the record established in the original construction at Torrance where only one minor loss time accident was suffered by an employee. This refinery has an unequalled record for safety in employment as the operation of the refinery, since its inception, has resulted in but one minor mishap to an employee—causing only a three-day lay-off.

It is stated by Mr. Dickey that the permanent operating staff of the refinery will be increased by 60 men when the new apparatus is placed in commission and operating at full capacity.

Checks Are Issued to Aid Owners of Local Property

Issuance of checks by the county auditor to aid property owners in municipal acquisition and improvement districts in the vicinity of Torrance was authorized this week by the county board of supervisors.

A total of \$98,264 was allocated by the supervisors for this purpose recently, for the aid of municipal A. and P. districts. This was in addition to an amount in excess of \$100,000 set aside to aid property owners within the Alondra Park assessment district.

The amounts allocated for the relief of assessments in the various districts is to be turned over to the municipality in checks, by order of the supervisors.

BUD ALLEN IS HURT IN AUTO ACCIDENT

Bud Allen, age 24, who gave his place of residence as Torrance, was taken to the Seaside hospital at Long Beach a few days ago because of injuries received in an automobile accident. Inquiries in this city failed to locate the man's address or relatives.

Jail Two Men For Theft of Grapes at Poggi Ranch

H. B. Cramer and Jack Meredith, arrested by Special Deputy T. C. Collins on a charge of stealing grapes at the Poggi ranch, plead guilty to the charge in the local justice court and were each given a sentence of \$25 or 12 days, with \$15 or 7 days suspended. In default of payment the men were committed to the county jail. Some 520 pounds of grapes of a value of \$7.50 had been taken. Since the opening of Vermont avenue to traffic, those in charge of the Poggi ranch have reported numerous cases of petty thievery and trespass on the premises.

Bids Are Asked On Office Partitions

Bids are being asked this week by the county board of supervisors for furnishing and installing sectional office partitions for the Torrance health center. Specifications were approved by the supervisors on motion of Supervisor John R. Quinn.

Keystone Dist. C. of C. Holds First Meeting

Several Important Matters Discussed in First Session of Year

Police and fire protection, school bus service, flood control and sewer systems, were under discussion at the first meeting for the year of the Keystone Chapter of Commerce held Wednesday, September 14, with the new president, Samuel C. Sault, in the chair.

Since the reduction in bus service ordered by the city board of education, very few children in the district served by the Carson street school are provided with transportation. All those living in the area west of Main street (Harbor boulevard) about 80 in number, must go on foot to the school building, some of them having to cross two major boulevards where no traffic officer has been stationed to protect them. Protests against the existing conditions will be lodged with the authorities, in an effort to secure an improvement.

Since the Keystone district is not served either by the Lomita or the Torrance fire departments, being outside their boundaries, the inhabitants of the district are dependent upon their own resources in case of fire, which a recent blaze shows are entirely inadequate. A request to the county board of supervisors to establish a fire station in the district will be made. The Keystone area is without either police or fire protection, and as the area is fairly well settled the need for both is becoming acute. The matter has been taken up with the board several times but no action has been taken.

City Officials Attend Luncheon

City officials of Torrance and other cities of the Metropolitan Water District area were invited to attend a luncheon given Wednesday by the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce and other organizations in honor of Secretary of the Interior Ray Lyman Wilbur. Judge John Dennis, Mayor William T. Klusman and Councilmen J. M. Wright and Earl Conner attended.

JEWEL ROBBERY

Mrs. Jack Oldham and her mother, Mrs. Della Purcell, residing at 125 Moonstone street, El Porto, in the Palos Verdes hills, were robbed of \$1,000 in jewelry last week when an armed man forced his way into their home on a pretext of asking street directions.

VICTIM OF ODD ACCIDENT DIES AT HOSPITAL

Adoma Altobelli Struck Down
By Car Driven By
Friend

Adoma Altobelli, age 47, residing on Earl street, north of Torrance boulevard, died at the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital Tuesday morning from injuries received in a lamentable accident at his home Saturday night. Mr. Altobelli was run over twice by an automobile driven by his friend and guest of the evening, John Agapito, 804 Amapola avenue, Torrance. Several ribs were fractured and Altobelli's lung was punctured. He was brought immediately to the hospital, suffering from these injuries and shock, and passed away two days later.

Agapito, who is almost prostrated from grief and horror over the unfortunate affair, was unable to give any explanation as to how the accident occurred. He had spent the evening at the Altobelli home and in company with Pete Brandell of Venice was leaving the premises. According to a report to the Torrance police he had started to back his car preparing to drive away when he felt a bump as of the wheels passing over some object and when he got out to investigate found Altobelli lying on the ground. The car had passed over his body, inflicting grave injuries. The wounded man was immediately brought to Torrance for medical attention.

Agapito and Altobelli had been close friends and companions for the past 11 years and frequently visited at each other's homes. An inquest to determine the facts in the case will be held Friday morning at Stone & Myers mortuary.

Democrats In Lead On Registrations Now Being Taken

Democratic registrations are rolling in to the local headquarters at a surprising rate, according to City Clerk A. H. Bartlett, who is in charge of the work here. More than 60 registrations have been received since the books were reopened on September 1, and the majority of them with a ratio of about two to one are Democratic. Two Socialist registrations and one Prohibitionist were recorded. The new Liberty party had none up to date.

All persons who have changed their place of residence since registering must re-register, if they wish to vote in November.

In order to remain on the permanent registration rolls, a voter is required to vote either at a primary or a general election, but failure to vote at one or the other does not deprive him of a vote. The impression that failure to vote at a primary deprives the voter of his right to cast a ballot at the general election is not correct.

Guests, Cash and Pet Pig Disappear

Loensino Giacomo, 25260 Brockwell avenue, Harbor City, set up a free meal to several men last Friday, who drove away in a truck immediately afterwards. After they had gone, Giacomo discovered that in addition to the provisions consumed, he was out \$11 which he had hidden in a dresser drawer and that his pet pig had disappeared from its pen. Suspicion rests upon the unknown visitors, and police are working on the case.

THAT'S THE SPIRIT!

We like the way Prof. Waidelich, new principal at Torrance high, went up to Los Angeles and battled for the kind of a coach he thought our school deserved. Good work, Prof.

Torrance One of Three Cities to Show Increase

Building Permits In August Exceed Those of Preceding Year

Torrance is one of the three cities on the Pacific coast to show an increase in building permits for August, 1932, over August of last year, according to figures compiled by Chamber of Commerce officials. Also, Torrance is one of the 19 cities of the coast to show an increase in building permits for August over July, the figures reveal. These 19 cities are among the 25 showing the largest volume of building.

The other two coast cities to show an increase for last month over August of last year were Santa Ana and Vancouver, British Columbia.

The 18 cities showing an increase in volume over July, in addition to Torrance, were San Francisco, Vancouver, Pasadena, San Diego, Seattle, Beverly Hills, Sacramento, Glendale, Berkeley, Spokane, Salt Lake City, San Mateo, Fresno, Palo Alto, Santa Barbara, Salern, Santa Ana and Tacoma.

Torrance permits for August, 1932, totaled \$187,875, as compared with \$51,837 for August of last year.

EMPLOYEES OF CITY DONATE TO HELP NEEDY

Organization Pledges Per Cent of Salaries to Local Relief

Determined to do their full share in relieving local distress by contributing a fixed sum to Torrance relief organizations for the next six months, the employees of the city of Torrance held a meeting on Monday evening to organize and adopt a plan for such contributions.

The meeting was called by City Clerk A. H. Bartlett, who presided at the beginning of the session, until the election of Police Judge Charles T. Rippey as president who then conducted the meeting. Other officers named were A. H. Bartlett, secretary, and Harry H. Dolley, treasurer.

Directors named were Street Supt. William E. Gascoigne, Police Chief G. M. Calder, in whose temporary absence Sergeant John Stroth was deputized to act; Asst. Fire Chief A. D. Stevenson, City

TURN TO STORY ONE

"Evening School May Be Closed Unless More Enroll," Mowry

The continued existence of the Torrance evening high school is threatened unless there is a larger enrollment. Up to Monday, only 60 had paid enrollment fees. Last year at this time, 200 had enrolled. The Los Angeles school board is willing to pay the expenses of the evening classes for adult instruction if the people in

Torrance and vicinity show sufficient interest, but it is only through the enthusiastic support of the community that the school can operate, warned Guy L. Mowry, superintendent of the evening school.

"Some may be hesitating this year on account of the dollar enrollment fee," said Mr. Mowry, "but this is so small, amounting to only a few cents per evening, that it does not seem possible that many would permit the small fee to deprive them of the privileges of the school," continued Mr. Mowry. The dollar fee entitles a student to enroll in as many classes as he wishes without additional cost except in certain cases in which an extra charge is made for material used.

The number of new teachers may be another reason for slow registration," Mr. Mowry stated, and explained that "the school board this year requires that no day school teachers on full time may teach at night. This has required almost an entirely new faculty, but we feel that we have been very fortunate in securing very worthy successors to former teachers."

"The English teacher, Mrs. Ludy, has had splendid training and experience that especially fits her for her work. She is anxious to help anyone who will give her a chance. We would especially like to have the former pupils of Mrs. Young come and enroll."

"The commercial teacher, Miss Wade, comes with the best of preparation. She is having splendid success with her work. Come and let her help you prepare for that new job."

"For the mathematics we have Mr. Axe, who is well qualified by training and experience for his work. He is very pleasant and enthusiastic in his work. No one will make a mistake in enrolling with him for either math or mechanical drawing."

"In the shops we have Mr. Rogers for the machine shop and Mr. England in the woodshop. Both men are well qualified for their work. It is hoped that the former pupils of Mr. Austin and

Grand Charity Ball Sponsored By Local Groups

Entire City to Participate In Social Event Planned For Nov. 18

At a meeting held Wednesday evening at the city hall which was attended by representatives of 13 organizations, plans were laid and committees appointed to prepare for a grand charity ball and card party to be held November 18, at Recreation hall on Carson street.

Proceeds from this event will be used to provide Christmas baskets for the needy of Torrance.

Those who attended the initial meeting were Dr. O. E. Fossum and Alfred Gourdier, Masonic lodge; Jack Ferguson and Fred Freeman, Odd Fellows; Ted Wertz, Knights of Columbus; Mr. Walker, M. W. A.; Mrs. Earl Conner, Mrs. Sligh and Mrs. Schmidt, Rebekahs; Mrs. Adeline Smith, Royal Neighbors; H. C. Locke, Kiwanis; Mr. Drake, American Legion; Mrs. H. E. Reeve, W. B. A.; Mrs. Juliet Young, N. B. P. W.; DeKalb Spurline and L. Gilmeister, Chamber of Commerce; John Stroth, police department; and A. D. Stevenson, E. J. McMaster, J. J. Benner and A. H. Bartlett, fire department.

A. H. Bartlett called the meeting to order. J. H. Stroth was chosen to be chairman and A. D. Stevenson, secretary. Committees appointed were music, James Leech; hall, H. C. Locke; printing, Ted Wertz; distribution of tickets, DeKalb Spurline and E. E. McMaster; card games and tables, Mrs. Earl Conner, Mrs. Juliet M. Young, Mr. Walker and Mr. Drake; advertising, Jack Ferguson and A. H. Bartlett; decorations, fire department.

The entire building at 1951 Carson street will be used, the upper floor for dancing and the lower floor for card games and other social amusements.

Tickets will soon be ready for distribution, and every Torrance resident will be invited to support this worthy project, which will mean joy and good cheer to those in distressed circumstances.

Roosevelt Speaks At Hollywood Bowl Saturday Afternoon

Franklin D. Roosevelt, Democratic nominee for president, will arrive in Los Angeles at 10:50 Saturday morning over the Southern Pacific railway. He will be met by representative citizens of Southern California and taken to the Biltmore hotel where he will be tendered a luncheon in the Sala de Oro at 1 o'clock, by the Republicans of the district who are supporting him in his campaign for election.

Following the luncheon, an unusual event in political history, Governor Roosevelt will be escorted to the Hollywood Bowl where he will address a great mass meeting at 2:30 o'clock. Roosevelt's speech will be broadcast over a national network so that those who are unable to attend the meeting will be able to listen to his address.

Many Torrance officials and citizens are planning to attend.

Two Women Hurt In Collision

Miss Mary Trenary, 18600 So. Main street, Gardena, and Mrs. Ruth McKurle, 2806 24th street, Lomita, were brought to the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital early Monday morning following an automobile accident at 19th and Vermont in which both women suffered minor injuries. Mrs. McKurle received a scalp wound, cuts and abrasions, and Miss Trenary was cut about the right hand and leg.

Miss Trenary was riding in company with Ted Williams and Mrs. McKurle with her husband, James R. McKurle. Neither of the men were injured.

ASSOCIATION TO SEND NORTH FOR SUPPLIES

Quantity of Foodstuff Available If Transportation Is Provided

Arrangements are now being made by the Veterans Relief Association of Torrance to tap the resources of the northern part of the state to provide new varieties of supplies for the workers registered at the local headquarters.

Large quantities of potatoes, rice, sardines, apples, and many other products are available through the co-operation of the state food commission under the direction of Dudley B. Moulton. All that is lacking to bring quantities of these supplies to Torrance is transportation, and the local group believes it has made definite arrangements to secure this. Through a local merchant, contacts are being made with the Santa Fe railroad which is asked to supply a car to bring down a carload of potatoes, from Stockton to the terminal in Los Angeles from where the Torrance veterans' trucks will transport them to this city.

Storage facilities have been furnished at the old airplane parts factory on East road, which will give ample space for whatever quantity is secured.

Transportation for the sardines and rice must be by truck, and already satisfactory progress towards obtaining this has been made. It is expected that next week will see the goods on the road.

By setting up transportation facilities it is thought that Torrance can be made into a distribution center for the entire district from Inglewood south to the harbor, with supplies coming in from a wider territory and supplying a greater variety than the local area, which can be distributed to other associations as needed.

The Veterans' Association has sent a crew of apple pickers to Beaumont this week, and more men are wanted for this work. Six men are now working at Beaumont, but there is need for several more. The association furnishes food, shelter and cots, to these crews, but the members are expected to furnish their own bedding and must stay on the job for a week or 10 days at least. Families of the volunteers will be cared for by the local Relief Association during their absence.

A few small difficulties experienced by the local association in regard to certain ones who were supplied with food but who failed or refused to work in exchange have been ironed out, and all of the 600 and more men registered now are doing their part faithfully with those who tasted "discipline" among the most willing.

Walteria has recently organized its own relief association and has about 30 men registered at headquarters there. P. G. Bennett is in charge at this branch.

Worrell to Hold Open House Tues., 69th Birthday

S. S. Worrell, hardware man, will celebrate his 69th birthday Tuesday, September 27, by holding open house at his store all day. He promises that there will be "something doing every minute." And he added with the characteristic twinkle in his eye, "Tell 'em not to bother bringing any presents, unless, of course, my creditors care to bring in what they owe me."

Mr. Worrell has been in the hardware business for 48 years, the last five of which have been spent in Torrance, at his present location, 1517 Cabrillo avenue. A short time ago Mr. and Mrs. Worrell celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary.