

# TORRANCE HERALD

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SECTION A

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**REVOLUTIONARY NEW OIL DERRICK**... The "forest of derricks" marking every oil field may be seriously affected by revolutionary new portable, telescopic derricks, such as this one developed (by Shell Oil Corp.) for East Texas fields and now being tried out on small scale in Southern California.

Costing \$16,000, including truck, this portable derrick significantly differs from earlier experiments because it stretches 84 feet high, can economically service wells deeper than the 2,500 foot limit of its predecessors.

## Pupil Population Has Small Gain

School Attendance			
School	Today	Year Ago	Sept. 11, '39
Torrance High	850	837	738
Elementary	844	830	864
Fern Avenue	285	280	296
Walteria	120	112	125
Perry School	151	149	148
<b>TORRANCE TOTAL</b>	<b>2,350</b>	<b>2,298</b>	<b>2,171</b>
Schools in Lomita Territory			
Narbonne High	1,104	1,091	1,060
Lomita Elementary	400	422	420
Orange Street	354	346	345
Harbor City	297	327	299
<b>LOMITA TOTAL</b>	<b>2,155</b>	<b>2,186</b>	<b>2,124</b>
<b>DIST. TOTAL</b>	<b>4,405</b>	<b>4,391</b>	<b>4,295</b>

An increase of 42 pupils in Torrance city schools and a decrease of 31 students in Lomita and Harbor City schools as compared to attendance figures of a year ago was noted this week as the institutions began their second semester of work. A gain of 79 over the opening day enrollment of last September was noted in Torrance schools while the increase in Lomita was 31.

The above tabulation reports the comparative figures as obtained this week from the various principals and attendance officers. A number of minor changes, in faculties, room arrangements and curriculum were made as the new term began Monday morning. Principal Thomas H. Elson of Torrance High is still confined in a Los Angeles hospital but is reported definitely on the road to recovery. However, he is not expected to resume his duties until next fall.

During the first semester, the Torrance elementary schools retained their B7 classes but since Torrance high has abandoned the community college curriculum, all seventh graders were again advanced to junior high status.

**FERN AVE. SCHOOL IN SECOND TERM**

With 17 new kindergartners entering this week the present

## 12 Men Enter Council Race Here Last Night

The question of "Who will be the first candidate for city council to toss his hat into the municipal election ring?" has been superseded by:

"How many other candidates will join the initial 12 who announced their intentions last night at an open meeting of the C.I.O. lodge?"

Those who thus got an early start in the city campaign which gives promise of being the warmest in recent years were:

Vernon Babcock, National Supply Company clerk, 2012 1/2 Gramercy avenue;

L. Grande Barkdull, meat market proprietor, 1521 Beech street;

Fred Cullaway, janitor at KNX transmitter station, 18408 Hawthorne avenue;

Lewis M. Fernley, Columbia Steel Company paymaster, 1532 Post avenue;

Wallace H. Gilbert, insurance agent, 1631 Cota avenue;

Joe Hagberg, longshoreman, 24241 Neece avenue, Walteria;

Gordon L. Mann, carpenter, 1800 171st street, North Torrance;

John M. Minor, sheetmetal worker, 23842 Park street, Walteria;

James J. O'Toole, dairyman, 1225 Madrid avenue;

George V. Powell, high school custodian and incumbent, 2116 Gramercy avenue;

Carl D. Steele, Columbia Steel worker, 1320 Cota avenue, and

William H. Tolson, Mayor and incumbent, 2103 Arlington avenue.

To this list may be added five or six other prospective candidates who are said to be considering filing nominating petitions after tomorrow, the opening date for officially launching the municipal campaign that will reach a climax at the April 9 election. The nominating period expires at noon March 9.

**Five Are Old Campaigners**

While all of the "early bird" candidates are men, it is known that several local women are planning to enter the race and seek the title of the city's first councilwoman.

Each of the candidates appearing at the meeting of the Steel Workers' Organizing Committee (Continued on Page 5-A)

## County's Gas Tax Share Is Held by State

Los Angeles county's share of gasoline tax funds for the final quarter of 1939 is \$1,614,678, according to notification received by the board of supervisors from the state controller.

But — the county will not get a cent of it, for the state will retain the entire amount as the county's payment for 1940 on its unemployment relief loan, which the voters authorized by a special bond issue in 1935. Prior to that time available state funds were used, and federal funds made up the balance needed for relief.

In reality, the county is short on its annual payment even after the entire gasoline tax allocation for this quarter is deducted. Payment on the principal of the relief loan plus interest to January 1, 1940, amounts to \$1,401,932. In addition there is simple interest for 1940 on 70 per cent of the original loan, amounting to \$370,641. This leaves a balance of \$247,896 still due the state.

Los Angeles county was the only county in the state in which deductions for the loan totaled or exceeded the amount of its gas tax allocation, according to the state controller's figures.

From all counties in the state there was deducted a total of \$2,574,128 for relief advanced under the bond issue.

This county's share was more than half of the total of the amount for the 58 counties.

## Epidemic Hits Perry School

Altho it shows signs of abating, an epidemic of scarlet fever, chicken pox and measles is making a big dent in the attendance records at the Perry school in North Torrance.

Principal C. C. Crawford reported this week that about 15 youngsters are still confined to their homes with the various diseases. Last week the absentee list averaged better than 25.

## Aged Chinese Recalls Aid from Torrance



Lem Kee, 51-year resident of Gardena, whose age is variously estimated somewhere between 79 and 98, is shown here preparing his simple meal at an open fire in one of the two shacks he calls "home." He still dreams of some day returning to the land of his ancestors.

## 14,809 SETS OF PLATES ISSUED HERE

Exactly 14,809 sets of 1940 license plates were issued and \$108,232.75 collected in fees at the Torrance branch office of the State Motor Vehicle department from Jan. 2 until Monday afternoon at 5 o'clock when the office was closed.

Manager L. E. Tristram reported that last year 10,800 sets of plates were issued and \$81,000 was collected in license fees here. Of the 1940 total, 13,503 plate packages were handed out to automobile owners, 640 went for trailers, 593 to truck operators, 44 to motorcycleists and 29 miscellaneous applicants were received.

A steady stream of motorists called at the windows in the Torrance office all day Monday but there was no line-up of "last minute" applicants when the doors were closed at 5 o'clock. Those who failed to obtain 1940 car numerals will now have to apply direct to the State Motor Vehicle department in Sacramento and pay double the cost of the license fee.

## Want Ad Rhymes Winners Told

L. J. Gilmeister, secretary of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce and a number of other Lomita and Torrance residents chose this first offering of a new Torrance contest as the best in this week's Want Ad Rhymes Contest:

**First Prize Winner**

A. H. Koehler, 1732 Martina avenue, Torrance, should call at the Herald-News office in Torrance for his first prize of \$1. His rhyme would have been ruled out because of its length but for its exceptional merit. Please keep future poems down to four short lines or verses, if you will. Kindly call at Mrs. Attebery's Ranch Dinner House for one of her famous southern fried chicken dinners, as her guest.

The ad:

Attebery's Ranch Dinner House  
Family Style Southern Fried Chicken and other Dinners, etc.  
4044 N. Sixth Street, Torrance, Cal.  
Tel. Phone Redondo 6802

The winning rhyme:  
"Biscuits, butter, cream and berries, apples, peaches, pears and cherries;  
Pies, cakes, jellies, jams—chicken, ham and sugared yams;  
But, oh gin, our Tom and Jerry's, served with meals at Attebery's—  
Out from Torrance 'bout a mile, where they greet you with a smile."

**Second Prize Winner**

Avis Warren, 1229 1/2 North Arlington, Torrance, will kindly call at the office of the Herald-News for two tickets to the Torrance theatre. The ad:

"Flyers" and "Greyhounds" \$28.35 up. Used bicycles \$8.50 to \$11.50. Etc. Torrance B1. Cycle & Fixit Shop, 1341 B1 Prado, Tor. 382-J.

The winning rhyme:  
"With Cycles, games, wagons and Flyers"  
Torrance Fixit Shop please girls (Continued on Page 5-A)

## Lifetime of Toil Tapers Off in Rest

In answer to a knock on the door of a little shack off Redondo Beach boulevard and New Hampshire street in Gardena, a high-pitched voice squeaked a greeting: "You cum! You cum!"

The lined face of an old Chinaman broke into a smile as he recognized his patron of many years, Arthur De Paemelere, veteran Gardena jeweler, and then quickly lost its wrinkled grin as he saw that De Paemelere had a companion—a man carrying a grip. But the friendly watch-expert assured him that all was well and old Lem Kee's eyes were again encased in wrinkles.

The man with the grip was a photographer, coming to take Lem's picture and when that frail old Chinaman, who has lived in Gardena for 51 years, understood, he was as willing to pose as a movie star arriving at a preview.

**Helped by Relief Unit**

Lem Kee is not his real name—this venerable son of Old China who, according to what record he possesses, is about 79 years old, but who thinks he is about 98.

The years have not beclouded his recollection of receiving some greatly-needed assistance in the way of food and clothing from the Torrance Relief Society nearly 10 years ago. He recalls with evident appreciation when the local organization contributed to his welfare until his plight was noticed by Gardena folks.

He is described as being 34 years old on the residence certificate, which was issued to him on March 7, 1894 while he was working for "Lucky" Baldwin in Santa Anita. Incidentally the residence certificate is carefully guarded for old Lem by De Paemelere, who has locked it up in his safe. Several attempts were made in years past by unscrupulous individuals to get it away from the old Chinaman so that he would have no proof of legal residence and could be deported.

He has long been a familiar figure in Gardena, where he has always been known as Lem Kee, and makes his extremely modest home in two little shacks in an

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## P. E.-Auto Crash Claims Second Japanese Victim

Death claimed a second victim Tuesday morning of the collision Jan. 29 of a Pacific Electric car and a sedan carrying three Japanese women at 190th street and Normandie avenue. Mrs. Hara Ueda, 49, driver of the car, succumbed to internal injuries and skull fractures at Torrance Memorial hospital. She lived in Gardena.

Mrs. Mito Suto, also of Gardena, was almost instantly killed in the collision. Miss Oshio Rikyoku, 18, is recovering at home from injuries received. The funeral services for Mrs. Ueda began yesterday and are continuing today at the Buddhist temple in Gardena, according to Stone and Myers Mortuary.

## HERMOSA BOY JOY-RIDERS IN COLLISION

A Long Beach woman and two Hermosa Beach boys were injured late Monday afternoon in an automobile collision at the intersection of Manuel and Englewood avenues. According to investigating officers, the collision was caused by too much speed on the part of Ralph Pearson, 15, of Hermosa Beach, who was joyriding with three other boys.

Young Pearson was given a court citation for not possessing a driver's license and having faulty brakes on his car. The most seriously injured was Miss

Ellen Murray of Long Beach, who suffers from a chronic heart ailment and was confined at Torrance Memorial hospital overnight to recover from shock. The boy-victims were: Bill Keener, 15, cut on the back of his head, and John Killefer, said to be the 15-year-old son of "Red" Killefer, well-known baseball manager. Young Pearson, the driver, and Dick Ise, 15, were unhurt.

Miss Murray was riding with William H. Gain, a visitor from Vancouver, B. C., and his sister, Mrs. F. Andrews of Long Beach. Gain was driving south on Manuel in a new car when his machine was struck by the boys' roadster that was speeding west on Englewood.

The boys' car came to rest 36 feet south of the curb line on Attorney Albert Isen's lawn parkway. Gain's car was also shoved up on the Isen lawn, its right front wheel digging into the parkway. Both cars were badly damaged and were towed to a local garage.

**'March of Dimes' Funds Wanted**

"I have hopes that our contribution to the National Infantile Paralysis fund from the 'March of Dimes' here will reach \$500 — if everyone who has received supplies of the lapel buttons and honorary gold \$10 badges makes a cash return," Postmaster Earl Conner said yesterday.

"To date I have deposited \$216.85 which is approximately half of the value of the buttons the local committee distributed in Torrance.

"I would like to close the Torrance campaign as soon as possible and make a final report to the state headquarters on what we accomplished in this city toward fighting infantile paralysis," Conner continued.

The local quota was \$600 but Conner believes that if the result of the campaign will be considered successful here. Those who have yet to report their collections are urged to do so at once.

## Bus Situation Appears Well in Hand; L. A. Hearing is Postponed

Other than a slight change in the schedule of operation, no new developments occurred here this week in the "bus situation" which had city officials jumping from meeting to meeting and decision to decision with great rapidity last week. The change in municipal bus schedules is briefed in the adjoining column.

## Changes Made in Schedule of City Buses

An advance of 10 minutes has been made in the schedule of the municipal buses linking Torrance, Lomita and Walteria with the Los Angeles terminus at Ninth and Hill streets. It was announced this week by R. C. Cole, supervisor of the local system.

The first bus now leaves Torrance for Los Angeles at 6:30 a. m. and arrives at 7:15 a. m. The first bus from Lomita for Torrance and Los Angeles leaves at 7:35 a. m., arriving at 8:25, and the first bus from Walteria departs at 8:42 a. m., arriving in Los Angeles at 9:40 a. m.

The last bus from Torrance to Los Angeles leaves at 9:40 p. m. while the last bus from Lomita is scheduled at 9:35 p. m. and from Walteria at 9:27 p. m.

Southbound, buses leave Los Angeles at 6:40, 7:40, 9:10, 10:40 a. m. and 12:10, 1:40, 2:35, 4:10, 5:25, 6:55, 8:25 and 11:10 p. m. North bound, the schedule from Torrance is 7:15, 8:25, 9:40, 11:10 a. m. and 12:40, 2:10, 3:40, 4:50, 6:10, 7:25, 8:55 and 10:25 p. m.

Bus times for leaving Lomita for Torrance and Los Angeles are: 7:35, 8:50, 10:20, 11:50 a. m. and 1:20, 2:50, 4:00, 5:20, 6:35, 8:05 and 9:35 p. m. Buses are now leaving Walteria for Lomita, Torrance and Los Angeles at 8:42, 10:12, 11:42 a. m. and 1:12, 2:42, 3:52, 5:12, 6:27, 7:57 and 9:27 p. m.

## C. C. MEMBERS DISCUSS CIVIC ACTIVITIES

Wide-spread community activities and civic projects were discussed last night at the quarterly membership meeting of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce held at Daniels Cafe, and attended by 40 members.

Following dinner, President R. R. Smith opened the discussion by outlining activities of the Chamber of Commerce and explained his plan for spreading the work of the civic organization to include a large number of members. Eight committees, each headed by a chamber director, are given the task of investigating its respective activities and thoroughly studying various projects before presenting them to the chamber board for action, President Smith explained.

Terming the chamber as "a clearing house of community opinion," Smith said that its work was largely advisory and that its function was to sift out worthwhile projects and activities for recommendation to the city council for action as it deems fit.

**Seek Opinions on Frolic**

Listed by President Smith among projects and activities either fostered or sponsored by the chamber are: (1) Torrance Community Service Association which raises funds for the Torrance Relief Society and other local welfare and relief agencies; (2) State Semi-Pro Baseball Tournament; (3) Factory Frolic; (4) Auto license bureau; (5) Conventions; (6) Income tax services; (7) Assessment rolls covering all Torrance property are copied from the county records and are available to anyone at the chamber office; (8) Flood control; (9) Promotion of highways thru Torrance by working in conjunction with the Harbor District Chambers of Commerce; (10) and answering thousands of inquiries from new and old residents each year.

High praise for Secretary L. J. Gilmeister was expressed by President Smith. "I have found that 'Gil' is very favorably known throughout the Southland and that he has many valuable contacts in important civic and governmental offices," Smith said.

In commenting on the Factory Frolic, Smith said he thought it

(Continued on Page 5-A)

The buses are continuing to provide excellent service between Walteria, Lomita, Torrance and Los Angeles and, according to city officials, are coming (on an average) within \$12 or \$15 of meeting their daily expense. This deficit, it is believed, will be eliminated when residents become better acquainted with the service offered. As yet, no advertising or promotion campaign has been developed for the municipal service.

It was announced Tuesday by City Clerk A. H. Bartlett that the scheduled hearing Friday on the city's application to the Los Angeles Board of Utilities and Transportation for a formal permit to traverse Los Angeles city streets and pick up passengers north of 116th street had been "indefinitely postponed."

**No Date Is Set**

Meanwhile, city buses are continuing to travel back and forth from their northern terminal at Ninth and Hill streets and are picking up passengers anywhere along the route.

The city's application, and that of Asbury Rapid Transit System for a similar permit on behalf of the privately-owned transportation firm which has leased three of its buses to Torrance, were to have been aired at the same hearing in the Los Angeles city hall. No date has been set for the postponed joint hearings, City Clerk Bartlett said today.

No date has likewise been fixed for public hearing on the application to the State Commission by Landier Transportation Company for a permit to operate buses between Torrance, Watts and Huntington Park. The Landier firm does not intend to offer bus service to Walteria or Lomita.

**Hearing Continues Feb. 14**

Next Wednesday, Feb. 14, Examiner William H. Gorman of the State Railroad Commission will re-convene the public hearing on the application of Asbury Rapid Transit System for an interim permit to operate a privately-owned bus line between Walteria, Lomita, Torrance and Los Angeles. This continued hearing will be held in room 708 of the State building in Los Angeles.

The dates of Feb. 14, 15 and 16 have been reserved by Gorman to complete taking testimony on Asbury's application. If that firm is successful in obtaining a state franchise, then city officials intend to discontinue municipal service at once. The city has only a day-to-day agreement with Asbury for the rental of municipal buses at the rate of three and one-half cents per mile.

This cost includes maintenance on the buses of tires, mechanical repairs, greasing and servicing, including all lubricants except oil.

## MILLION PINE SEEDLINGS

More than a million pine seedlings are being planted this spring in California under reforestation activities of the U. S.

## Ride a Taxi for Two Bits!

—and, that's no myth! You can send your child to school, have errands run, do a number of things within reasonable limits for a 25c taxi fare. Turn now to the classified page and see this ad under classification—

Taxi Service —24A

**N-E-W**  
TORRANCE-LOMITA AREA  
**DAY & NIGHT CAB**  
24 Hour Service  
ANYWHERE-ANYTIME  
Invites  
**Your Patronage**  
Read—Use Herald-News  
Want Ads Regularly  
for Profit!