



LOMITA WINS MAJOR AWARD... Highlight of the final session in the Torrance Civic Auditorium of the successful three-day Cooking School sponsored by this newspaper was the presentation of a brand-new Sunbeam Mixer, donated by the National Home Appliance Company of Torrance, to Mrs. Mary A. Williams of 25844 Narbonne ave., Lomita.

11 Men in 6th Draft Group Leaving Friday

Eleven men are scheduled to meet at Selective Service Board No. 280 at 1337 El Prado in Torrance tomorrow (Friday) morning preparatory to leaving for a year's training in the Army.

Instructor Calls Meet for Scout Band Here

If there are enough Boy Scouts in Torrance and vicinity who show interest in the formation of a Scout band—and they don't have to be musicians right now—Charles A. Hewett, veteran instructor, will give his time and ability to directing a band here.

Next Monday night, April 23, he would like to meet all Boy Scouts who would like to be in a Scout band. The meeting will be held at the basement of the First Christian church, starting at 7 o'clock.

Hewett, who is associated with Scout Troop 217, has taught music at the Oklahoma School of Music and attended Southwest Conservatory of Music. His father was a noted band master and Hewett has a complete library of band and orchestra music.

He has received the cooperation of Mr. Sauter, director of the Torrance high school band and says that boys wanting to join such a band do not have to have instruments right away.

Sons of Legion to Advance Plans For Convention

A score or more of Sons of the American Legion officials and American Legion officers from all parts of Southern California will gather at the Torrance Legion clubhouse Sunday to advance plans for the Fourth Area Assembly of the Sons here on June 7.

The group led by Kaiser originally was interested in construction of Boulder Dam. Later it built Bonneville, the Grand Coulee high dam after revision of that was undertaken, and now has shipyards here, at Oakland, Portland and Houston. This group has contracts to build 122 ships for the Maritime Commission.

SCRIPT GIVEN S. C.

The original working manuscript of the motion picture "Kit-Foyle" has been presented to U. S. C.

THE MARCH OF RIMES - BELLS - By H. F. NOAKE - The thought has just occurred to me how strange this world of ours would be, if all the bells that clang or ring, should suddenly refuse to ring.

Frolic Leaders May Be Chosen Here Tonight

Selection of an advisory committee of nine, decision to hold the fourth annual Torrance Factory Frolic Sept. 25, 26 and 27, elimination of the parade as one of the celebration's features and a general discussion of the event occupied the attention of 16 men and women last Thursday night at the Chamber of Commerce.

In the absence of Dean L. Sears, temporary chairman of the 1941 Factory Frolic, Robert McCallum, president of the Torrance Business Men's Association, presided. Those chosen to serve on an advisory committee for the celebration and who will elect a general chairman, vice-chairman, secretary and a treasurer, are:

Wallace H. Gilbert, Dr. C. L. Ingold, John J. Elder, Robert McCallum, J. A. Evans, Mrs. W. J. Laughton, Mrs. J. J. Millard, H. C. Barrington and Michael Strasser. This group has been asked to meet tonight at 8 o'clock at the Chamber of Commerce to select the heads of the Frolic and take initial steps in the promotion of the three-day program.

Those attending last Thursday night's general meeting agreed that some outstanding feature should be obtained for the 1941 Frolic but that the parade should be eliminated because of its disproportionate cost.

Steel Mill May Be Built In Harbor Area

Addition of a huge steel mill to the harbor district industrial roster looms as a possibility this week as a result of disclosures made by Henry J. Kaiser of Oakland following a conference with President Roosevelt.

Kaiser said he had laid plans before the Office of Production Management last Friday seeking authorization which would open the way for establishment of a pig iron plant at Mount Pleasant, Utah, to utilize ore deposits in that area.

Construction of a major steel mill in Southern California to use pig iron produced at Mount Pleasant, utilizing both gas and electricity in a new process of steel construction.

Construction of a steel plant in the Bonneville area, which would utilize Bonneville power.

Kaiser, who is interested in shipyards at Los Angeles Harbor, the contract for extension of the breakwater and numerous other ventures, reported that Southland steel mills cannot supply him with materials needed for defense projects before next December, or later. With Senator Abe Murdock of Utah, he talked to the President Monday urging approval of the plan outlined above.

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Low Panama Bidder - Columbia Construction Company, recently awarded a \$10,000,000 contract for extension of the breakwater, is said to be a Kaiser project. Only last week the Henry J. Kaiser Company was low bidder on the new Miraflores locks excavation at Panama Canal, a \$22,000,000 job.

Definite information regarding the probable site of the proposed steel mill was not available here although it is expected to be in the port area, close to the Kaiser undertakings which will use most of the steel produced.

Boulevard Project in Hands of WPA

All preliminary plans, specifications and other important data pertaining to the proposed improvement and beautification of Torrance boulevard is in the hands of W.P.A. authorities in Los Angeles for checking before being forwarded to Washington, D. C. for final review.

According to Glenn Jain, acting city engineer, the plans call for an expenditure of approximately \$40,000 for materials to effect the improvement of the boulevard from Sartori to Madrid ave. with paving, curbs, installation of culverts and drainage facilities around the Pacific Electric station and catch basins on Western at El Prado.

The plans provide for planting of the center parkway between the double-barrel highway but no additional paving from Madrid westerly to Fern ave, the engineer stated. Culverts are proposed for Madrid, Sartori and Engracia aves. and at the P. E. station.

Approved by S. F. Engineer - Engineer Jain said the plans for the improvement had not been changed to conform to a petition submitted to the city council April 15 asking that the boulevard be paved curb-to-curb between Post and Cota aves.

The petition, which had 32 signatures, contained only about 16 signatures of bona fide property owners, Jain said.

It was received too late for the engineering department to make the change in the plans which would have eliminated the distinctive "island parkways" in the center of the thoroughfare.

In presenting the project to the W.P.A., Engineer Jain attached the proposed improvement of Madrid ave. between Torrance Blvd. and Carson st. as a supplemental project. He told the W.P.A. authorities that the city was awaiting permission and easements from the Santa Fe railway that would allow the Madrid work to be launched at the same time as Torrance Blvd. The assistant engineer for the Santa Fe, Mr. Weis, has already signified that he will recommend the betterment of Madrid to his superiors in Los Angeles and Chicago.

Madrid's Betterment - Principal betterment of the street now bisected by a wide, unsightly gash of the Santa Fe's right-of-way is the widening of the two 21-foot streets on either side of the right-of-way to permit this improvement. Curbs and gutters would be installed and pedestrian steps to cross the tracks at El Dorado street built. The engineer's plans also contemplate some realignment of Madrid immediately north of Torrance boulevard.

Engineer Jain has suggested that the city could help along the much-needed improvements by offering to resurface the streets, remove the fences bordering the right-of-way, do the excavating work and possibly share in the cost of constructing curbs and gutters.

OPEN BUS BIDS - Bids on a new bus for the Torrance municipal system are to be opened by the city council at an adjourned meeting Wednesday afternoon, April 30, at 5 o'clock.

So declared Councilman Vern Babcock Tuesday night. He insisted that the proposed municipal law will be read at that meeting "without fail."

Doak Installing Machines at Aircraft Plant Here

The Torrance plant, which is a division of the Doak Aircraft Company, Inc., will be devoted exclusively to making parts for the major aircraft companies of the Southland. Approximately 100 employees will man the local plant, Grace stated. The company will continue its operations in the construction of airplanes for training purposes at its Hermosa Beach plant, he said.

Careers are Briefed - Nelson E. Grace brings to his new position as factory manager of the parts manufacturing plant in Torrance a wealth of knowledge and long experience in the aircraft industry. A thumb-nail sketch of his career lists: nine years with Douglas Aircraft doing experimental work and welding; staff member of the Curtiss-Wright Technical Institute in Glendale, two years with North American Aviation in charge of welding and fuselage work two and a half years with Aero Industries Technical Institute in Los Angeles in complete charge

County in Final Action on Alondra Park Refunding

Final action in refunding the largest Mattoon Act district in Los Angeles county, formed for the acquisition of 315 acres of land for Alondra Park at the northern edge of Torrance, was taken Tuesday by the board of supervisors.

Already well under way is the work of "spreading" the new assessments, and by June 1 it is expected that each property owner will be informed that his assessment has practically been cut to half of what it originally was.

Total outstanding indebtedness on the bonds is \$370,824, as against the \$680,564 that remained to be paid off when the resolution of intention to refund was adopted by the board last February 18. However, property owners already had paid off \$688,000, as the original bond issue was for more than \$1,000,000.

Ends 4-Year Fight - Action of the board Tuesday was to deny the few protests that had been filed against the refunding proposal, which amounted to less than one-tenth of one percent, according to Frank Pore, member of the special assessment relief committee.

The reduced assessments, in the form of a specific amount against each parcel, will be reflected on the 1941 tax bills this fall for the first time, Pore said. Included in the assessment district, formed in 1927, is property of the "Dominguez Estate, the Carson Estate, which includes Strawberry Park, and the O. V. Johnson Estate, including the Johnson Lake area. There are a total of 19,849 parcels of land in the district, and the order to spread the assessment marks the end of a four-year fight by the property owners.

The firemen battled for nearly six hours to quell flames that burst shortly after 6 o'clock Saturday morning from 800 sacks of corn flour stored in a foundry bin at the Columbia Steel plant.

After they put out the fire they spent another six hours cleaning off the "goo" from the debris.

Swathed in smoke masks, Columbia Steel's own firemen worked alongside the city crew struggling to choke the smoldering flour, which is used in the steel-making process, while company employees fought their way thru dense smoke palls to load undamaged sacks in trucks.

The damage was confined chiefly to the material burred inside a brick bin. It was not estimated by the company. Firemen said the corn flour was stored in a bin next to a furnace.

Civil Service Law Scheduled for First Reading April 30 - First reading of the proposed civil service ordinance for city employees, a measure which has been more or less "kicked around" since before the April 1940 municipal election, will be given at the adjourned meeting of the city council next Wednesday afternoon, April 30, at 5 o'clock.

Bob Ueda Buys Patterson Block On Narbonne Ave. - One of the most progressive businessmen of Lomita has again demonstrated his faith in the value of Lomita property this past week. Bob Ueda, already holder of large interests here, has purchased the Patterson block at 24700, 24702 and 24704 Narbonne.

Judge S. D. Patterson, who came to Lomita on April 6, 1920 and has been active in the real estate and insurance business since is planning to retire. He has been in poor health and plans to rest and enjoy himself. Patterson served for some time as justice of the peace of Lomita court and is a past president of the Chamber of Commerce.

The building contains four storerooms, one formerly used as justice court, one occupied by Narbonne Ranch Water Company No. 2, by the County Library and one by The Lomita News. Ueda is buying the building as an investment and will make no immediate changes in the property. John G. Wilson built the building, a fine brick structure for Patterson and it was constructed so that a second story could be added.

Council Trio Files Reply to Recall; Lessing Answers

Another capacity crowd jam-packed the city council chamber Tuesday night, most of the audience expecting—at long last—Councilmen George V. Powell, John V. Murray and Vern Babcock to reveal why they had abruptly discharged Robert Lessing as city judge April 8.

MECHANICS OF RECALL OUTLINED

Stripped of their legal phraseology, the important steps and requirements relating to recall of municipal officers in a City of the sixth class, such as Torrance, are as follows:

- (1) Publish a notice of intention to circulate recall petitions setting forth the reason for recall. (This was published in The Herald's issue of April 10.)
(2) Copy of this notice must be served upon each official sought to be recalled. (This was done.)
(3) Within 14 days after publication of the notice, the petitioners sought to be recalled, or anyone in their behalf, may file an answer (not exceeding 500 words). This answer shall be published in the same newspaper as the first notice.

(4) Twenty-one days (May 2 in this case) after publication of the first statement, the petition demanding recall of the officers may be circulated among qualified voters. The petition shall bear a copy of the printed notice of intention and accompanying answers, if any. If any officer has not answered, the petition shall be filed within 60 days from the first publication. (June 10.) Signatures to the petition need not all be appended to one paper but may be appended to several.

(5) Each signer shall add to his signature the date of his signing, his residence and occupation, giving street and number. Affidavits by the person or persons circulating the petitions must be appended to each petition.

(6) In order to be acceptable for filing the petition must on its face purport to have appended to its signature of voters in the required number (72 in this case).

Must Order Election - (7) Within 15 days from the date of filing the petition, the city clerk shall examine it and from the records of registration ascertain whether or not the petition is signed by the requisite number of voters.

Bids Wanted on Mail Transfer to Improve Service - Postmaster Earl Conner this week is asking for proposals for mail messenger service which will provide even better service for Torrance postoffice patrons when put into effect.

The postmaster wants bids on the transfer of mail to and from the postoffice and Compton. He is planning a later dispatch of mail that will leave here at 7 p. m. and be taken to Compton daily except Sunday to connect with the railway postoffice to Los Angeles.

An additional Sunday trip at 9:45 a. m. is also planned. Anyone interested in bidding on the transfer job should secure the necessary forms at once from the postoffice.

These forms must be filled out and returned by next Monday, April 28, at noon. Postmaster Conner hopes to have the additional service in operation by May 15.

Beaver Patrol Wins Camporee - Scoring 915 points, Beaver Patrol of Boy Scouts Troop 217, sponsored by the Christian church with A. Barnett as scoutmaster, won the weekend camporee held near the city yards off Western ave. and East Road. Flaming Arrow Patrol of Troop 217 and Golden Eagle Patrol of Troop 218 were tied with 900 points for second place honors.

The Scouts participating in the over-night camp were judged on their planning, registration, packs, bedding and equipment; uniforms and personal inspection, food, cooking, fires and camp management and Scout skill. Ray Burdick, district commissioner, assisted the boys in the camporee.

PER COPY 5c... Organization of a recall committee will be perfected at a meeting called in the Chamber of Commerce rooms next Tuesday, April 29, at 7:30 p. m. Preparation of the recall petitions seeking the removal of Councilmen Powell, Murray and Babcock will be among the topics discussed and all citizens wishing to assist in the recall movement are invited, a spokesman for the organization committee states. It is planned to have every thing in readiness to begin asking for signatures on the petitions on Friday, May 2, which is the first date that petitions may be legally circulated. April 9. After denying all of the six charges placed against them as city officials in 10 words, the trio devoted the remainder of their 433-word reply to their first public statement as to why Lessing was dismissed. Briefly, this claimed the city's magistrates for nearly seven years was ousted because he was "inefficient, careless, negligent and incapable of handling the affairs of the office..." failed to comply with provisions of the state law governing cities of the sixth class in that he did not at any time render monthly reports to the city clerk... failed to properly maintain court dockets... and that his records were either missing or incomplete. Powell, Murray and Babcock also charge that Lessing "held City money in his own possession for months at a time..." that there was owing from fines collected by him, to the City the sum of \$1,780 representing fines collected during an eight months period which he turned over to the City only at the insistence of the city auditor... that the records show approximately one-third of the cases heard by him resulted in suspended sentences and that it is impossible to ascertain from his records whether or not all of the money collected by him was turned over to the proper authorities." "Another 'reason' given by the Powell-Murray-Babcock combination for Lessing's ouster was: "That members of the council were informed by the grand jury that he had been guilty of a breach of law and that it was up to the council to remove him." The trio end their "reply" with the assertion "we voted to dismiss him... because it is vital and necessary to the interests of the people of this city that the office be handled in a careful, capable, efficient, fair and impartial manner and Robert Lessing completely failed to fulfill these requirements." After reading the reply of the three councilmen, former Judge Robert Lessing issued the following statement: "The 'answer' of Powell, Murray and Babcock to the charges made in the recall statement is a remarkable example of the extent to which petty politicians will go to save their hides when threatened with justice by an indignant public. "My so-called inefficiency, care-