

# 'Wrong-Way' Corrigan Seeks Right Way to Torrance Airport



Here's how Douglas Corrigan and his \$900 plane looked in mid-summer shortly before both spanned the Atlantic in an unauthorized flight.

Still insisting he made his trans-Atlantic flight "by mistake," Douglas G. "Wrong Way" Corrigan was a visitor at the Chamber of Commerce last Friday. Aalto he did a lot of "hanger-flying" (aeronautics for reminiscing) with Secretary L. J. Gilmeister about his 28-hour solo flight from Floyd Bennett

Field, Brooklyn, to Dublin, Ireland on July 17-18, 1931. Corrigan was more interested in what's become of the proposed Torrance airport at Highway 101 and Hawthorne Blvd.

He was informed that the airport project was, unless some new development occurs, as dead as the headlines which flamed across the nation telling of the impetuous 31-year-old airman's feat in spanning the Atlantic when he believed he was on his way back to Los Angeles. Corrigan's interest in airports stems from his ambition to establish a passenger flying service and training school. Tied in with that hope is another: to build an all-metal small commercial plane of his own design that has been on paper for several years.

Corrigan, still the irrepressible air pilot, whose work in 1917 as a mechanic on Lindbergh's "Spirit of St. Louis" was an inspiration for his later achievement, likes to recall those few hectic days in 1931 when he was making air history with his Curtiss Robin plane. He still has that ship, in fact he made an aerial survey just recently of the proposed airfield in Torrance.

Gum Magnate Reneges  
He had a few pictures of that property and a sketch to show how it could be developed. He would like to locate in Torrance—providing he could obtain a location for his flying service and school.

Corrigan made some money out of his unauthorized ocean hop—from his book which sold 40,000 copies, a motion picture of two and some personal appearances. He could have made more, he believes, if he had "endorsed" various brands of cigarettes, coffee, cigars and breakfast foods.

"But I don't smoke, drink coffee and most of the prepared breakfast foods taste like so much sawdust to me," he said, "so I couldn't honestly take their money." R. K. Wrigley sent \$80 to me while I was in Dublin, saying it was a gift, but I knew he wanted me to endorse his chewing gum—which I didn't use—and so I didn't cash his money order. A few days later when one of the embassy staff insisted that I cash it and took it to the bank he found out it had been cancelled.

Enjoyed Meeting, Crowds  
Corrigan still doesn't think that his flight should have caused all the nip-ups that upset the Irish republic of Eire and the American embassy because he had no permit and no passport. He maintains he thought he was flying home to California and landed in Ireland "by mistake." For this laxity, the U. S. Bureau of Air Commerce suspended his experimental license.

Previous to his Atlantic hop Corrigan flew his nine-year-old \$900, one engine plane nonstop from California to New York, a distance of 2,700 miles in 27 hours 50 minutes. His time for the ocean crossing of 3,150 miles was 28 hours 13 minutes. He made the trip without a radio.

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## MARCH OF RIMES

THE CHEERFUL BLIND—By H. F. NOAKE

'Twas just about a week ago, while cruising round my radio, I happened, luckily, to find a program given by the blind. A girl, as cheerful as could be, recited her own poetry; chuck full of mighty clever wit, was she downhearted? Not a bit. A young man sang a lively song, his voice was confident and strong; and seemed to say with every word, "I'm blind, but carefree as a bird." Then others, each bereft of sight, performed with unrestrained delight, revealing most conclusively, that blindest of them all, was me.

NOAKE

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## Hospital Addition Starts Soon to Provide Wing

Construction of a new west wing and enlargement of the present nursery at the Torrance Memorial hospital is scheduled to get under way early next week, according to hospital officials.

The contract for the expansions and other improvements of the present building was awarded to Edward G. Nees, at a meeting of the hospital board last Friday. Nees was the low bidder.

The new wing, to be erected at right angles to the present hospital structure on the west end, will contain accommodations for 11 beds, including one de luxe private room with full bath. The extension of the nursery will provide about four times the present space and will relieve the crowded condition of the infant department.

Much study has been given to planning and equipping the new west wing and nursery extension. Working with the able assistance of M. L. Barker and G. Lawrence Ott, architects, members of the hospital board have endeavored to include every modern device approved by medical science. Attractive furnishings are also planned for the new rooms.

The new additions will be ready for occupancy about Sept. 15, it was announced by the building committee, consisting of Grover C. Whyte, chairman, Dr. Roy Flesher and Mrs. Dorothy H. Jamieson.

## Camera Club to Hear Lecture at Meet June 17

So successful was the first meeting of the new Torrance Camera club last Thursday night in the exhibit room of the public library that it was decided to hold regular gatherings for all amateur camera enthusiasts every first and third Tuesday nights at 8 o'clock at the same location. The next meeting will be on the night of June 17.

At that time Paul Jamison, photographic chemical research engineer, will give a lecture and demonstration on retouching and toning prints with particular reference to the use of Etchadine products. Camera fans are requested to bring their best landscape prints to this meeting for prize competition.

Last Thursday night there were 19 present. Many brought examples of their lens work and after close inspection of all prints and secret balloting the winners of the first Torrance Camera club contest were announced as follows: Arthur E. Falk of 1408 Beech ave. winner of first and second awards of photo equipment for his "High Sierra" landscape and "Hilltop," a beautiful study of eucalyptus trees and cloud effects; and Bill Husbands of 1733 Cabrillo ave. for his joint production with William Chandler of a striking night view of the San Francisco-Oakland bay bridge.

## Delinquency in Co. Taxes Here 4.42 Per Cent

All but 4.02 per cent of the general county tax levy was paid this year by the April 20 deadline, according to records of tax delinquency in the offices of County Tax Collector H. L. Byram and County Auditor J. L. Lowery.

Taxpayers in 34 cities paid more of their taxes this year than last; 10 cities, including Torrance, did not quite equal last year's figure, and one city, Avalon, showed no improvement.

Torrance taxpayers paid all but 4.42 per cent of their current levy, as compared with 3.80 per cent a year ago. In Municipal Improvement district No. 1, however, all but 3.28 per cent was paid this year as compared with 3.42 per cent a year ago.

Redondo Beach and Manhattan Beach showed the same tendency as Torrance, while Hermosa Beach and Gardena showed improvement.

## Recall Petitions Now Being Supplemented



770 DEMAND OUSTER ELECTION . . . Shortly before noon last Saturday, Charles Mitschlich, chairman of the Citizens' Recall Committee, (right), and George Bumpus, secretary of the group seeking the ouster of Councilmen Powell, Murray and Babcock, (center), deposited with City Clerk A. H. Bartlett (left) the petitions signed by 770 voters endorsing the recall election. After an official check, it was disclosed yesterday that 81 more signers are needed to institute ouster proceedings, against Powell and Babcock. More than enough have endorsed Murray's recall. Supplementary petitions are now in circulation to place Powell and Babcock's names on the recall ballot.

## Photo Features of Sons' Assembly in Torrance



SCENES AT SONS' CONVENTION . . . Here are the three highlights of the business session of the Sons of the American Legion convention held last Saturday morning in the Civic Auditorium. Upper left: Mrs. Mae Cushman, national president of the Gold Star Mothers of America, is shown expressing her thanks to the boys for their gift of a substantial check to help defray expenses of the Mothers' convention now in progress in Los Angeles.

Upper right: Captain Carroll Parish of Los Angeles gives Robert Lewellen Sr. of Torrance the microphone as the Herald's mechanical superintendent expresses his "loss for words" following his election as Area Captain to succeed Parish. Lower center: These Sons received the trophies awarded their respective units for outstanding work during the past year. Left to right, they are: Frank Whiting, chairman of the Torrance Sons' Americanism committee, with the trophy presented the local squadron for its Americanism record; Jack Howard, Los Angeles, with the "five-star" award given by Century Post; Charles Lorton, Lynwood, membership trophy; John B. Carson, Jr., of the Hollywood Squadron with the Disaster and Relief award; Robert Voss, captain of the Leonard Wood Squadron, Los Angeles, with the "five-star" award given by the 12 of 21 service organization of older Sons.

(Other pictures and news of the Sons' convention on Page 1-C)

## Shelter in Park for Bus Patrons

What type of a shelter for city bus patrons should be erected in the triangular park at Sartori and Marcellina ayes? A request from L. J. Gilmeister, manager of the bus system, for such a shelter to the city council Tuesday night was referred to the zoning committee and city engineer by Councilman

Vern Babcock for investigation and a report at the next council session. Gilmeister also requested installation of a bench seat in front of the Beacon Drug store which may carry advertising. This was granted. On the bus manager's recommendation the council authorized Mayor Tom McGuire to enter into a contract with a Los Angeles advertising agency to handle the card advertising in the buses. Local firms will be given preference in the available space above the seats. The agency, it is understood, has agreed to handle the job on a 60-40 basis—the smaller sum to go to the city.

## Murray Ouster Vote Certain; 81 Needed for Powell, Babcock

Because 132 names of the 771 signatures on the councilmanic recall petition filed Saturday morning by Charles Mitschlich, chairman of the Recall Committee, failed to qualify upon checking by City Clerk A. H. Bartlett yesterday, the petitions seeking the ouster of Councilmen George V. Powell and Vern Babcock

## 6 More Draftees to Begin Army Life June 18

Names of the six men who will compose the combined 10th and 11th draft contingent to enter Army training from this vicinity and will leave next Wednesday morning, June 18, at 7 o'clock were announced today by Carl Marsteller, clerk of Selective Service Board No. 280, Torrance.

They are: William John McGraw, 23 nursery salesman, 25308 Eshelman ave. Lomita.

George Herbert Coburn, 23 electrician's helper, 4435 Torrance Blvd. Torrance.

Robert Don Fernley, 22, junior draftsman, 1552 Post ave. Torrance.

Loren Hollas Kastrup, 27, barber, 2050 Highway 101, Lomita.

Harris Henry Grotzman, 22, general laborer, 9538 Doble ave. South Gate, formerly of 2121 Arlington ave. Torrance.

Gordon Birchard Cummings, 23, farm laborer, Rt. 1, Box 78, Gardena.

The men will assemble at the draft board headquarters at 6:30 a. m. and after a brief farewell ceremony in front of the Civic Auditorium will leave for a Los Angeles induction station aboard a Torrance Municipal bus.

## Stroh Attends Officials' Meet at No. American

Summoned Tuesday to a meeting of civil authorities of this district at the North American Aviation plant near Inglewood, Police Chief John Stroh was given first-hand information on the plans of the Army to end the "wildcat" strike at that vital national defense plant.

Between 35 and 40 peace officers, including Sheriff Biscailuz, State Highway Patrol officials, Los Angeles police and heads of departments of surrounding cities listened with keen interest to the statement of Capt. Crawford, representing Lt.-Col. Charles Branshaw.

The Army offered to send patrol cars to any city where there were reports of intimidation of North American workers and a number of police chiefs immediately asked for this extra guard service. However, Chief Stroh said he did not need the Army's assistance as no reports have been received here of any disturbance traceable to the North American strike which now has been ended.

"We have a number of North American workers living in Torrance but they are mostly single men without families," Stroh said today. "We have not needed the services of the Army as yet and probably won't in the future inasmuch as the North American strike is over."

## No. Torrance Folk to Get Emergency Water Connection

Residents of North Torrance affected by the collapse of the Crown Water Company are expected to receive water from the county thru the mains servicing the Prairie ave. school until some means is found to supply the 14 or 16 families with private water service. William H. Stanger, superintendent of the municipal water district, said he could assist by laying a three-foot stretch of pipe and installing the necessary reducer valve to connect with the school line as soon as the county council approves the emergency service.

Meanwhile, City Attorney John McCall and Attorney Don Findley, the latter acting for the residents in the area, are conferring on an arrangement to revive the private water company, possibly with the assistance of a loan from the city.

\*will require 81 additional valid signatures in order to compel an election for their ouster from office.

The petition in regard to Councilman J. V. Murray contained more than sufficient valid signatures to force the council to call a special election at its next meeting, June 24 for his recall.

The Recall Committee has 15 days from yesterday to obtain the necessary 81 valid names to qualify the Powell and Babcock recall petitions. Members of the Recall Committee are actively working and Chairman Mitschlich expressed confidence that more than enough additional names would be filed before the 15-day period expires. However, unless these additional names are filed prior to the next council meeting on June 24, it will be necessary under the State law to go ahead with the Murray recall election. Later if the Powell and Babcock petitions qualify, a second election will have to be held.

Smaller Vote in 1938  
However, it is hoped that more than sufficient signatures will be added to the petitions of Powell and Babcock prior to

## RECALL HEADQUARTERS OPEN EVENINGS

"For the convenience of those legal voters interested in the recall of Councilmen Powell and Babcock who have not signed the recall petitions but desire to do so, my office at 1409 Marcellina ave. will be open until 9 o'clock each evening during next week," Chairman Charles Mitschlich announced today. "Petitions may be signed there at your convenience."

June 24 so that all three recalls may be voted upon at the same time, Mitschlich said. "While only 81 names are required, we want to get two or three times that number in order to eliminate any possibility of a shortage after checking," Mitschlich said.

Fewer names were required to qualify the Murray petition because of the smaller vote cast in the 1938 election when Murray was voted into office than at the record vote in 1940 when Powell and Babcock were elected. Under recall procedure, signatures equal to 25 per cent of the vote cast for the office in question must be obtained to compel an election. In 1938, the total vote cast for the two councilmen in the race was 4,478, or an average of 2,240 each. Twenty-five per cent of 2,240 is 560, or the number of valid names necessary to qualify the Murray recall election.

More Ballots in 1940  
Actually 639 names of properly registered voters were found by City Clerk Bartlett and his aids on the petitions filed Saturday morning, or 79 more than required for Murray.

In the 1940 election, when Powell and Babcock were elected, there was a record vote of 8,638 cast, requiring 720 valid signatures to qualify a recall petition and compel an election. Principal reasons for eliminating the 132 names on the petitions according to City Clerk Bartlett were (1) incorrect registrations, (2) non-registration, and (3) illegibility of writing. Much of the trouble was due to improper registration, Bartlett said. In such cases, the persons wishing to sign the petitions may re-register and sign the petitions again. If they do this, their signatures will be counted, he added. Caution must be taken, however, to re-register prior to re-signing the petition, it was explained.

Checking Watched  
Bartlett secured the services of Duane Wheeler of Los Angeles in checking the petitions. "I chose Mr. Wheeler," Bartlett said, "because he is a disinterested and unbiased party and particularly because of his wide experience in handling recall elections. Wheeler is considered an expert in municipal laws affecting recalls," the city clerk added. Irving J. Hallinger, deputy city clerk, also assisted in the checking which consumed

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