

# NO AIR ACTIVITY NOTED DURING BLACKOUT HERE

A blackout of an hour and 50 minutes duration covered Torrance and Lomita like the proverbial blanket last night while hundreds of civilian defense workers responded to assigned duties with almost the precision of veterans. The alert, which sounded in Torrance at 9:05 p. m., covered a 50-mile radius from Los Angeles although San Diego radio stations went off the air shortly after 8:30.

The Western Defense Command said the alert was ordered because of the presence of unidentified planes over this area. Later the aircraft was found to be friendly.

It was the first since Feb. 23 when anti-aircraft guns blazed away and searchlights pierced the skies above the metropolitan area. Last night's blackout was not accompanied by any firing or searchlight activity. It was the fourth complete blackout ordered in Southern California since the start of the war. A "yellow" primary signal was received from the county civilian defense control at 8:35 p. m. This was followed at 8:46 with a "blue" warning signal that was flashed to all members of the Torrance control center and other leaders in the civilian defense set-up. It caught the local air raid wardens at their regular weekly lesson meeting in the Civic Auditorium and that building was quickly emptied as the wardens scattered to their posts.

**Audience Slips in Show**

The blackout which blasted Torrance at 9:05, almost immediately the Torrance control center was completely manned with telephone operators and directors of the various units at their assigned positions. Air raid wardens, fire watchers, auxiliary police and firemen first aid crews and state guardsmen took their posts and what little traffic there was was stopped.

Police Chief John Stroh said the defense organization showed considerable improvement since Feb. 23. Very few lights had to be called to attention of residents and while some business firms were late in sending men to turn out their display or interior lights, the illumination came to a halt within a reasonably short time Stroh said.

Those attending the Gran Theatre remained in the audience throughout the blackout although Stroh permitted several expectant mothers to leave under escort. A number of parents called for their children at the show but Stroh refused to allow them to take to the streets until the all-clear sounded at 10:55 p. m. No accidents of any kind were reported.

A considerable number took advantage of Torrance's only public air raid shelter, the post-office basement, during the alert. They appeared to enjoy themselves although Postmaster Earl Conner has yet to equip his shelter with games.

# TWO MEMORABLE LETTERS

## Father Wins Army Award as Son Reports Selection for Officer's Training at Ft. Knox, Ky.

Bob Sleeth, Sr., of 1616 Post was a good soldier in World War I. He saw action in France, became a sergeant and was wounded at Chateau Thierry.

Last week he received two letters on the same day. One was from the War Department announcing he had been presented with the Order of the Purple Heart, and the other was from his son, Private Robert S. Sleeth, Jr.

The second letter was the one that made 47-year-old Bob swell with pride—and that communication was not the one from the War Department. Bob, Junior, was reporting that he had been appointed as one of five privates in his battalion to the Officers' Candidate School, Armored Division, at Ft. Knox, Kentucky.

"What's a mere medal compared to a son's advancement to a chance at commission in the Army?" Bob, Senior, exclaimed. "It looks like my boy is going to show me up—I was only a sergeant back in 1918—by winning lieutenant's bars."

Bob, Junior, was 22 in March.

Before he entered the United States Army, the service was in the Army of the United States, preparing to enter the educational field. As a civilian he was honored by becoming a member of Alpha Delta Chi, honorary elementary teaching fraternity, and was a member of Beta Sigma Chi, social fraternity.

It is nice to be remembered by the War Department after 25 years," Old Soldier Sleeth said. "But it's even better to know that the Army sees a potential officer in your son."

Instituted by Gen. George Washington in 1782, the Order of the Purple Heart is awarded to "persons who, while serving in the Army of the United States, perform any singularly meritorious act of extraordinary fidelity or essential service." Wounds received in action are included in this category.

H. C. Bender, Torrance Municipal Department worker, and LeRoy W. Beach of 1521 Annapolis ave., are the only other Torrance men to receive Purple Heart awards.

# 23RD DRAFT CONTINGENT OF 41 MEN LEAVES TODAY

Forty-one men composed the 23rd Selective Service contingent drafted from this district served by Board No. 280 which left early this morning for the Los Angeles Army induction station. Russell Quayle, well-known Torrance butcher, was the leader of the group which included:

Raymond A. Bagley, 22, turnace inspector, Miami.

Cornelio T. Jacobs, 26, 3840 Newton st., Walthers.

Joseph Luther Priest, 23, unemployed, Gardena.

Frank D. Dias, 27, steelworker, Granddome Beach.

Richard Hogan Warren, 22, clerk, Long Beach.

Conrad Davenport, 30, truck driver, Huntington Park.

Robert Cartwright Good, 25, truck driver, 312 Annapolis ave., Torrance.

Fidel A. Artillo, 33, farm laborer, Box 72, Walthers.

Marcos A. Luedan, 30, kitchen helper, Los Angeles.

George E. Holmberg, 32, steward, 237 243rd st., Lomita.

Ira L. McVay, 30, carpenter, North Long Beach.

Dimas S. Menezes, 23, farm laborer, Gardena.

Modesto S. Tactacon, 35, farmer, 2187 Meyer st., Torrance.

Wayne J. Bathrick, 31, janitor, Gardena.

Nelson K. Allen, 35, electric furnace operator, Burbank.

William P. Thompson, 26, cafe manager, Compton.

Alfred E. Mead, 22, crane operator, 2161 Sierra ave., Torrance.

Jessie W. Fowler, 30, metal worker, 22018 S. Western, Torrance.

Ernest L. Posten, 33, lumber yard worker, Bell.

Alban H. Canniss, 28, shipping clerk, Gardena.

Carl Kephart, 30, unemployed, Los Angeles.

Alyerto W. Thompson, 33, pipe fitter's helper, 2584 1/2 Oak st., Lomita.

Robert H. Johnston, 25, truck driver, 1427 Moon st., Lomita.

Edward D. Riley, 22, file clerk, Lomita.

John W. Hansen, 25, shipyard worker, Long Beach.

Robert Chapman, 30, waiter, Los Angeles.

Russell Quayle, 33, butcher, 1303 Post ave., Torrance.

William A. Gill, 32, dishwasher, Los Angeles.

Joseph J. Hudson, 32, bookkeeper, 1753 Andros ave., Torrance.

John H. Gafford, 30, sheet metal worker, Gardena.

Local registrants who were service station attendant, 2410 Eshelman ave., Lomita.

Carl D. Pascoe, 30, steelworker, 111 Madrid ave., Torrance.

Julian Sisk, 27, unemployed, P. O. box 107, Walthers.

Those transferred to Board No. 280 from other Selective Service boards and who were included in the contingent were:

Harrison P. Williams, 22 3/4, Torrance bldg., Torrance.

John P. Dickey, 21 3/4, 242nd st., Lomita.

Chester E. McNeen, 1007 Cota ave., Torrance.

Orvil Hill Lane, 22 5/24 S. Vermont ave., Torrance.

Local registrants who were transferred to other boards for delivery to the Army today were:

John K. Trickey, Santa Ana.

Daniel W. Mitchell, Whitewater, Wis.

Edward L. Kreiger, Snohomish, Wash.

Levin Charles Menzie, San Francisco.

# Kiwanis Ambulance Fund Half Raised

The Torrance Kiwanis club's ambulance fund has reached \$476.99. President Gaston Arty reported this week. Approximately \$1,000 will be needed to purchase and convert a panel delivery truck into a city ambulance for use in any emergency.

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# Men 45 to 64 Will Register April 25-27

All men between the ages of 45 and 64 inclusive must register for Selective Service here April 25, 26 and 27, in the fourth national registration of the nation's man power.

The orders, received by Selective Service Board No. 280, apply to those who were born on or before April 27, 1877. The local board is planning to set up the same registration centers that were operated Feb. 14-16 for signing in men from 20 to 44 inclusive. These were located at the board's headquarters, 1337 El Prado, Columbia Steel, National Supply, Walthers Recreation Center, Perry School in North Torrance, Veterans' hall in Lomita, Gardena Legion Hall and Palms Verdes Eastside city hall.

No volunteers workers are designated, Secretary Carl Marsteller stating that selections will be made from the existing list to man the registration points.

# Overtime Pay to Municipal Workers Granted

All Torrance municipal employees will be paid time and one-half for overtime worked in excess of eight hours a day or 40 hours a week, the city council decided Tuesday afternoon after receiving several identical resolutions from heads of local C. I. O. unions who appeared in support of the demand made by members of the State, County and Municipal Workers of America, Local No. 380.

Action by the council directing the city attorney to change existing civil service rules and regulations to conform to the overtime pay request was unanimous. Members of the local municipal workers union affiliated with the C. I. O. and the Torrance Labor Coordinating Committee, representing all C. I. O. union locals in the city, were invited by the council to meet with the Civil Service Board to draft the amendment to the rules.

Time and one-half was paid by the city to municipal employees from May 1941 to Jan. 1, 1942. It was pointed out by John E. Jeffery, regional director of the Municipal Workers Union, who opened the discussion. On the first of the year the overtime rate was abolished "without notifying the city employees and this act constituted a wage cut," Jeffery said.

The municipal workers' representative asserted, "are not in favor of and do not ask to work overtime but are willing to do so if necessary and want standard time and one-half for such work."

The demand was endorsed by Claude L. Haskins, secretary of the Labor Coordinating Council; C. J. Larava, president of the Clerical and Technical Workers Union at Columbia Steel; Neil McConlogue, president of Steel Workers Organizing Committee Lodge No. 1414; Irvin Smith, representing Ideco workers; John Justice, of United Rubber Workers local No. 146; and Kenneth C. Bright, president of the Los Angeles Industrial Union Council.

# Three Bids on Cabrillo Job

Four firms submitted bids to the city council Tuesday afternoon on the removal of tracks, ties and other Pacific Electric equipment from the Cabrillo ave. right-of-way purchased by the city in June 1941. One of the quotations, however, arrived too late and it was returned unopened to the bidder. The other bids were referred to the city attorney for checking and report at the next regular meeting.

The quotations heard by the council for the Cabrillo job were: T. J. Keystem Co., \$3,540 and \$3,300 alternate (whose specifications require firm to leave ties at intersections and just take out the rails); Oil Fields Trucking Co., \$3,540 and \$3,240 alternate, and Consolidated Crane Service, \$3,984 and \$2,414.

A memo of agreement from the State Department of Public Works regarding use of the quarter-cent state gasoline tax allocation due Torrance for improvement of "streets of major importance" revealed that a total of \$3,349.78 is available for the improvement of Cabrillo ave.

# Last of Japanese Evacuated from Port Area; 1,431 Moved Out in Three Days Last Weekend

Three large caravans in as many days last weekend completed the Army-ordered evacuation of every person of Japanese ancestry from the Harbor District as far north as Carson st. and Torrance bldg., with the exception of four Japanese given temporary exemption for illness or work. One is John Yasui, whose sale of the grocery and produce departments of the Ideal Ranch Market, 2067 Torrance bldg., to Samuel L. Gayman of Los Angeles is being completed.

Authorities declared Monday that not a single unauthorized Japanese should be in the area. Any found will face Federal charges and heavy penalties. There were indications this week that the Army contemplates early evacuation of Japanese from the remainder of this district, Gardena and Lawdale. No date has yet been set for moving Italian and German aliens, also due to be evacuated from Military Area No. 1.

It was reported that the final count of Japanese evacuated from this district through the San Pedro alien control office was 1,431 in 325 families. All were moved to Santa Anita park temporary reception center. Sunday's evacuees totaled 451 people. Last Saturday 686 Japanese were evacuated from the Harbor District that includes most of Torrance and Lomita.

**FSA on Patrol**

Chief worry early this week at the Santa Anita reception center for Army and WPA administrators was what to do with five dogs which local Japanese children smuggled in with their baggage despite warnings and checks at the departure and reception points. Huge moving vans loaded household goods left by Japanese families in custody of the Federal Reserve bank agents Saturday and Sunday and moved the stuff to a Long Beach warehouse. The goods will be stored there until sent at government expense to whatever communities are established as "duration homes" of the evacuees.

# Olson Calls Special Vote In 17th Dist.

From no congressman to too many congressmen is the strange situation confronting residents of the old 17th congressional district as result of Governor Olson's announcement yesterday that he will call a special election in this district to elect a representative at the same time as the primary election is held Aug. 25.

Winner of Olson's special election will serve until next Jan. 1, when the congressman elected in the November general election will take the office.

Olson said the special election will be held only in the original 17th district served by Geyer. The primary balloting in the 17th district, however, will cover the newly enlarged district which includes Inglewood, Redondo, Hermosa, Manhattan, Lawndale and Lennox areas.

The governor's announced reason for the double election mix-up is "to give the district representation in Washington for the rest of the year." He did not mention that the district has been without a congressman for the past six critical months.

Voters in the original 17th district will receive two congressional ballots, Olson said. In addition, their party ballot with its primary candidates, voters will be given a special ballot which will include the names of all candidates of all party affiliations filing for the unexpired term.

County Registrar of Voters William Karr said today he will confer with Secretary of State Paul Peek on filing dates, fees and requirements for the special election. For the regular primary ballot, the filing fee is \$100 and candidates must submit sponsors petitions with the signature of at least 5 per cent of the voters in the last general election. Filing dates are May 27 to June 20.

Candidates may file for both the special election and the party primary, Olson said.

# Alcoa Sewer Line Okayed

Verbal approval of the plan of the Aluminum Corporation of America, acting for Defense Plant Corporation, to install a 24-inch sewer line on the industrial site off 190th street between Western and Normandie avenues, was granted by the Torrance city council Tuesday afternoon. Later the city will grant a formal easement over Torrance property for the line.

L. A. Schaeffer, private site superintendent of construction on the project, informed the council that the line will serve the \$18,000,000 aluminum reduction plant now under construction on the Normandie ave. side of the 253-acre site between 190th and 203rd sts. Later, the line will also accommodate the \$7,000,000 aluminum extrusion plant to be operated by the Bohn Aluminum & Brass Company, and possibly other units to be located on the site.

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# Issueless City Election Nearing Spiritless Close

What Every Voter Should Know About City Election

Here are highlights of the 13th Torrance municipal election that will be held next Tuesday, April 14:

Falls open from 7 a. m. (one hour later than usual) to 7 p. m.

Number of qualified registered voters, 4,659.

Number of candidates, 13.

**FOR CITY COUNCILMAN**—Two to be elected for four-year terms: James Hitchcock and Kenneth H. Kall, incumbents; B. C. Buxton, Nick Cucci, James A. Evans, Edsel Newton, Howard P. Raymond and Frank Schmidt.

**FOR CITY CLERK**—Four-year term: A. H. Bartlett, incumbent, and James W. Loughridge.

**FOR CITY TREASURER**—Four-year term: Mrs. Harriett Leach, incumbent; Mrs. Margaret Fordice and Mrs. Cecilia Young.

**PRECINCT POLLING PLACES**

- 1-1812 Prairie ave.
- 2-2376 El Dorado.
- 3-716 Border ave.
- 4-1534 Marcella ave.
- 5-1322 Engrada ave.
- 6-1108 Annapolis ave.
- 7-1415 Annapolis ave.
- 8-1734 Arlington ave.
- 9-2019 Arlington ave.
- 10-23010 Narbonne ave.
- 11-2717 W. Carson st.
- 12-3701 Sepulveda blvd.
- 13-407 Portola ave.
- 14-1417 Cota ave.
- 15-Hotel Dining Room, 1015 Cabrillo ave.
- 16-Recreation Center, 24439 Park st., Walthers.
- 17-1307 Portola ave.

# Rotary Presidents, Past and Future, Active In Civic Affairs

During the past year under the leadership of retiring president B. C. Buxton, the Torrance Rotary Club has contributed generously to community welfare and development. And much of the credit for these accomplishments is due to its civic spirited president, who can well be proud of his year as head of the veteran service club.

Noteworthy civic activities successfully carried out by the club during Buxton's term were: furnishing a room at Torrance Memorial hospital, sponsoring the Hobby, Art and Flower Show; the Palms Verdes Symphony Orchestra concert for the benefit of the Red Cross; and more recently, entering a team in the soft ball tournament, as a wholesome recreation outlet for war-torn nerves.

Ever since Buxton adopted Torrance as his home town, he has been active in community affairs, and this civic spirit was naturally the theme of his term as president of Rotary. An able executive, he was able to enroll the active support of other club members in working for these worthwhile community activities.

Recently elected directors of the Torrance Rotary club this week named J. Hugh Sherfey, Jr., to lead the veteran service organization for the coming year. Sherfey, manager of Stone and Myers mortuary, will succeed B. C. Buxton as president of the club following the traditional "demotion" ceremonies. The date for this annual funtion has not been set.

President-elect Sherfey is a native of Buhl, Idaho, who came to Torrance six years ago from Los Angeles. He is married, has two children and lives at 1732 Cabrillo ave. He has been a member of the Rotary club here for the past three and one-half years.

Sherfey has been serving as vice-president this term. He arranged the Red Cross benefit concert presented by the Palms Verdes Symphony orchestra under the club's sponsorship here last February. He has taken a keen interest in Rotary work and served as a member of the divortorate for the past two years.

Dr. C. E. Ingold was named vice-president, Robert McCullum, secretary, and Sherwood McIntyre, treasurer.

Directors elected by the club last week included Harold E. Appenzeller, Bernhard D. Bunje, Dr. C. L. Ingold, Robert T. McCullum, J. H. Sherfey, Jr., and retiring president Buxton.

# Heart Attack Claims Dr. Beeman's Father in Kansas Yesterday

A sudden heart attack yesterday claimed the life of John Whitney Beeman, father of Dr. John W. Beeman of this city, at his home in North Branch, Kansas. He was 84 years of age and was apparently in good health. He visited his son here two years ago for several months and underwent a minor operation at Torrance Memorial hospital from which he made an excellent recovery.

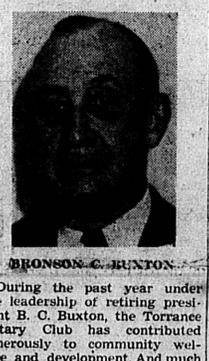
Mr. Beeman was a Quaker by faith and was retired. He formerly operated a machinery store for farmers' supplies in Kansas. In addition to his son here, he was survived by his wife and daughter. Dr. and Mrs. Beeman left last night to attend the funeral.

# Blood Donors Are Wanted

Pledge cards to be signed by those who want to contribute to the Red Cross Blood Donor Service when the mobile unit comes to Torrance May 11 are now available at the local Red Cross headquarters, 1526 Cravens ave. from 10 a. m. to 4 p. m.

The mobile units will be located at the Torrance Health Center, 2300 Carson street, from 8:45 a. m. until 12:20 p. m. and will take from 60 to 85 people. While many have already volunteered, others are needed to complete the full complement. Mrs. R. R. Smith, local Red Cross chairman, said today.

Volunteers must be over 21 and under 60 years of age and weigh at least 120 pounds. Junior volunteers, from 18 to 21 are accepted if they obtain their parents' consent and these blanks are available at the Torrance Red Cross headquarters.



BRONSON C. BUXTON



J. HUGH SHERFEY, JR.