



Memorial Day has always been tinged with the pathos and sadness of ageing soldiers, tottering feebly along under the flag. Few veterans of the Civil War survive, but they were proud to the last, proud of their participation in preserving the unity of our nation.

Memorial Day now numbers all the "veterans of former wars," living or dead, and at the close of World War II, our debt to those who fight that national liberty may live will have increased a hundredfold.

American casualties in action of all battle fronts, in all services, during the 17 months of war, are more than 80,000 now, with a possible 5000 more when all counts from the North African campaign are in.

When the war is done, and the final toll taken, in spite of blood plasmas and increased efficiency of battle surgery, the world will have lost great numbers of men. Many of the young, the strong, the fine, the able-bodied, the brilliant, will be gone. Some of them would have written great books, composed great music, painted fine pictures, become great statesmen, fathered fine children for the nation's future.

For a little while after each war, we tell each other these things and sentimentalize about it. Then we forget. We try to go on in old impractical ways that have been proved invalid. We let tyrants develop themselves. We let ourselves or others be subtly robbed of little freedoms until whole nations are enslaved. And soon again there is war.

May some Memorial Day in the future stand for a hundred warless years, and count not a single veteran of any war in its parades. To that end we salute this day!

O.C.D.-Army Inspectors Commend Civilian Defense Corps' Efficiency

A "decided improvement in the operation of the Control Center and a much greater efficiency on the part of the various Civilian Defense services" was noted by the O.C.D.-Army inspection team following the second examination of Torrance Civilian Defense organization on the night of May 14, according to a written report received by Police Chief John Stroh Monday from Van Dye Hammen, member of the State War Council for the Southern Area.

"We note that during the incident training drill held in January it required 73 minutes to process 20 incidents; whereas, during the recent drill, 17 incidents were received and carried to dispatch in 30 minutes. This is certainly a marked increase in efficiency. We are confident that careful consideration of our recommendations will enable you to still further step up the tempo of your Control Center procedure," Hammen wrote.

"Wardens 'Above Average'" Among the recommendations given Chief Stroh by Major Camy and Mr. Yount, heads of the inspection team, were the installation of two more telephones at the Control Center (which have already been installed); improving visibility of the incident panel board where a record is kept of the various calls and services dispatched; and a larger map of the city to plot the location of emergency calls.

In regard to the performance of the various Civilian Defense services, the officials reported: "Wardens: The team captains reported that your wardens are above average in training. Fire Guards: Continuous effort should be expended to recruit more personnel in your Fire Guard service. Rescue: This service needs considerably more bolstering. Emergency Medical: The function of your personnel in this service indicates that the First Aid training is one of the best" (Continued on Page 5-A)

550 More New Housing Units Allocated By N.H.A. to Torrance

Five hundred and fifty additional new housing units have been allocated to the Torrance area by the National Housing Agency out of the 2200 announced early this week by Eugene Weston, Jr., regional director of the N.H.A. The Herald learned today from Frank A. Mueha, senior housing representative of the Federal agency.

"Some of those 550 units are included in the list of approved priorities" announced recently which gave your district more than 1000 additional housing facilities," he said. "All of the 500 are for new housing units, no conversions are included." The additional projects mean that Torrance is well on its way toward a solution of the critical housing problem that seri-

Holiday Buying Rush Anticipated in Food Markets

Local food stores anticipate a record-breaking rush of shoppers tomorrow and Saturday. Monday, May 31, will be a legal holiday in observance of Memorial Day and, according to President William Kempen of the Torrance Retail Merchants Association, most Torrance stores intend to remain closed.

To relieve details of an "end-of-the-month" buying rush, the O.P.A. has extended for one week the time during which Blue Stamps G, H and J (processed foods) in War Ration Book 2 may be used by consumers.

Instead of expiring May 31, as previously announced by O.P.A., Blue Stamps G, H and J will be good through June 7. At the same time O.P.A. announced that the next three sets of Blue Stamps in Ration Book 2—K, L, and M—totaling 48 points, for buying processed foods are good now and, instead of expiring at the end of June, will continue good through July 7.

This means that Blue Stamps G, H and J, which have been valid throughout May, as well as K, L and M stamps (the June series) are all valid through June 7. Red Stamps E, F, G and H are expiring May 31 and will not be good after that date.

Three Torrance Men Receive Service Medals

Three Torrance men have received decorations for their individual performances under fire in the South Pacific, it was learned here this week.

Lieut. Louis Zamperini was awarded an oak leaf cluster for his previously won Air Medal and Lieut. Alf H. Storm was presented with an Air Medal.

Robert Emerson, a Navy pharmacist's mate attached to the Marine Corps, was given a Silver Star. Zamperini and Storm are attached to the Seventh Air Force and they were given decorations in a joint Navy-Army ceremony somewhere in the Pacific war theater. Most of the awards presented at the event were for participation in the daring bombing raids on Japanese-occupied Nauru and Tarawa Islands in the northern Gilberts, it was announced from Honolulu Saturday.

Efforts to identify Lieut. Storm and obtain additional information about him were fruitless this week. He is not included in The Herald's Honor Roll and there are no Storms listed in any city directory. The Herald will be glad to learn any details about Lieut. Storm so that he may be included in the Honor Roll.

Emerson, whose home address was 1319 Cabot ave., before he moved to Oakland, was cited for heroism in rendering first aid to two badly wounded Marines on Guadalcanal last December. He was in a foxhole with the Marines when a Jap (Continued on Page 5-A)

Pilot Reported Missing; Wife, Mother Hopeful

John Robert Wolverton, 24, Navy aviation pilot, first class was reported missing in action May 17 in the South Pacific, according to word received by his mother, Mrs. Eva M. Wolverton of 2378 237th st., this week. His wife, the former Doris Dwight of Harbor City, resides at the family home.

His mother and wife had letters from him recently, dated in April, and at that time he was located near Guadalcanal. They are hopeful of word that he has been returned to his base. Pilot Wolverton is a graduate of Narbonne high school. He was graduated from a training school at Pensacola, Fla., last August.

Three of his brothers are in the armed services and one is in the Merchant Marine. They are: Claude, 36, a sergeant in the Army overseas; Darrell, 31, in the Merchant Marine at New York City; Donald, 20, an Army sergeant, serving in Alaska, and James, 17, a seaman 2/c in the east.



"IT WAS LIKE THIS, MOM . . . —Capt. William E. Keefer answers the 1001 questions asked by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Keefer, about his eight and one-half months flying a bomber overseas. Credited with 21 operational flights

and 1000 flying hours over occupied France, Germany, Tunisia, Sicily and Italy, 'Bill' Keefer has a real story to tell but security regulations prevent most of it from being published.

Youngest Marek Brother Wins Gunner's Wings

The three Marek brothers are doing alright by Uncle Sam. Two are in the Navy and the third, Joe T. Marek, the youngest, was graduated late last week as an aerial gunner at the Harlingen, Tex. Army gunnery school.

He is 19 years old, a graduate of Torrance high school who was inducted the day after he



JOE T. MAREK

got his diploma here last February. Now he wears his silver wings as an aerial gunner at Keesler Field, Miss.

Walter, 22, a Navy fireman 1/c, recently received a grade of 95 in a test for candidates for machinist's mates and he is beloved by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Marek of 1308 Portola ave., to be in training for that rating now at San Diego. Walter joined the Navy in April 1942 and was graduated from Torrance high with the class of winter of 1939.

Due for Sergeant's Chevrons Then there's Charles, 20, a Navy radio technician 3/c at Treasure Island. He entered the service last September and received his high school diploma here with the class of winter 1941.

When Joe completes another technical course at Keesler Field he will be advanced to sergeant and, unless he is retained as an instructor, will be immediately sent to a combat team. While at Harlingen, he spent three weeks on such phases of instruction as remedying the malfunction of guns, aircraft identification, the trick of "leading targets" and the manipulation of power turrets. Two more weeks were spent on the ground range where he fired caliber 30 and .50 guns at stationary and moving targets. The final week was devoted to firing from training planes and medium bombers.

Model Garden Produce Welcomed at Hospital

Produce from the city's model Victory garden off Cravens ave., at El Prado, has been gratefully received by patients at Torrance Memorial hospital. Helen H. Yates, dietician, informed the city council Tuesday night that the fresh vegetables were much appreciated.

ARMY OCCUPIES AIRFIELD; FURNITURE APPEAL MADE

In construction for months, the Army airfield known as the Lomita flight strip, has been occupied by elements of the Los Angeles Defense Wing of the 4th Fighter Command, it was officially announced by Army authorities today in Los Angeles.

The unit is in command of Major David R. McGovern. While there remains considerable work to do on the field, it is now an Army post and military police are at the gates under orders to permit none to enter who do not have credentials or establish good reason for seeking admittance.

Disclosure that the airfield is now occupied by the Army forces was the first time the press has been permitted to announce the presence of the flight strip. While this newspaper has known for months about it, no report has been published in conformity with security regulations.

Major McGovern has requested that Lomita and Torrance people who have furniture they do not need, such as tables, sofas or divans, rugs and chairs, to donate the equipment to furnish the enlisted men's recreation room and pilots' alert room.

Those who desire to assist in this should call either the Lomita Red Cross at Lomita 875 or The Lomita News, Lomita 84. The Lomita Red Cross, located at 24646 Narbonne ave., will make whatever arrangements are necessary to pick up the articles and transport them to the air field.

Kiwanis Official Visits Local Club

Lieut. Gov. G. M. Montgomery made an official visit to the Torrance Kiwanis club at the dinner-meeting Monday night in the Moon's Bible Class bldg. Directors of the club met with Montgomery after the regular session to confer on club business. Several members of the service organization are planning to attend a dinner tomorrow night in Hollywood in honor of Dist. Gov. Tom Gore.

OFFERS ASSISTANCE

An offer by Mrs. Florence Hall of 2311 Andree ave., to assist the city recreation department was filed by the city council Tuesday night for future reference.

Monday Legal Holiday with Stores Closed

Monday, May 31, will be a legal holiday throughout California in observance of the previous Memorial Day.

Although no program has been arranged here for Memorial Day, the Monday holiday will be observed by many local stores, according to William Kempen, president of the Torrance Retail Merchants Association.

The city hall, banks, schools, public utility offices will remain closed but it will be "production as usual" at all war plants here.

Housewives are warned to stock their larders tomorrow and Saturday in anticipation of the double weekend holiday.

Hog-Ouster Order Rescinded as Owners Pack Council Room

Hogs now fattening in the Torrance area to provide war essential food and fats, totaling more than 2800, were given an indefinite stay so far as the municipality is concerned after their irate owners, who had jam-packed the Torrance city council chamber Tuesday night, obtained a complete reversal of the council's previous ouster order.

Civilian Defense Incident Drill Next Tuesday

Members of the Torrance Civilian Defense Corps will participate in the test activation of C.D. forces throughout the southern half of the county next Tuesday night, Jan. 1, according to Police Chief John Stroh. The drill will begin at 8 o'clock and last for approximately one hour.

A series of test incidents will be arranged for the training of the Civilian Defense organization and all members who are not working are expected to be at their posts at the time of the simulated "alert" at 8 p.m.

Pay Equalization Sought by City Workers' Union

A move by the city employees' C.I.O. union to equalize the pay in Torrance police and fire departments by raising the salaries of fire engineers to that of police sergeants and the creation of "hook and ladder men" in the fire department to correspond with police patrolmen was brought before the city council Tuesday night.

A letter from J. E. Jeffery, regional director of local 360, State, County and Municipal Workers of America, was read. He said the union understands "that it is the council's contention that the fire department engineers are comparable to patrolmen in the police department, hence are not entitled to an increase. We feel, nevertheless, that the engineers should be compared to police sergeants, hence are entitled to the same pay, namely \$195 per month."

In support of the union's contention, Jeffery declared that "fire department engineers have more responsibility than police patrolmen" and said: "It has a bad effect on morale in the fire department to increase the highest classification (that of fire chief) \$30 per month and discriminate against the lowest classification by an unfair comparison between the two departments."

The council decided to refer the matter to itself for later consideration.

Local Industry Plans \$3,960,000 Expansion

A building permit for a \$3,960,000 expansion was granted a Torrance industry, whose identity the press has been requested not to divulge for military security reasons, during the past week, according to records at the city engineer's office. The city's fee for this project was \$2020, it was reported.

Memorial Poppies go on Sale Tomorrow by Legion Auxiliary

America's dead of two wars will be honored tomorrow and Saturday when millions of Americans will wear red poppies as a symbol of remembrance and tribute.

Here, as in other cities throughout the country, women

will be honored tomorrow and Saturday when millions of Americans will wear red poppies as a symbol of remembrance and tribute. Here, as in other cities throughout the country, women

will be honored tomorrow and Saturday when millions of Americans will wear red poppies as a symbol of remembrance and tribute. Here, as in other cities throughout the country, women

Standing room only was the rule by the time Ed Saul of 2636 West 174th st., pioneer hog-ranch operator, demanded of the council:

"I want to know what you are going to do to us tonight. We have all been notified to get rid of our hogs by June 11 or face prosecution."

Mayor Tom McGuire informed Saul that he "did not come under the plan to get rid of all hogs brought into the city after adoption of the zoning ordinance," which was May 20, 1940. Saul reiterated that, nevertheless, he had received a police notice to vacate his hogs.

Error in Ouster Order "That the council erred in framing its ouster-order was disclosed by Councilman Nick Cucci who said the motion to notify all hog-owners to get rid of their animals by June 11 should have applied only to those who obtained hogs here after adoption of the zoning measure.

The final decision, after some heated arguments ensued between Councilman George V. Powell, who proposed the erroneously worded ouster order, and various hog-owners, was this: That "further study should be made of the matter and it be held over for consideration." Councilman James Hitchcock offered this as a substitute motion to Cucci's proposal that a 30-day extension be allowed hog-owners so they could apply for variances from the zoning ordinance.

"This whole matter is not clear," Councilman Hitchcock said. "I object to any time limit being set and move that the matter be held up for further study and the people notified what is to be done." Cucci agreed to the substitution, it was seconded by Councilman Vern Babcock and adopted.

Gites Food Shortage Powell indicated early in the discussion that he intended to stand by the zoning ordinance and force the removal of all porkers but after Saul had declared: "Neither you, Mr. Powell, or any member of this council is going to tell me what I can and cannot do with my property and if you think you can, I'll sue you in the highest courts in the land," he did not continue to participate in the discussion. Perhaps the most effective statement given at the meeting was that of Mrs. Saul. She said that many citizens are doing things for victory—some are fighting, some are making munitions of war, contributing to all war efforts and others are raising hogs "to feed our soldiers and our people."

"We are all doing our best and many of us here are contributing to the nation's—and the world's—food supply by raising hogs. Some of us are doing it at the expressed request of our government. The report was recently made that there is a shortage of 2,500,000 pounds of meat a week on the Pacific Coast.

Variance Permits Required "We Torrance hog raisers are doing our best to wipe out that shortage. Are you as councilmen willing to make it any (Continued on Page 5-A)



of the American Legion Auxiliary will be on the streets at an early hour with baskets of poppies. A large corps of volunteer workers has been organized by Laila Bowen, Poppy chairman, to distribute them. The poppies have been made by disabled war veterans at Sawtelle who have been working at their beds and in the hospital workroom during the winter and spring. This occupation has helped them pass the long hospital days pleasantly, has enabled them to earn money and has been valuable in promoting recovery.

While distributing the memorial flowers, the Auxiliary women will receive contributions for the Legion and Auxiliary rehabilitation and welfare funds. All of the money contributed will go into these funds, the Auxiliary workers serving without pay.