



TONI DEETER . . . charming Torrance young woman and well known for her skill in horsemanship, will reign as "Queen" of the First Annual Torrance Rodeo to be held at the Torrance municipal park, Sunday, Oct. 24. She will lead the parade through downtown streets and in the grand entry to the show grounds about 1 o'clock p. m. (See Story on Page 3-A)

Industries Tax Group to Watch Council Spending

Criticism of the city council for denying its request for a reduction in the municipal tax rate, and recommending that surplus funds accumulated through the 5-cent municipal tax rate increase not be spent on "special appropriations, nor be expended for capital items or for new projects" was expressed in a resolution by the Torrance Industries Tax Committee read at last evening's council meeting. The industries tax committee is composed of representatives of most of the larger tax paying plants in Torrance, and the resolution was signed by R. I. Plomert, Jr., chairman of the committee.

Plomert is manager of the tax department of General Petroleum Corp., largest single taxpayer in the city. The text of the resolution follows:

"WHEREAS the Torrance Industries Tax Committee has heretofore petitioned the Honorable City Council for a reduction in the general tax rate for the fiscal year 1943-44 and such petition was denied by the City Council. By ordinance the general tax levy for such fiscal year was set at 99 cents, and

"WHEREAS in adopting such tax rate the City Council of the City of Torrance has deemed it best to include, and has included an amount which this committee's studies would indicate to be a surplus over budget requirements in the general funds of the city, and

"WHEREAS such surplus amount will be collected and paid, through the 1943-44 tax levies, into the general funds for the purpose of operating the city on a cash basis, and to make it unnecessary to borrow as heretofore for interim financing pending collection of the bulk of its tax income in December and January,

"NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Torrance Industries Tax Committee that communication of its recommendations be made to the Honorable City Council of the City of Torrance, as follows:

"First, that such surplus funds be at all times held in trust for normal operating general fund uses, and

"Third, that the Honorable City Council's attention again be directed to the tremendous burden of federal taxation and the absolute necessity of reducing local tax burdens to the minimum necessary for conducting good local government.

"This committee wishes to point out to the City Council that efforts to reduce the local tax burden must be continued, and we offer our assistance and cooperation in accomplishing this end.

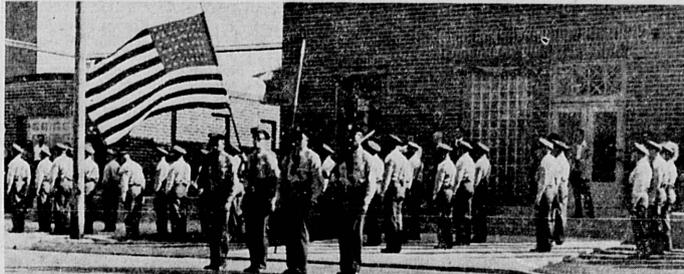
"TORRANCE INDUSTRIES TAX COMMITTEE
 By R. I. Plomert, Jr., Chairman"

Fellow Charges Politics
 Councilman George V. Powell was the only member of the city body to comment on the resolution. Addressing Plomert, Powell said, "I would like to ask you why you weren't as much interested in tax affairs of Torrance some years ago as you are now?"

Plomert answered that he was not connected with this association far back as that.

"Well, do you know anything about certain taxes that were raised along about that time for support of the chamber of commerce and some other things? If it's politics you are after, you can get it and as far as I am concerned, I will give no quarter and take none. If you want to work with the council, you will have its support," commented Powell.

Plomert answered that he had no idea of making this a political matter. "I don't care anything about politics," he added, and stated that he would work with the council for the benefit of the city. He concluded his remarks by stating that the industries would have a representative present at future meetings of the council to help the councilmen work out the problems. On action of the council, the resolution was referred for further study.



WITH COLORS FLYING . . . Alcoa's plant protection squadron marches back to duties following award of Army Guidon for outstanding "efficiency, appearance and training."

Alcoa Guards Honored; Awarded Army Guidon

High praise from U.S. Army officers and company executives was extended members of the plant protection department of the Aluminum Co. of America last Friday afternoon. Following a brief, but impressive ceremony, the Alcoa plant guard was presented the Army Guidon in recognition of its "efficiency, appearance and training."

The Guidon award was authorized by Maj. Gen. Kenyon A. Joyce, Commanding General of the Ninth Service Command, who was represented at the ceremony by Col. F. J. Baum. Presentation of the award was made by Capt. James A. Estill, chief of emergency protection branch of the Southern Security District.

In explaining the significance of the Guidon award, Col. Baum stated that it was an award of merit created by the Provost Marshal General's office of the U.S. Army. It is extended in recognition of outstanding efficiency and excellence. Auxiliary military police are charged by the War Department to ward off danger or threat of danger of any kind and from any source. These men devote their entire time and attention to provide necessary protection to the factory they are employed to guard. Loyalty to duty, cooperation, friendly spirit and the presence of "efficiency, appearance and training" are prime requisites necessary for these officers to qualify for their position of trust and responsibility, stated Col. Baum.

In their basic training, the Alcoa unit at Torrance studied the mechanics of arrest, investigation and prevention of sabotage and espionage, military law, fire, close order drill, fire hazards, the use and advantage of all types of fire equipment, judo, defense against paratroop attack, bombs and explosives, gas attacks and decontamination, evacuation, guard duty instructions on weapons and marksmanship. It was upon the three outstanding qualities of "efficiency, appearance and training" that the Guidon was awarded the Alcoa squadron, Col. Baum stated.

L. A. Schaeffer, mechanical engineer at the Alcoa plant, presided at the ceremonies which were held in front of the plant office building. R. A. Moon, chief of the plant protection department, accepted the Guidon, which was raised on the flagstaff as buglers from the Military Police Battalion stationed at Hawthorne, sounded the "colors."

Following the award presentation, H. E. Keller, works manager, congratulated the members of the guard. He expressed the hope that other company employees would strive to win similar recognition in production efficiency and War Bond purchases.

The Alcoa squadron is the first group in the entire Inglewood-Torrance-Harbor area to win the Army Guidon, and it is one of four plants which have received this award in the entire Ninth Service Command.

ORDINANCE ADOPTED
 The capital outlay ordinance introduced in the city council recently and designed to raise funds for reconstruction of the fire station passed final reading at the session of the city council Wednesday night.

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Council Gives Construction Go Ahead Sign

Jack Pine, building contractor, was the primary cause of a long session of the Torrance city council last night. He had with him representatives of material men, a plastering contractor and other construction men to explain the merits of a certain brand of 2x4 mesh, 16-gauge wire fabric used in stucco house construction which, Pine said, City Engineer Glenn Jain has not been inclined to approve in many of the new building projects now under construction in this area.

Wants Hurdle Removed
 Pine declared the attitude of the engineer was holding up building construction at a critical time. "Let's get on with the work and finish it to provide workers in war industries with places in which to live. Let's not be too technical. We must not forget that we are in a war," he explained to the council in his plea urging that body to relax from the stringent regulations his office has maintained in the past in the interest of new building.

Jain, on being questioned, said he had heard good reports about the material, and nothing very bad. Yet, he said, he had received no outright endorsement from engineers he had talked to. Perhaps it was because the material is new and there hasn't been enough elapsed time to determine its real worth, he indicated.

Factory Man Speaks
 However, a representative of the manufacturer of the wire mesh explained the virtues of the product and said it had been endorsed by the F.H.A. and other federal agencies. He also presented written endorsements from contractors. The construction men present, also one plaster contractor from Long Beach who had used the material in government projects at Lakewood and elsewhere said he would use no other material when it was possible to get it.

Council members thought there should be no holding back of building operations in this community and adopted a motion authorizing the city engineer and building inspector to allow use of the material over which there had been nearly two hours discussion, until further instructed. The motion was carried with only one dissenting vote by Councilman Cucci.

Orval Eugene Carlton Accepted in Marines

Orval Eugene Carlton, 22, of 720-B Amapola, Torrance, has joined the Marine Corps. Now on a 14-day furlough, he will report at the Marine Corps Base, San Diego, on Oct. 23 for his recruit training.

Private Carlton is a native of Oklahoma, where he attended school, graduating from Tuska-homa high school in 1939. He is married to the former Maebelle James of the same address in Torrance and was recently employed by the General Petroleum Corporation.

CITY JOINS L. A. AREA WAR CHEST

Torrance has decided to join the Los Angeles Area War Chest, and to participate in one all-inclusive, all-out fund-raising drive to finance next year's relief and welfare activities on the home front, military aid and Allied relief.

The decision to pool this community's efforts with Los Angeles and 14 other municipalities in the metropolitan area was voted unanimously by a group of 16 community leaders representing various organizations who met with Lynn D. Mowat, executive secretary of the L. A. Area War Chest, Tuesday evening at the Chamber of Commerce headquarters, 1119 Sartori ave.

Lee to Head Drive
 Hillman R. Lee was elected to head the War Chest campaign in the Torrance area. Otto A. Kress, representing industry, and Rev. Paul Moore Wheeler, representing the city at large, were chosen directors from this community to the general L. A. Area War Chest board. Miss Corlita Reeve was elected secretary of the local board.

Labors Contribution Much
 Among those who urged that Torrance join the L. A. Area War Chest was Kenny C. Beight, president of the Los Angeles area C. I. O. and prominent member of Local No. 1414, Steel Workers' Union. He stated that employees at Columbia Steel Company here were contributing one hour's pay per month, totaling \$1,150 per month. "We have allocated eight months of this income to the War Chest and four months to the Red Cross," Beight stated. When arrangements have been completed for payroll check-offs at National Supply, the rubber and aluminum industries, Beight estimated that labor's contribution in the Torrance area would exceed \$4,000 per month.

"The C. I. O. is proud of Torrance. We consider it the hub of other neighboring communities. I can speak for labor, and we want to be included in the L. A. Area War Chest," Beight stated.

Robert Lessing of the National Supply Oil Workers' Union also urged that Torrance become a part of the L. A. Area War Chest.

Local Needs Covered
 Much of the discussion during the three-hour session was devoted to determining the method of allocating funds back to Torrance for financing purely local activities such as the long established Torrance Relief Society, the Youth Commission and the newly organized Torrance Servicemen's Foundation sponsored by the Kiwanis Club. It was decided that these organizations would be asked to prepare outlines of their programs and financial requirements which would be cleared through the Torrance War Chest budget committee headed by James L. Lynch. This local committee would in turn submit recommendations to the L. A. Area War Chest budget committee for approval. Funds will then be disbursed from the general pool, either periodically in the case of continuing activities, or in larger amounts to meet specific needs. Chairman Lynch has called a meeting of the local budget committee on Monday, Oct. 18, at 3:30 p. m., in the Chamber rooms, and all organizations wishing to participate in Chest funds are requested to submit their budgets at that time.

To Broaden Services
 In Los Angeles all activities of the Community Chest are included in the War Chest program, and these additional services would be enlarged to include Torrance, Executive Secretary Mowat explained. Such organizations as the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Youth Delinquency, Child Guidance Clinics, Orthopedic Hospital, P.T.A., U.S.O., Naval Aid, Visiting Nurses, Women's Ambulance Defense Corps—some 86 welfare and relief agencies in all, would draw their funds from the War Chest, he said. The Red Cross, because of a national policy, conducts its own fund-raising campaign.

Total Budget \$6,805,059
 Of the total budget in the Los Angeles area of \$6,805,059, \$2,967,998 will be turned over to this area's fair quota of the \$125,000,000 national goal for 17 war relief agencies, such as U.S.O., United Seaman's Services, War Prisoners' Aid, United Nations' Relief and Refugee Relief. The balance of the fund will be allocated to local war-related causes, home front causes, Community Chest activities and administration and collection costs—which are less than one per cent, Mowat said.

Form Local Board
 In addition to those already named, the following citizens participated in the discussion Tuesday evening: C. Earl Conner, who called the meeting and is treasurer of the Torrance Community Service Assn.; James Rahl, president of Kiwanis Club; F. L. Parks, president of Rotary Club; Jack Hallanger, commander American Legion; Mrs. G. W. Licht, P.T.A.; Mrs. E. B. Rademacher, representing Rev. Fr. Joseph Bauer of the Catholic church; Mrs. Leona Lincoln, Mrs. Blonema McCongue, B. C. Buxton, Grover C. White, Jack Barrington and Mrs. Barrington.

All persons present at the meeting were declared founder members of the Torrance board and it is expected that a number of others will be added to the list.

Torrance, Lomita Excluded from New 12,000-Unit Housing Project

Announcement was made last week that authorization had been given to private capital to construct 12,000 housing units in Los Angeles county, none of which it has been disclosed, are in the Torrance or Lomita areas. The nearest approach to it is the area bounded by San Vicente and Wilshire boulevards on the north, on the east by Western, Slauson and Figueroa, and on the south by Redondo Beach blvd., in which 4000 units are to be built.

This will take in a section just outside the north city limits of Torrance. Pat MacDonnell, manager of the local Housing Center, feels that the Torrance area will be directly benefited. He calls attention that Torrance was included in an authorized housing program last April with 1500 units assigned to this area. These houses are being built and should be entirely completed and ready for occupancy by the first of the coming year. They are being occupied as rapidly as the builders finish them, it was explained.

Alphabetical Idea Proposed for 4th Ration Registry

Bernhard J. Strand, who is in charge of rationing for Book No. 4 at the Torrance elementary school and serving as coordinator for other schools in this area—issuing of Book No. 4 is to begin next Wednesday, Oct. 20, and continue through Saturday, Oct. 23 has suggested conducting the registration along the lines followed in previous ration book registrations. To carry out the plan he urges persons whose last names begin with "A" through "F" to register on Wednesday; those starting with "G" through "M" on Thursday; those from "N" through "Z" on Friday, and any persons who failed to register on any of the three previous days to do so on Saturday, the final registration day.

Mr. Strand stressed that while the alphabetical rule is not mandatory, the purpose is to simplify the work of the registrars and rationing authorities.

Rubber Chiefs Say Tire Shortage Will Last Until Late Next Year

Despite the marvelous progress made with construction and development of the synthetic rubber industries in the Torrance area and elsewhere in the United States, two rubber executives on an inspection trip to the West Coast assert that civilians will have to wait at least another year before they can anticipate a sufficient supply of tires for their automobiles.

This was, in substance, the deductions taken from utterances made by Paul W. Litchfield, chairman of the board of directors of the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, and Herbert E. Smith, president of the U.S. Rubber Company. Both these companies have operating units just east of Torrance.

Smith is quoted as saying that the tire manufacturers will soon be producing at the date of 30,000,000 tires per annum, but he indicated that there is a possibility that this mark will not be reached next year, explaining shortage of manpower and lack of cord used in making the tires as a reason. Litchfield said "synthetic truck tires are yet far from what we would like to have them," while Smith put it in another way by stating that the industry is still experimenting and that tests have shown tires to be "fairly good."

Smith estimated that the Torrance area plants of the U.S. and Goodyear rubber companies will be doing a 90,000-ton job next year, using butadiene and styrene made by the Dow Chemical, Shell, Standard Oil and Southern California Gas companies.

Kiwanis Presents War Bonds to Two Local Students

A feature of Monday night's Kiwanis Club program was the presentation of two war bonds to two students, one in the Torrance high school, the other in the Torrance elementary school, for having excelled in salesmanship by rolling up the largest volume of bond sales in the recent campaign.

Miss Ruth Kerber who sold \$918.75 worth of bonds and stamps out of the high school's total sales amounting to \$3,075, was presented with a \$50 war bond as a gift from the club. Lorna Isen, an A-6 pupil in Torrance elementary school, was presented with a \$25 war bond.

She was credited with having turned in \$1,725 out of the combined elementary school sales of \$6,525.

Bernhard J. Strand, principal of the Torrance elementary school, served as program chairman.

Registration for Ration Book No. 4 To Begin Wednesday In City Schools

Registration for Ration Book No. 4 will begin in the elementary schools next Wednesday, Oct. 20, and continue through to Saturday, Oct. 23, inclusive, according to Bernhard J. Strand, principal of the Torrance Elementary school, and who has been asked to serve as coordinator for the Lomita, Carson, Orange Street, Harbor City, Fern and WALTERIA schools.

The hours set for the registration on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, will be from 2 to 8 p.m. and on Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Volunteers Needed
 As was the case in previous registrations, Principal Strand pointed out, the services of deputy registrars will be needed to assist the teachers in this large undertaking. Persons willing to assist are requested to contact Mr. Strand personally or call the Elementary school office, phone 358-W, that they will be available and the time when it will be most convenient for them to serve.

"Approximately 8000 No. 4 Ration Books are expected to be issued in this area, so we have quite a job ahead of us, but no greater than that on previous occasions," Mr. Strand asserted.