

CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZES ACCEPTANCE OF PERMIT TO OPERATE CITY AIRPORT

Mayor W. H. Tolson Tuesday night was authorized by the City Council to accept on behalf of the City of Torrance either a permanent lease on Torrance Army airport to be used as a municipal airport or the interim permit to use, whichever may be granted first by the interested federal authorities.

The action was taken at the request of the Torrance Aviation Commission following the receipt of a letter from Reed H. Parkin, chairman.

The council was informed by the commission that the city might expect action almost at any time on its request for use of the 400-acre field as a municipal airport, and the council was asked to authorize the mayor or some other person to accept the lease or permit at a moment's notice.

No financial outlay of any appreciable amount would be involved, it was pointed out.

At a meeting of the aviation commission on Monday, the membership on the body was completed with the appointment to be the sixth member of Bertone F. Scott, 1637, Marcellina ave., discharged from the Army Air Forces as a first lieutenant on Nov. 15, 1945. Scott served in the air forces for more than three years, most of the time in the European Theatre of Operations. Married and with one child, he is a technician employed by the Union Oil Co. Wilmington refinery in the control laboratory.

The commission agreed with R. I. Plomert, Jr., chairman of the subcommittee on zoning, that zoning of the area of the airport should be held in abeyance until a complete index of all state statutes relative to municipal airports is available for discussion. The state and federal regulations are voluminous, Plomert pointed out.

City Attorney J. E. McCall was named chairman of a subcommittee to discuss with the Civil Aeronautics Authority the data and plans which will be needed to secure necessary approval from the CAA or its policy forming board, the Civil Aeronautics Board, to operate the airport as a municipal field.

The commission voted to thank James G. Ray, president of Southwest Airways, Inc., for his press release published widely which stated that the Torrance airport would be a part of call on a mail-express-passenger helicopter run. The assistance and cooperation of the Torrance Aviation Commission in securing necessary permission to operate the run was promised.

Merchants Are Warned Of Short-Changers

Captain Burgh of the Vermont ave. Sheriff's sub station, reported a short-change artist has begun to make his appearance in the district when several merchants had complained of being victimized by the practice.

The captain said that several methods were used by these short-changers and the busy grocery clerk is their best prey.

The principal method of the short-change worker, according to detectives, is to present a large bill for change after the purchase of some item. The object is to wait until the clerk has started to make the change, then the eye finds that he has a smaller bill and lays it upon the counter. His method is to keep talking to the clerk as to how the change should be made.

Along with fast talk, and the taking and giving of change soon confuses the clerk while the short-changer moves in for the kill.

Advice given to merchants is, this: When a bill is presented for change, place the bill on the cash register and make the change for it only. If the customer puts down another bill, let it lay, and complete the original change, ignoring his request to exchange the smaller bill until satisfied the original transaction is correct.

PLANNING COMMISSION
The City Planning Commission will meet Monday night at 8 o'clock in the City Hall.

Torrance Weather Record
Official U. S. Weather Bureau Records

Date	TEMPERATURE			Set
	Max	Mini	Maximum	
Jan. 1	64	49	63	
2	57	52	67	
3	61	56	68	
4	41	37	57	
5	68	58	64	
6	68	58	64	
7	68	58	64	
8	68	58	64	
9	68	58	64	
10	68	58	64	
11	68	58	64	
12	68	58	64	
13	68	58	64	
14	68	58	64	
15	68	58	64	
16	68	58	64	
17	68	58	64	
18	68	58	64	
19	68	58	64	
20	68	58	64	
21	68	58	64	
22	68	58	64	
23	68	58	64	
24	68	58	64	
25	68	58	64	
26	68	58	64	
27	68	58	64	
28	68	58	64	
29	68	58	64	
30	68	58	64	
31	68	58	64	
Jan. 1	Storm	.05		
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				
21				
22				
23				
24				
25				
26				
27				
28				
29				
30				
31				



AVIATION COMMISSIONER
Berton F. Scott, former first lieutenant in the AAF, appointed to the Torrance Aviation Commission, is pictured above. He served in the ETO with the AAF for more than three years, and has resided in Torrance for many years. Other members are Reed H. Parkin, chairman; Mayor W. H. Tolson, City Engineer G. M. Jain, Grover C. Whyte and R. I. Plomert, Jr.

Cecil Smith Named To Civil Service Board

Cecil Smith, manager of Thrift Builders, a Torrance resident for 22 years, was named a member of the Torrance Civil Service board by the City Council Tuesday night, replacing Tom Hobbins, whose term expired.

The council ordered a letter sent to Hobbins expressing the city's appreciation for the long years of faithful service on the Civil Service Board.

Smith is the second recent appointment to the board, the other being George P. Thatchler, who succeeded Bernard Bunge, who recently resigned. Bunge is moving to Vista, Calif.

Other members are Howard Raymond, A. J. Elder and V. J. Benstead.

Committees For Chamber Are Announced

Standing committees appointed by President Reed H. Parkin and confirmed by the board of directors of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce at the meeting Monday, are as follows:

Merchants Division, Hillman R. Lee, chairman.

Transportation and Public Utilities, C. B. Mitchell, chairman.

Industrial and New Business Committee, C. B. Bagnall, chairman.

Finance, Audit and Membership, R. I. Plomert, Jr., Industrial chairman, and I. Washer, Retail Business chairman.

Community Planning, Streets, Highways and Flood Control, Chas. V. Jones, chairman.

Inter-organization, Rev. Paul M. Wheeler, chairman.

Law and Legislation, Reed H. Parkin, chairman.

Public Relations, Publicity and Advertising, Grover Whyte, chairman.

Ways and Means, R. I. Plomert, Jr. and I. Washer.

President Parkin pointed out that these chairmen should select additional committeemen to serve with them and that he would make the appointments on recommendations of the chairmen.

TO SUBMIT REPORT
City Attorney J. E. McCall informed the City Council Tuesday night that he would have a report ready for the council on the request of a group of local citizens that the city write and submit to the voters a charter which would provide for assumption of control by the people of Torrance of the schools here.

Annual Rainfall In Torrance Falls Short of 1944

Torrance annual rainfall in 1945 was considerably below that of the calendar year 1944, according to the records of Fire Chief J. E. McMaster.

The year 1945 saw precipitation of 14.01 inches as compared with 15.38 inches for 1944.

There were few "rainy days" compared with 1944, the highest coming in the storm of Dec. 22 when a total rainfall of 2.05 inches was reported.

February, March and December were the wettest months.

Pension Fund Resolution Is Adopted

A resolution of intention to enter into a contract between the City of Torrance and the California State Employees Retirement System, to provide pensions for city workers, was adopted unanimously by the City Council Tuesday night.

The retirement act provides for publication of the resolution and adoption of an ordinance placing the plan in effect.

Pensions will be provided for all city employees, no matter what age. Those approaching the retirement age of 65 would have to pay higher for the benefits than the younger employees, it was pointed out, and the cost to the city will be about \$28,000 a year for the first few years. The cost lowers with length of operation of the fund.

Vets' Welfare In Bus Dept. Gets Attention

Complaint that a veteran was being fired from the Torrance bus department and a non-veteran hired was voiced at the City Council meeting Tuesday night.

The allegation was made by Councilman N. H. Cucci and brought B. J. Michels of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, to his feet with the statement that the "veterans of this war are not going to get the same run around as they got following the last war."

Bus Manager C. Z. Ward told the council that "we lay a veteran off, it will be because we have a very justified reason," and invited the veterans organizations to look into the case before criticizing the department. He said that the veterans groups had made no investigation as to the reason for laying off of the man in question, unnamed at the council meeting.

Cucci challenged Ward with the statement that if the unnamed veteran was going to be laid off on charges that were not any worse than some of the charges he (Cucci) has on other bus drivers, Ward had better go slow in firing him.

Ward retorted that if Cucci has any charges on any drivers he should place them before the City Council and the Council should order him to discharge the men. "If they are fired," Ward said, "they probably will be veterans, because 75 percent of our employees are war veterans."

Ward, himself, is a former service man, it was pointed out, and last week reinstated two former service men to the department.

Councilman Powell urged that the city be lenient and as considerate as possible with former service men, to give them a chance to get rehabilitated.

Building In City Reaches \$3,924,575

Building permits issued in the City of Torrance during the year 1945 reached the total of \$3,924,575, according to records in the office of City Engineer G. M. Jain.

This figure compares with a total of \$2,765,530 issued during the year of 1944.

Making-up the 1945 total were 365 permits, including the big new General Petroleum Corp. project now under way. The 1944 total was made up with 290 permits.

December of 1945 saw \$110,705 in permits issued compared with \$51,385 for December, 1944.

D. L. REINKE ENLISTS
Donald L. Reinke, 17, of 22415 Moneta ave., joined the Regular Army of the United States on Jan. 4.

TORRANCE HERALD

ESTABLISHED 1914 TWO SECTIONS - 16 PAGES
32nd YEAR—No. 2 TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 10, 1946 PER COPY 5c

TORRANCE TERMINAL FOR HELICOPTER MAIL, EXPRESS AND PASSENGER SERVICE

Torrance airport will be a terminal for helicopter flying busses which will provide a public transportation system connecting all part of the sprawling Los Angeles area in the next few years, according to officials of Southwest Airways Company. Plans for establishing this service were outlined by James G. Ray, the company's vice president, at a press conference Friday.

To begin with, it is proposed to create a mail and express service only, deferring the transportation of passengers until additional experience has been gained and operations procedures have been thoroughly tested. Suitable helicopters presently are available for the mail and express service and larger machines for the passenger operations are in the design stage.

Four routes are contemplated, three of them definitely.

The three are: The route from Mines field to Torrance Airport to serve as a pickup point from Torrance, Wilmington, Long Beach, San Pedro, Anaheim and Santa Ana; the route to Culver City to pickup mail from Beverly Hills, Hollywood, Glendale, Burbank, Van Nuys and other points; the route to Huntington Park, to serve East Los Angeles, Alhambra, Pasadena and Monrovia.

The fourth contemplated route is to Compton, to serve Downey and Whittier as well as Compton, Lynwood and nearby points.

From 7 to 12 flights will be made day and night in any kind of weather including the worst fog, according to Ray.

There are 51 points to be served by the proposed helicopter routes, and saving in time in dispatch and delivery of mail will amount to from two to three hours.

In case of Los Angeles helicopters, the route will travel from the Terminal Annex to Mines field in eight to nine minutes. It takes mail trucks 55 minutes to 1 hour to make that trip now.

If Civil Aeronautics Board approval is given for the lines, the service can be established within 30 days after planes are delivered. This is contemplated for June of this year. The Postal office department already has (Continued on Page 3)

Inspection Of Aluminum Plant Is Scheduled

A group of Chamber of Commerce directors and other civic leaders will make an inspection of the former plant of the Aluminum Company of America on Normandie and 190th st. tomorrow. The tour will be conducted by an official of the R.F.C. and will leave from the Chamber offices at 2 p.m.

The inspection is being made to determine the possibility of converting the \$30,000,000 Alcoa plant to other purposes now that the wartime need for aluminum has been met.

Chamber directors Monday authorized a protest to the Interstate Commerce Commission on a proposed freight rate increase on alumina from Bauxite, Ariz., to California. The action was taken on the request of Donald Campbell, industrialist, who states that he is considering acquisition of the Alcoa plants at Torrance and Riverbank for the resumption of aluminum production. Alumina, which is a fifty percent reduction of bauxite ore, was used by Alcoa during its wartime operation, and shipped from Arizona to Torrance.

Campbell states that in order to operate the Alcoa plant here, successfully, the present freight rate on alumina from Arizona must be maintained.

Torrance Plans To Buy Local Real Estate

The City of Torrance is in the land buying business, it was indicated Tuesday night.

A motion was adopted instructing City Clerk A. H. Bartlett and City Attorney J. E. McCall to enter negotiations with the Los Angeles City Board of Education for the purchase of the block of land at Sonoma and Fern ave.

Likewise, the city received a report of valuation of lots 23, 24 and 25 of tract No. 6944, on Torrance blvd., at \$500 each. The city is preparing to buy them.

Conner March Of Dimes Chairman; Drive Opens Sun.

Postmaster C. Earl Conner has been named March of Dimes campaign chairman for Torrance this year, and he announced that the fund drive to finance the fight against infantile paralysis will be conducted from Jan. 14 to Jan. 31.

The postmaster is organizing a corps of workers to canvass the business and residential districts in the all-out campaign to put Torrance over the top this year, as it has done in previous years.

Torrance Students At U.C. Have High Average

According to a letter to Principal Harold E. Perry of Torrance high school from Hiram W. Edwards, director of relations with schools of the University of California at Los Angeles, five students from Torrance high school who entered the University of California during the academic year 1944-45 made a grade point average of 1.47.

"This is a good record, and we wish to congratulate you on it," Edwards told Principal Perry.

Steel Strike Monday Still In Question

Steelworkers still were uncertain last night as to whether or not their strike, called for Monday, would actually take place.

There was a ray of hope that they would stay on their jobs in Torrance as well as throughout the nation, when President Truman said an increase in the price of steel to help meet the \$2-a-day wage increase demand would be allowed.

Whether it would come in this form, or be of an amount sufficient to avert the strike was a matter of conjecture.

It was reported that steelworkers, like the oil workers, are willing to accept a lower figure than \$2 a day, and a settlement was hoped for.

The oil workers, hundreds of whom are employed in Torrance, are on the verge of settling for an 18 percent increase in pay. They demanded 30 percent.

Water District Election To Be Held Tuesday

Voters within the city limits of Torrance, south of Sepulveda blvd., except Hollywood Riviera, will go to the polls on Tuesday to decide on the formation of Municipal Water District No. 1 and vote on a proposed bond issue of \$150,000 to pay for costs of development of the district.

Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the fire house, 3774 242nd st., Walleria. Leonore Gemets will be inspector; Nora Venable, judge, and Ethel K. Derouin, clerk.

The voters of the area at the election will decide an issue which will advance the development of the district, if carried, or retard it, if defeated, exponents declared this week as the election approached.

Lintott Resigns Columbia Steel Co. Position

The appointment of Joseph L. Turner to the position of director of industrial relations of Columbia Steel Co., a U. S. Steel Corp. subsidiary, was announced Jan. 4 by William A. Ross, president. Turner, who has been in the steel business since 1928, succeeds Henry T. Lintott, resigned.

Lintott was general superintendent of the Torrance works of Columbia Steel from 1928 until Dec. 1, 1940, when he was succeeded by O. A. Kresse. He was well known in the community.

His plans for the future are uncertain, it was said.

Voges Found Guilty Of Hit-Run Driving

Chester F. Voges, 4100 W. 158th st., was found guilty of hit and run driving in Superior Court Tuesday and immediately made application for probation.

Jan. 31 is the date set for probation hearing and sentence.

Voges was arrested last Oct. 19 at the Inglewood Farms by Torrance police for hit and run driving following the death of Raymond Cisse, 23, sailor attached to the Third Fleet Cisse was found dead at 2:30 a.m., Oct. 19, on Huntington st. near Hawthorne blvd.

Voges, police report at first denied the accusation and later admitted that his car had straddled the body to avoid hitting it. He maintained throughout that the body was already down in the roadway when his car came upon it. He was released by Torrance police on a \$2,000 bond pending the hearing.

John Stroh Is Kiwanis Club Head

John Stroh, chief of police, was installed as president of Torrance Kiwanis club at an installation party held Saturday evening in the Deauville club at Santa Monica. Stroh succeeds Ryan Daggett.

Edwin B. Brown, business manager of the Torrance Herald, was installed as first vice president succeeding Ray Reed; David Colville, as second vice president succeeding Stroh while R. J. Deinger, secretary, and J. Stanley King, treasurer, succeeded themselves to those offices. New directors are Brown, Colville, the Rev. H. Wesley Roloff, Raymond Robers, Dean L. Sears, Paul Watson, Charles T. Rippey.

Logan Cotton, past lieutenant governor of District N. 1, Kiwanis International, was master of ceremonies, and Jim Wallace, immediate past lieutenant governor of the district handled the dedication ceremony. Lt. Governor Tom Mawhinney was installing officer.

The dinner and installation party was followed by a dance.

The board asked that a member be allowed to sit in advisory capacity until the appointment could be made. The council voted to notify the board that its request would be given consideration at the time of the next vacancy.

KOORS' \$65,000 RETURNED AS CITY HIRES SPECIAL COUNSEL IN BUS CASE APPEAL

At the request of Charles F. Koors, who explained that he had deposited \$65,000 in escrow to buy personal property owned by the Torrance Municipal Bus department and nothing more, but that the court had construed that he was attempting to buy a franchise which the city is unable to grant, the City Council Tuesday night voted to release the \$65,000 to Koors pending disposition of the case of W. J. B. Hughes vs. the City of Torrance in the higher courts.

Koors' contract to buy the equipment and tools of the bus department still stands, it was explained.



CIVILIAN NOW . . . Jerry R. Hollomon, coxswain, U.S.N., received his honorable discharge Friday at Camp Shoemaker. Hollomon, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy H. Hollomon of 1635 Crenshaw blvd., has the distinction of having been the youngest non-dependent sailor to be discharged on points. He has to his credit 36 months' active duty and 30 months' overseas service, although not yet 20 years of age. His brother, Roy, Jr., a gunner's mate, 3/c, was discharged yesterday from Camp Shoemaker.

CHAMBER SEEKS TO HAVE SANTA FE LAND REZONED FOR RESIDENTIAL USE

Pressing their campaign to secure additional housing, directors of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce Monday, by unanimous action, authorized a movement to make available additional land bordering Torrance blvd. now held by the Santa Fe Land Company for home construction.

It was emphasized by Chamber directors that the land between Crenshaw blvd. and Margrave ave. north of Torrance blvd. constitutes the most desirable area for residential development. At present, there is a narrow strip, 360 feet in depth in this area now zoned R-1 (single family dwellings), but it was the opinion of Chamber directors and officers of the Torrance Realty Board who met with the Chamber that additional acreage north of this narrow strip along Torrance blvd. should be made available for home building.

Chamber President Reed H. Parkin will head a committee from the Chamber to interview C. J. Doherty, vice-president of the Chancellor-Canfield Midway Oil Company, and the Santa Fe Land Company, concerning the advisability of re-zoning this additional land for residential development. It was pointed out that home development firms would welcome the opportunity of building dwellings in this desirable locality if the land could be purchased at a reasonable price.

CIO Proposes Unemployed Council Here

The Unemployment Department of the Los Angeles CIO Council is conducting a meeting Jan. 17 in the Torrance CIO Hall, 1316 Border ave. for the purpose of discussing members problems and to set up an unemployed council.

The council, according to information received, will attempt to give immediate aid and carry on a campaign under the CIO banner, seeking jobs for all who want to work at a decent standard of living.

CIO unions in Torrance pledging full support in behalf of their unemployed members are of the following:

United Steelworkers of America, Oil Workers International Union, Torrance City Employees, United Rubber Workers of America and the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers.

Ask the Professor

(By H. F. Noake)

Dear Professor: Please tell me just what are adenoids?

Answer: Those I had were a pain in the neck.