

LOMITA AIRPORT LAWSUIT PLAINTIFFS NOT MEMBERS OF C.A.P., SAYS COMMANDER

Records of the California Wing of the Civil Air Patrol show no record of a group of Lomita businessmen and one Torrance taxpayer seeking to prevent Torrance from owning and operating the Army-built airport on 101 highway, South Torrance, as ever having been members of the Civil Air Patrol, Col. Bertrand Ryan, commander of the California Wing of the C.A.P., told the City News Service Tuesday.

An order to show cause as to why Torrance should not be restrained from operating or having anything to do with the flight strip, its buildings or facilities, is due to come before the Superior court on Monday, Aug. 18. Originally, it was to have been heard on July 21, but it was delayed until Aug. 18 at the request of the plaintiffs.



AIDS CHEST DRIVE... George L. Johnson, prominent local civic leader, who has been named to take over the establishments drive of the annual Community Chest campaign this year by Sam Levy, general chairman.

The plaintiffs are Norman Gardner, Lomita lumber dealer; E. M. Mosher, publisher of the Lomita Progress; John R. Stanton, manager of the Lomita branch of the California Bank, and William J. B. Hughes, a Torrance taxpayer. In the complaint Gardner, Mosher, Stanton and Hughes allege that "each" is a member and officer of group 3 of the California Wing of the Civil Air Patrol.

Colonel Ryan told the City News Service, to which the Torrance Herald subscribes, that the records of the California Wing of the C.A.P. show no mention of Plaintiffs Gardner, Mosher, Stanton nor Hughes as present or past members of the Civil Air Patrol. Colonel Ryan also said that Group 3 of the C.A.P. was inactivated and squadrons dispersed to other groups when preliminary efforts to obtain a lease from the government collapsed. Colonel Ryan, the City News Service said, expressed surprise at the nature of the lawsuit.

The Civil Air Patrol is not sponsoring the suit, nor ever gave its authority to its filing, Colonel Ryan said.

The original plan was to acquire the flight strip from the government for the use of the Civil Air Patrol, the colonel declared. The usual channels were employed and when they were exhausted, Group 3, C.A.P., was disbanded and the Civil Air Patrol withdrew from action.

Colonel Ryan said that his understanding of the lawsuit is that the group of Lomita businessmen plaintiff in the action were primarily interested in getting their money, some \$5,800, back from the government.

This money was paid in pre-



HEADS DIVISION... B. T. Whitney, active local worker, who is in charge of the special gifts division of the annual Red Feather campaign in the Torrance area. His job will be to direct solicitation for donations in higher brackets.

(Continued on Page 5-A)

George Johnson And B. T. Whitney To Assist Sam Levy In Chest Drive

Two more Torrance volunteer leaders, George L. Johnson and B. T. Whitney were enrolled last week in important positions for the Fall Community Chest campaign, it is announced by Sam Levy, local Community Chest leader.

The appointment of the two men came simultaneously with the announcement that the 1947-48 budget for the Chest had been set at \$7,322,240 to meet the needs of people in Torrance and the Metropolitan area which are provided by the 159 Red Feather service agencies of the Chest. The budget was established after a six-months study by a volunteer committee of representative citizens.

Torrance Loses Semi-Pro Champ Playoff Series

The announced scheduling of the State Semi-Pro baseball playoffs at Brookside park, Pasadena, greatly disturbs local tournament officials, it was reported last night.

Previously it was understood that should attempts to secure Gilmore stadium or Wrigley field fall, the playoff game in the south would return to Torrance park, where it was held last year. According to Jimmy Wayt, chairman of the American Legion Baseball committee, the news that the playoff game will go to the Pasadena park, which is no larger than the local park, comes as a shock and as a result officials here are "burned up."

Last year the Signal Oilers, champions of the Southern division of semi-pro play, defeated the Moffat Mantecas, northern champions, in a best 2 out of 3 game series held at Torrance.

The winner of the Torrance tournament, to be decided Sunday night, will again represent Southern California against the Northern California champion.

The first game of the playoffs is scheduled for Sunday, Aug. 24 at Brookside park, and the second and third games will be held in the Pacific Coast league's park in Oakland.

Legion officials expressed their desire to continue their sponsorship of a semi-pro tournament each year at Torrance, but said that next year the playoff site would be settled before hand.

Whitney and Johnson, who are outstanding in the community for their work in many civic projects, will work in this campaign as vice chairmen in cooperation with Levy, district chairman for the Red Feather appeal.

Johnson, who is an official of the Bank of America here, the secretary of the Rotary club and a member of the board of managers of the YMCA, will be vice chairman of establishments. His duties will include the solicitations of funds from commercial organizations and firms with ten or more employees. In this work he will be aided by a committee of residents volunteering for this campaign service. Johnson served in the 1944-45 campaign as district chairman.

Heading the Special Gifts division as vice chairman, Whitney will work with other residents of Torrance in the campaign in seeking donations in the higher income brackets. He is president of the Whitney Finance Company, a member of the Kiwanis club and the Chamber of Commerce.

Torrance volunteers in the Chest campaign will move into the field Oct. 15 and will be joined by nearly 46,000 other citizens throughout 35 towns and cities in the metropolitan area who will bring the story of the work of the Chest to approximately 800,000 contributors who yearly support this cause.

This year with the highest goal in Chest peacetime history planned, leaders are at work to secure an early and strong organization for the campaign.

SEVEN MONTH BUILDING TOTAL IN TORRANCE EXCEEDS ALL OF 1946; MAY REACH \$5,000,000

Torrance building permits during the first seven months of 1947 have surpassed the 1946 12-month total by nearly \$350,000, the Building Department reported this week.

The permits for 1947 as of Aug. 1 had reached \$3,443,777 as compared to last year's total of \$3,096,964. Included in the 1946 figure was the 140-home "Seaside Ranchos" development by Ben Haggott, which obtained permits amounting to \$896,000.

Construction by the General Petroleum Corp. amounting to \$685,000, was also included in last year's total.

A permit issued to American Radiator and Standard Sanitary Corp. for its new \$1,500,000 plant swelled the 1947 figure.

According to the statistics, homebuilding as well as industrial construction is on the increase and it is expected that the record breaking 1946 total of nearly \$4,000,000 will be exceeded by early fall. This was swelled by another big General Petroleum permit.

Several new factories and home units on a half dozen tracts throughout Torrance may be responsible for Torrance permits reaching the \$5,000,000 mark in 1947, it was said.

New construction is keeping Building Department inspectors constantly on "the hop," it was said, and more men may be needed to meet the increasing inspection demands.

Council May Get Power To Waive Residence Law

The City Council can waive residence requirements for municipal employees at the request of the Civil Service Board under the provisions of an ordinance adopted for the first reading Tuesday night.

At present, Section 3, subparagraph E of Ordinance 326 provides that one year's residence is required before an application can be made for employment with the city.

The ordinance is being amended to add the phrase giving the Council the right to waive this requirement where necessary and as requested by the Civil Service Board in order to fill positions where no qualified persons are available locally.

BOARD OF EDUCATION STARTS MOVE FOR UNIFICATION OF TORRANCE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Dr. Howard A. Wood notified the Torrance Herald yesterday that the Board of Education is going ahead with the plans for unification of the elementary and high school districts in accordance with the wishes of the people when they originally voted for separation from Los Angeles city schools.

It will be remembered that at the time of this vote, it was not legally possible to form both an elementary school district and a high school district in one move. For this reason the Redondo Union High School Board entered into a gentleman's agreement to operate Torrance high school until unification was possible.

The procedure through which unification can be achieved involves obtaining the signatures of a majority of the electors of this district.

These petitions are now being circulated. Voters who are interested will be able to find these petitions at the administrative office of the schools, 2093 Torrance blvd., at the editorial office of the Torrance Herald, at the office of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, Evans Stationery, Torrance Electric Shop, Vonderahe's Real Estate office, Sam Levy's department store, Torrance National Bank, Torrance Plumbing Company and other local business houses.

Others who will have petitions which are available for signature are P.T.A. officers, principals of the schools and any of the members of the Board of Education and numerous members of Kiwanis, Lions and Rotary clubs.

A phone call to 1653 will bring a copy to anyone who needs it, either to sign or to circulate.

As soon as 51 percent of the registered voters have signed the petition, the Board of Education may request the county superintendent to call a special election for separation of Torrance High School District from Redondo Union High School district.

In the event a majority votes for separation, unification of all Torrance schools under a single board of education and administration will be possible. "This is the goal Torrance citizens have set for themselves and it is finally in sight," Dr. Wood said.

Superintendent W. K. Cobb and Lloyd Waller, high school principal, and the Redondo Union High School Board of Trustees are cooperating in this effort of Torrance to achieve unification by setting up a program that can be continued under the unification plan. Music teachers, school doctor, school nurse and attendance officer, are being shared by both districts in the Torrance area.

The elementary district is renting space in the high school through a contract to pay a proportionate share of the maintenance costs so that the 7th and

Big Labor Day Picnic, Games Get City Okay

Torrance Lions club and the Torrance Moose lodge will have use of the Torrance ball park on Labor day for a mammoth all-day public picnic, to be followed by a donkey basketball game in the evening, according to action of the City Council Tuesday night.

The affair will include a basketball, tennis, races, a baseball game and the night donkey basketball contest during which the donkeys will wear tennis shoes, Lindsay Ridge-way, chairman of the affair, told the council.

There will be a charge for the donkey basketball game, Ridge-way explained, the proceeds going to charity funds of the two organizations. Donkey basketball is an innovation, it said.

L.A. Schools Pay Rent For Farm In Torrance

Redondo Union High School district, of which Torrance City School district is a part, will receive \$1,500 from the Los Angeles High School district for use of the 15-acre farm on Redondo Beach blvd., just west of Western ave., next year.

Los Angeles has been using the tract as a farm for Gardena high school.

An attempt was made by Los Angeles to sell the farm, located within the limits of the City of Torrance, but alert citizens prevented the sale in the lawsuit in which the Superior court ruled all real estate and buildings, together with the "new school district," and restrained Los Angeles from selling the farm. Removal of some 11 bungalows also was prevented by the lawsuit.

The farm becomes the property of Torrance Unified School District when the unification of the schools is completed, later this year.

Council Members Fail To Show Up For Meeting As Water Directors

Members of the Torrance City Council virtually tied the business of the three Torrance water systems in "knots" Monday night when they failed to show up for the regular meeting as the Board of Directors of the three water districts.

Since the start of the present fiscal year, all business of Municipal Improvement District No. 1, Municipal Water District No. 1 and Municipal Water District No. 2 has been handled separately from the business of the City of Torrance.

While identical personnel makes up the City Council and the Board of Directors of the water districts, regular meetings were established officially for the Monday preceding the second Tuesday of each month, effective July 1, 1947. Meeting place: 1510 Cravens ave.

The motion separating water district business from the municipality was adopted unanimously, "in the interest of efficiency and to keep accounts and records separately."

The only persons showing up for the meeting of Monday night were Water Superintendent William Stanger and City Attorney Otto B. Willett.

Members of the Council had been reminded at 5 p.m. of the meeting at 7 p.m.

So the general business, purchases, operation problems and other transactions have to wait for another meeting.

ALL RIGHTS-OF-WAY FOR WESTERN AVE. THROUGH CITY PROPER HAVE BEEN SECURED

All of the rights-of-way for the opening and widening of Western ave. from 203rd st. to 228th st., through Torrance proper, has been obtained without purchase nor condemnation, it was revealed by the City Engineer's office this week.

Tuesday night the City Council accepted deeds for right-of-way, easements and slope easements from 12 firms and individuals on the western half of the 100-foot Western ave. right-of-way.

They were from the Santa Fe railway; Ben Lingenfelter, A. E. Romberger, J. M. and Eva C. Clemons, Citizens National Trust & Savings Bank, George Schmidt, W. Rufus and Della B. Page; Pacific Electric Co.; M. D. and Jack Schwartz; C. J. and Rachel R. Hathaway; Remco and the National Supply Co.

All were in the area from Torrance blvd. to 228th st.

Needed on the Torrance side of the thoroughfare is a 2400-foot stretch from the south city limits to 228th st., and parcels in the area from 182nd st. to 203rd st.

The Los Angeles City bureau of rights-of-way has been securing the property needed for both Torrance, Los Angeles and Los Angeles County.

The fact that it has not been necessary to resort to condemnation or purchase to secure the Torrance rights-of-way, is a "feather in the cap" of local residents, it was said. Considerable purchasing has been found necessary along other sections of the thoroughfare, particularly in the Harbor City area of Los Angeles, but the prices being paid have been low enough to make condemnation unnecessary, according to officials.

Western avenue will be opened to Pacific Coast highway, and the big construction job will be financed with state gasoline tax funds.

Already Western avenue is believed to be the longest straight street in Los Angeles County, and will be even longer when cut through Torrance, Lomita and Harbor City.

Rainfall Record Of Torrance On New Schedule

Torrance now registers its rainfall in accordance with the method used by the United States Weather Bureau.

So, the record can show rainfall for the season in Torrance last year was 10.21 inches.

And the record can show that the first rainfall of the season, starting July 1, was on Aug. 8, amounting to .02 inches. The season total is .02 inches compared with nothing for last year.

First rainfall in the last weather year was on Oct. 1, when .20 inches fell.

Prior to this year, Torrance records had been kept on a calendar year basis. Use of the fiscal year, July through June, was decided upon when the official U. S. temperature and rainfall measuring devices were installed atop the Fire department garage, a Chamber of Commerce project.

Fire Chief J. E. McMaster is official U. S. Weather bureau observer in Torrance.

SITE FOR NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY AT CITY AIRPORT IS AGREED UPON BY OFFICIALS

Torrance City Council, the California National Guard and the Veterans Emergency Rentals, Inc. reached an agreement Tuesday night on the location for the temporary armory of the 578th Engineer Combat Battalion at Torrance Municipal Airport.

The Council nearly two years ago requested that the Adjutant General's office assign a National Guard unit to Torrance, and promised a site for an armory for the unit.

When the move to acquire the Army-developed airport on 101 highway reached a point where the city was assured of title, the Council informed the National Guard that it would grant a site on the airport when secured.

Title to the airport passed to the city about two weeks ago. Meanwhile, the National Guard has been occupying the administration buildings at the airport, having moved there from Torrance ball park at the time the right-of-entry to the airport was granted to Torrance.

Selected as a site for the armory is a five-acre piece of ground which is on the north end of the 15-acre site occupied by the barracks buildings recently given to the Veterans Emergency Rentals, Inc. for the duration of the housing emergency. Additional land will be available north of the five-acre site, it was said.

Meeting with Mayor J. Hugh Sherfy Jr. and Councilmen A. L. Jackson and W. H. Tolson, were Major Clyde Carpenter, commanding officer of the 578th, and J. G. Caldwell, director of the Veterans Service Center and officers of the Veterans Emergency Rentals, Inc. and E. Y. Tarkington, airport manager.

The site adjacent to the 15-acre Veterans Emergency Rentals, Inc. property was selected because of the availability of facilities such as power and light, telephone lines and sewers.

Major Carpenter will make formal application for the site by letter through the office of the Adjutant General, and it is expected that it will be awarded at the first meeting of the City Council after receipt of the approved letter of application.

Four huge, two-story, modern barracks buildings will be moved to the site to comprise the armory of the 578th until a permanent building is provided for somewhere in Torrance. The barracks buildings will be moved from Fort MacArthur.

Additional ground will be allowed for parking of heavy equipment of the engineers, such as trucks, tractors, graders and other machinery.

Riviera Clubhouse Loses Clothes Of \$2,000 Value

Clothes valued at nearly \$2,000 were taken from a linen room of Riviera Beach clubhouse early Saturday morning.

According to Commander L. F. Harris, manager of the club, the burglars pushed over a padlocked gate on the outside of the club to force their entrance. Apparently they were familiar with the club, the manager said, for the clothes, belonging to a guest who was away for a short time, were only recently placed in the linen room to make room for another guest.

Several lockers were also broken into, but the loss incurred will not be known until occupants of the lockers determine what is missing.

Walteria Mother Finds Happy Ending In 22-Year Search For Son

No ordinary serviceman's welfare, the young mother was hospitalized. Released from the hospital, she was unable to locate the infant nor his father.

Month after month and year after year, she lied unceasingly to locate her boy—only to meet one dead end after another.

Finally, without a lead, she appealed to Caldwell, who found what was hoped to be Morris and his father operating a farm about 200 miles from the Montana town.

After a seemingly endless wait, a response identified the former Army technical sergeant.

Since that time, weekly phone calls have marked Mrs. Bates' quickened vigil.

In them Morris Meuli has told his part of the story of a 22-year gulf between mother and son.

Late in September or early October the chasm will be bridged and mother, son and stepfather will be united here, where Meuli plans to make his permanent home.



MRS. FRANK BATES She Finds Long-lost Son

Walteria housewife, has waited more than 22 years for the event. She has not seen Morris since he was eight months old. Mrs. Frank Bates, 24237 Madison st., after years of heart-rending effort, finally located her son through J. G. Caldwell, director of the Torrance Veterans Service Center.

The Bates are selling their house, just built, in anticipation of the new arrival.

"We'll need a bigger one now," Mrs. Bates said with a wistful smile, thinking perhaps of the years between.

For the happy ending in sight for Mrs. Bates, divorced and remarried, one gathers from her story, is founded on more than two decades of heartbreak.

Stricken with pneumonia soon after her son was born in Kalis-

MONTEBELLO DODGERS—9
LONG BEACH ROCKETS—7

Montebello Dodgers won over the Long Beach Rockets in one of the final round games of the Southern California Semi-Pro baseball tournament sponsored by the Torrance American Legion last night.

This places Montebello against Los Angeles Police Friday (tomorrow) night.

Line score:
L. B. Rockets . . . 010 040 200—7 5 6
Montebello Dodgers . . . 140 051 110—8 10 3
Batteries: Geisert, Widner, Coats and Lath, Klinginger, Bachtelle and Henderson Lee.

Nine Homes In Seaside Ranchos Prizes At Show

Free G. I. down payments on a new three-bedroom homes will be given away, one each night, during the Southern California Industrial Exposition, scheduled to open Saturday, August 16, at the Pan Pacific auditorium.

The houses, located in Seaside Ranchos, a post-war suburban development on Pacific Coast highway, Southwest Torrance, are 1 and 1 1/2 story lots averaging 70 by 140 feet. Some are ready for immediate possession and others will be completed within a maximum of three weeks. They are being built by Ben Haggott.

"We negotiated for free down payment certificates on these homes only after a comprehensive survey of Southern California G.I. home developments," Everett H. Burnside, managing director of the Industrial Exposition, said. "We feel that these nine homes, on which down payments will be given away, represent outstanding values in Southern California."

More than 200 Southland industrial organizations will be represented at the Exposition. Theme of the show is "Atomic Energy in Peacetime," and demonstrations of methods for harnessing this new power for industrial and domestic uses will be featured displays.

Sol Burns Wins Salvage Yard

Sol Burns and Gene Burns have won their way to the City Council, and will operate their salvage yard on Guadalupe avenue.

City Attorney Otto B. Willett told the City Council that the Burns are planning to erect a building and move everything inside the structure. He said that this is permitted, since the location is in an M-2, manufacturing, zone.

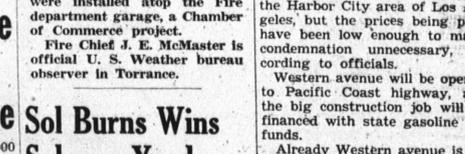
Previously, the Council had turned down the Burns' plea for a permit to operate the salvage yard there.

Physician For Local Schools

Dr. H. V. Markham, of Long Beach, school physician for Torrance City School district, has been engaged by Redondo Union High School district as school physician for both Torrance High school and Redondo Union high school, it was revealed this week.

He will divide his time between the two high schools and the five elementary schools of the Torrance City district, it was said.

Also under contract for Torrance high school by the Redondo board is Arvid D. Dahlen, woodshop teacher. Lloyd Waller, principal of the high school, said.



MORRIS MEULI Knows Mother First Time

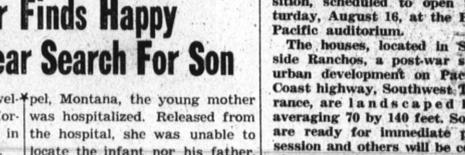
ing a farm about 200 miles from the Montana town.

After a seemingly endless wait, a response identified the former Army technical sergeant.

Since that time, weekly phone calls have marked Mrs. Bates' quickened vigil.

In them Morris Meuli has told his part of the story of a 22-year gulf between mother and son.

Late in September or early October the chasm will be bridged and mother, son and stepfather will be united here, where Meuli plans to make his permanent home.



MORRIS MEULI Knows Mother First Time

ing a farm about 200 miles from the Montana town.

After a seemingly endless wait, a response identified the former Army technical sergeant.

Since that time, weekly phone calls have marked Mrs. Bates' quickened vigil.

In them Morris Meuli has told his part of the story of a 22-year gulf between mother and son.

Late in September or early October the chasm will be bridged and mother, son and stepfather will be united here, where Meuli plans to make his permanent home.



MORRIS MEULI Knows Mother First Time

ing a farm about 200 miles from the Montana town.

After a seemingly endless wait, a response identified the former Army technical sergeant.

Since that time, weekly phone calls have marked Mrs. Bates' quickened vigil.

In them Morris Meuli has told his part of the story of a 22-year gulf between mother and son.

Late in September or early October the chasm will be bridged and mother, son and stepfather will be united here, where Meuli plans to make his permanent home.