

## Strip Residents Want To Secede From Los Angeles

Continued rebuffs to their petitions to the City of Los Angeles have led residents of the Shoestring Strip south of Gardena to seek ways to secede from Los Angeles and annex to Torrance or Gardena.

Chief complaint he and his neighbors have against Los Angeles, E. A. Ryan, of 1457 W. 185th street, said, is its failure to take any sort of action toward providing sewers for the area—although he mentioned various other indignities.

Under present law, it is impossible for a portion of a city to withdraw, no matter how badly it may have suffered. At the last session of State Legislature, however, Assemblyman Vincent Thomas introduced a bill which would have permitted such action. It was stymied by parliamentary maneuvers, but is expected to be brought out again at the next session if public sentiment proves strong enough.

## Gardena Drills New Wells To Fight Drought

Two new wells in the Gardena area will help see that city through the current drought, according to Louis Alexander, engineer for the Southern California Water Company, which holds the Gardena city water franchise. One was recently completed at Chadron avenue near Rosecrans, and is now being tested. The other will be "spudded in" this week near 172nd street and Dalton avenue.

Both wells will go down to a depth of 800 feet or more, Alexander declared. The northern one, which will go into actual service in from 60 to 90 days, has demonstrated a capacity of about 1,500 gallons per minute. It is expected the other, down near the slough, will bring a similar volume.

Gardena was left out of the newly formed West Basin Municipal Water District, which will join Metropolitan Water District and receive Colorado river supply, because it failed at the initial election to approve the formation of the district.

Torrance and all other West Basin cities are solving the problem by organization of municipal water districts.

## ROBERT WALKER SANTA FE R.R. GENERAL ATTORNEY

Robert W. Walker, 320 Granada avenue, Long Beach, has been named general attorney, Santa Fe Railway, in California, effective Feb. 1, according to an announcement made by R. S. Outlaw, general solicitor. Walker succeeds Leo E. Sievert, who was promoted to executive representative of the president.

## TORRANCE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL ON APPROVED LIST FOR 19TH TIME

For the way in which hospitals are recovering from the effects of the greatest war in history, which ended less than two and a half years ago, their administrators, trustees, medical staffs and all other personnel deserve the highest praise, declares Dr. Irvin Abell, chairman of the Board of Regents of the American College of Surgeons, in announcing that 3,143 hospitals in the United States and Canada qualified for approval following the thirtieth annual survey completed Dec. 31, the results of which are published in the December issue of the College Bulletin just issued.

Torrance Memorial hospital is on the approved list for the 19th time, according to Dr. Abell.

Dr. Abell added: "It is a satisfaction to the state that, in general, the service rendered by our hospitals today, despite the high costs, shortages of personnel and other difficulties which persist, is worthy of warm commendation. Numerically, the new Approved List shows only a small increase of 25 hospitals over last year, which is partly because of the omission of some 75 United States Army hospitals which have ceased to operate. Of the 3,900 hospitals under survey in 1947, 80.6 percent are approved. Statistics, however, cannot show the whole picture of widespread eagerness to give better service."

Dr. Malcolm T. MacEachern, associate director of the college and chairman of the Administrative Board, also commended the progress which hospitals are making, and added: "Most hospitals are exercising strict control over surgery in the effort to prevent unnecessary operations. By firm policies and practices governing selection and restriction of privileges of the surgical staff, complete preoperative examination, consultation when indicated, comprehensive medical records on each patient, and critical review and analysis of clinical results by the entire medical staff, good surgery is assured. As the American College of Surgeons discovered when it began Hospital Standardization in 1917, progress in surgery depends upon progress in every aspect of hospital service. Hence the aim of Hospital Standardization has always been to strengthen and improve the entire hospital, and all elements involved in care of the patient are considered in the surveys and in evaluation for approval. The public likewise should look at the hospital as a whole, and select a good hospital in which all services are efficiently rendered and well controlled. Public interest and encouragement are needed to support the many constructive efforts within the hospital and by related organizations to improve care of the patient. In 1918, when the results of the first Hospital Standardization survey were reported, only 89 hospitals met the requirements for approval; now 3,143 met the standard, the fundamental requirements of which briefly summarized, are as follows:

1. Modern physical plant, assuring the patient safety, comfort and efficient care.
2. Clearly defined organiza-

tion, duties, responsibilities, and relations.

3. Carefully selected governing board with complete and supreme authority.

4. Competent chief executive officer or administrator, well trained in all phases of hospital administration, with authority and responsibility to interpret and carry out the policies of the hospital as authorized by the governing board.

5. Adequate and efficient personnel, properly organized and competently supervised.

6. Organized medical staff of ethical, competent physicians and surgeons.

7. Adequate diagnostic and therapeutic facilities under competent medical supervision.

8. Accurate, complete medical records, readily accessible for research and follow-up.

9. Regular group conferences of the administrative staff and of the medical staff for reviewing activities and results so as to maintain a high plane of scientific efficiency.

10. A humanitarian spirit—the primary consideration being the best care of the patient.

## Convict 85 On Insurance Fraud Counts

Eighty-five persons were convicted or pleaded guilty to fraudulently accepting state unemployment insurance benefits during the last six months of 1947 in the Southern California area, it was reported today by Edward L. Kinser, supervising investigator for the California Department of Employment in the Los Angeles administrative area. The Los Angeles area includes the counties of Los Angeles, Ventura and Santa Barbara.

Convictions were obtained in every case brought to court, Kinser said. Two hundred and one additional cases were investigated during the six-months period, of which 80 were found not violations of the law. Eighty claimants were disqualified from receiving benefits and required to repay money received erroneously but not fraudulently. An additional 51 cases were cleared by establishing an overpayment without disqualifications being assessed.

Throughout the state during the same period a total of 705 cases were investigated and convictions of fraud were obtained in 205 cases. Determination of "no violation" was made in 203 cases. The other investigations resulted in demands for repayments, of which 111 also included disqualifications.

## Outlying Areas School Growth Exceeds L.A.

School attendance in Los Angeles County, reflecting the general increase in population, rose to 664,399 as of the last count on Oct. 31, 1947, the county superintendent of schools indicated today. This represents an increase of 112,386 in the two-year period since October, 1945 when 551,953 students were enrolled.

Dr. C. C. Trillingham, county superintendent of schools in announcing the figures said it will require \$140,000,000 to adequately house the gigantic increase in school population.

Where Los Angeles City formerly had 60 percent of the total county educational enrollment, figures indicate a trend for outside areas to grow faster than Los Angeles City, since Los Angeles now has only 53 percent of the total.

If the present growth rate continues, according to the present information, in another 10 years approximately one million pupils will be enrolled in Los Angeles County public schools.

Even if the growth rate is smaller than the present trend, authorities indicate, it would require a very substantial increase in the number of teachers, buildings, classrooms and school facilities.

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