



PITIFUL FLIGHT—Hopelessly mired in a "re-activated" oil sump near the Torrance city dump, this dog is being dragged from the sticky, goopy mire (only to die later) by Capt. J. R. Winters of the Torrance Fire Department, who ruined his clothing and nearly became mired himself. At left is Ralph Townsend, who was attracted by dog's pitiful barking, and called police. The South Bay Humane Society administered a hypodermic injection to end the animal's suffering. (Herald Photo).

Fire Captain Rescues Dog in Oil Sump

Public attention was again focused on oil sump death-traps within the city limits this week when a dog became mired in a recently-opened sump hole near the city dump on Border avenue.

The animal was rescued by Fire Captain J. R. Winters after police received a telephone call from Ralph Townsend, 1700 Pla-

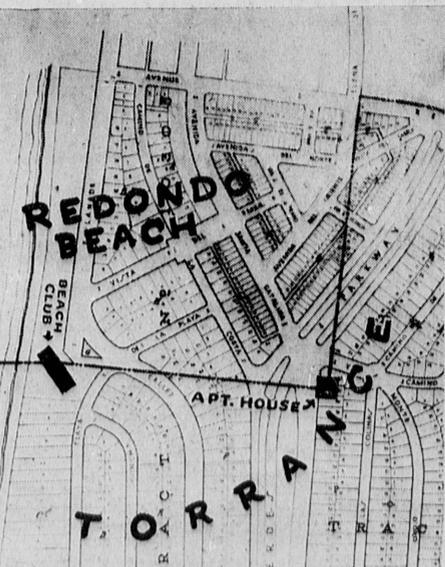
Code Cited:

Section 24400 of the State Health and Safety Code states: "Every person owning or having charge of land on which is located any abandoned mine shaft, pit or other abandoned excavation dangerous to passersby or livestock, who fails to cover it or fence it securely and keep it so protected, is GUILTY of a misdemeanor."

za del Amo, who heard the animal whining pitifully and found it hopelessly mired in the thick tar-like substance.

Inquiries disclosed that the owner of the property only recently permitted sump cleaners working in another part of the city to dump the goopy substance in the 20-foot deep hole.

The South Bay Humane Society sent a representative here to examine the animal after it had been removed from the sump and found it had swallowed so much of the substance that it was hopelessly sick. He put it to death with an injection.



BOUNDARY PROBLEM—Riviera Beach Club at left and apartment house at right are two of the principal structures affected by the present confusing boundary line between Torrance and Redondo Beach, for which a solution will be sought by a special council committee. (Press-Telegram Photo).

City-Wide Sale Event Set for This Week End

Savings on thousands of items will be available to shoppers who take advantage of the last city-wide sale event of the year this week-end when merchants throughout the community hold another price slashing "Old-fashioned Dollar Days."

Realizing the best way to create sales is to cut prices to near-wholesale levels, many merchants have dropped their regular prices as much as 50 per cent—in some cases even more.

To accommodate those who work during the day the stores will remain open on Friday and Saturday nights until 8 p.m.

Resignations Are Accepted

The City Council last night accepted with regret the resignation of A. M. Dowell, a member of the Civil Service Board.

Dowell's resignation was due to ill health, according to George Stevens, city administrator.

Also accepted were the resignations of Grant Barkdull and B. C. Buxton from the City Planning Commission. Both men stated that pressure of private business made it difficult for them to serve.

City Seeks Legal Advice on Torrance-Redondo Boundary

City Council last night requested the city attorney to report what steps can be taken to work out a complex boundary line problem involving Torrance and Redondo Beach, following receipt of a letter from E. C. Callahan, vice-president of the Hollywood Riviera Community Association.

Eighteen lots on the present boundary line between Torrance and Redondo Beach are bisected at various angles, but fortunately only two parcels of land have structures built on them, according to Councilman George Powell.

Powell and City Attorney C. Douglass Smith visited the properties this week, following receipt of Callahan's letter, and found an apartment house and a beach club on the boundary line. The unimproved lots are narrow 30-foot parcels suitable for small business establishments.

Manager G. E. Harris of the Hollywood Riviera Beach Club disclosed that some novel problems were posed by the present boundary line, which places his office and the ballroom in Redondo Beach, and the rest of the building in Torrance. This, he explained, requires that he purchase business and dancing licenses in both cities, while he also pays taxes to both cities.

Recently, Redondo police were called to discuss a problem with some rowdy boys, who promptly retreated to the Torrance side of the establishment and were no longer vulnerable to Redondo's jurisdiction. In event of a fire, Harris said he would have to double-check its location first in order to know whether to call the Torrance or Redondo Beach department.

Building regulations, zoning problems and schools also threaten to pose problems as soon as the development of the boundary-line section begins, officials agreed.

City Okays Master Plan for Airport

A long-range master airport plan for development of the Torrance Municipal Airport was adopted by the City Council last night.

The plan now will be sent to Washington for approval of the Civil Aeronautics Authority. Local representatives of the CAA have expressed unofficial approval of the proposed design for future development.

The plans include the construction of a second runway parallel to the present strip, an instrument-landing approach system, hangar space for 700 to 800 private planes as well as working area for commercial planes.

Provision was considered also for the development of businesses on the property fronting on highway 101.

VACATION ENDS

Mrs. Willis M. Brooks returned this week following a month's vacation during which she visited her son, Comet Brooks, at Santa Fe, N. M. For the past two weeks she has been a house guest of Mrs. Eleanor Jess at Victorville.

CITY ATTORNEY DIRECTED TO SEEK RAIL INJUNCTION

Irate residents along Madrid avenue crowded the Torrance council chamber last night to demand that the city proceed to carry out the Council's decision of 60 days ago to seek an injunction barring the Santa Fe Railroad from further operation unless there were new developments in the situation in the meantime.

Lacking any new developments, City Attorney C. Douglass Smith was preparing today to proceed in three steps to carry out the City Council's mandate. The 60-day delay was occasioned by indications that an industrial plant might be adversely affected by any immediate action by the city.

Smith will first proceed to confer with Santa Fe attorneys and inform them of the determination of the people residing along the street to have the line removed. Before he does that, however, he will obtain title searches which he has ordered on various portions of streets and alleys through which the railroad line passes.

Lastly, he is authorized to file an injunction suit to prevent further operation of trains over any property which he can find that the city owns and controls. If he does so, however, he warned the audience he fully expects that the action might be taken out of State courts to Federal Courts, and eventually to the United States Supreme Court in Washington.

"Such litigation is extremely expensive," Smith warned, stating that special counsel alone would cost the city \$20,000. The Council left it to Smith's discretion as to just how to proceed, and the audience appeared to concur.

New fuel was added to the brief which Madrid avenue property owners hold against the Santa Fe when Mrs. C. C. Sullivan said that six frightened children stood at the Torrance boulevard crossing for 15 minutes yesterday afraid to cross the tracks because the crossing bell was swinging, although a switch engine had only parked on a side track.

"Finally one of the trainmen got out of the engine and took the crying children across," Mrs. Sullivan recounted. "It would seem that we may have other occurrences of this kind and we think our children are worth just as much as some of the industries they talk about."

C. C. Elder and Mrs. R. C. Brown again presented most of the arguments against the Santa Fe. Others who spoke included F. R. Robinson, 808 Crenshaw boulevard, and Robert Plomert of the Industries Tax Committee, who invited as to whether rail service to any of the city's industries would be affected by the proposed injunction.

Councilman Powell said he thought the time had arrived for city officials to take an overall view of the factors involved in the growth of the city westward, and said that the Chancellor-Canfield Midway Oil Company had requested a master plan of development.

Councilman Bob Haggard said he thought it might be well to form an assessment district to pay the cost of the litigation.

Site Readied for Factory on Crenshaw

Removal of the remainder of the old ranch buildings from the industrial tract immediately opposite the Pacific Electric shops on Crenshaw boulevard was practically completed this week.

Surveyors have been working on the 15-acre tract during the last week, and boundary line stakes have been set which are visible from the street.

Preliminary plans for a group of factory buildings for the site are being prepared by the Los Angeles architectural firm of Albert G. Martin and Associates, for the paint division of the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company.

Tentative plans call for an office building fronting on Crenshaw, and several large steel frame buildings with concrete floors. No date has been announced for start of construction.

Big Aluminum Plant is Sold for \$1,500,000

Sale of the war-time Bohn Aluminum plant at Western avenue and 190th street to the Harvey Machine Company for \$1,500,000 has been concluded, according to Rep. Cecil King.

The plant originally cost \$8,000,000 and covers 38 acres with a floor space of 379,000 square feet. The plant was acquired from the War Assets Administration, which had established the fair value of the plant for peacetime conversion at \$1,800,000.

Sale of the plant to Harvey, which has been operating it under a government lease since April, 1946, is contingent upon a ruling by the Department of Justice that its acquisition is not in violation of anti-trust laws.

The sale also is subject to the national security clause which permits the federal government to reclaim war-time plants in the event of a national emergency.

Chemical Firm Sued by Dozen More Farmers

Sued many times for allegedly hurling noxious fumes and gases into the air around its Normandie avenue plant, Stauffer Chemical Company today was the target of 12 more superior court complaints totalling \$67,086.75.

Dominguez truck farmers brought the suits, which in addition to damages asks for a temporary injunction restraining the company from operating its plant.

Each of the complainants contends that the plant throws into the air noxious gases, sulphuric acid, sulphur and other chemicals, as a result of which last fall and winter crops were severely damaged.

Truck farmer R. G. Bentulan is suing for \$6757.50. Others follow:

Phillip Cabellon, \$3,931.25; Camilo Castanon, \$2,300; Francisco Gonzales, \$2,340; Tom Kobayashi, \$6,069; Cruz Lura and Carlos Espinoza, \$2,550; Jesus R. Negrete, \$28,137.50; Paul Ramo, \$2,897; Eulogio Rojas, \$2,550; John A. Tidwell, \$2,017.50; Ichita Oyeda, \$2,234; Jesus Vilagorta, \$5,302.

Dinner Monday to Launch New Concert Drive

Approximately 60 local music lovers will be guests of the committee sponsoring the 1948-49 Community Concerts at a dinner to be held Monday night at 7:30 o'clock at the Torrance Woman's Clubhouse.

The dinner is being given on the eve of the one-week drive to sell tickets for this season's series of concerts, which will bring to Torrance outstanding artists. Concerts given here last season were highly successful musical events.

James L. Lynch, president of the local sponsoring group, will preside as chairman at Monday evening's kick-off dinner. Tickets for the season's concerts will be on sale next week only, it is emphasized, under the same plan as last year.

Attention of students will be drawn to the concert series next week by a contest in the high school, with prizes for the student who can identify a list of 24 composers.



POINT OF CONTENTION—The site originally selected for the proposed new school in the Pacific Hills subdivision "1" is shown here by Mrs. Gladys Weston, together with its relation to the site more recently selected, "2," by school officials, and the relation of both of them to the Walteria community "X." The two sites are 800 feet apart.

Mrs. Weston Says City Faces Loss of Pacific Hills Project

Torrance faces the loss of the development of Pacific Hills on Weston Ranch as a major residential community, Mrs. Gladys Weston, prominent Torrance civic leader and one of the owners of the historic ranch on which K. Sande Senness, operative builder, planned to undertake a three-year construction program starting immediately.

Mrs. Weston revealed that the multi-million dollar project is on the verge of abandonment because of recent unexpected Board of Education action in changing school site locations without warning.

The Torrance woman disclosed that the Weston interests have been informed by Senness' attorney that the builder is on the verge of dropping his option on the property.

"This," she said, "would be a serious event, not only to us, but to the expansion of Torrance. The city is growing industrially, and homes within the price range planned by Senness are vitally needed to house our increasing population."

Some six months ago, Board of Education officials and Senness agreed upon a school site at a compromise conference. Recently the Board switched to a condemnation policy, deciding on another site location without informing Senness, Mrs. Weston said, adding that his first news of the proposed condemnation was obtained from a news story in the Torrance Herald.

The Weston Ranch legal representative informed Mrs. Weston that Senness, after board officials and Senness had settled on a site, proceeded to re-engineer the first unit.

"Mr. Senness was a week away from recording his maps for the first unit when he learned of the Board of Education condemnation action," Mrs. Weston said. "To continue, these maps must be done over, causing a delay of three to four months in the start of construction."

"Our legal counsel informed us that, in view of this school site action Mr. Senness' mortgage commitments on the first unit have been placed in jeopardy. Considering the tightening of credit and the shortage of mortgage funds for veterans homes, a serious problem has been created."

First Yule Tree Permit Granted by City Council

Only 73 more days till . . .

Petition of Irene Spall for a zoning variance to permit the setting of Christmas trees at the corner of Crenshaw boulevard and 166th street, was granted last night by the Torrance City Council.

The permit, being of a temporary nature, was referred directly to the City Council by the City Planning Commission.

Two-Day Trip

Gray Clay Turns White Under 2500-Degree Heat in Factory

Every home has one. Some have more. Ever wonder just how the manufacturer achieves that glass-smooth finish on your lavatory and other bathroom fixtures? It's quite a long process, as a trip through the new Torrance plant of American Radiator & Standard Sanitary Corporation will reveal.

The big Crenshaw boulevard plant, where 350 Torrance and Lomita residents are employed, is one of the company's nationwide system of plants to be almost completely mechanized, and a walk around its 12 acres of floor space is a very good way to work up an appetite for a lunch at the plant's spotlessly-clean cafeteria.

The mineral-bearing clay, some of it feldspar, is shipped to the plant in gondola railroad cars and put in storage in 30-foot high circular bins much like a grain elevator. Unloading may be done either by a large vacuum pump or by a special bucket elevator system. Some of this material has to be pulverized to the fineness of talcum before it can be used.

Collection of the various materials is accomplished by a special scale car which travels on an overhead rail, operated by one man, who rides behind it at the electric controls on a small platform also suspended from overhead. This system leaves the floor clear of all trackage.

Dumped into a hopper through a grill in the floor, the mixture is elevated into blungers 10 feet in diameter, where water is added until the mixture is in a liquid state. The mixture then

POPULATION OF TORRANCE NOW ABOVE 18,000

Population of Torrance now exceeds 18,000 persons, according to the new estimate of the City Planning Commission. The estimate now stands at 18,149, as of Oct. 1.

The recent spurt in residential building has prompted the Torrance Chamber of Commerce to suggest that the city ask for a special census Jan. 1, it was learned, in order that the city may receive its just proportion of the state gasoline tax money for the improvement of local streets.

The city's estimate is based on building permits issued during the last month, the same method

Cost Would Be Soon Returned

Cost of a special census of the city would be returned to the taxpayers within a year in the form of increased allocations of gasoline tax and motor vehicle license fees, City Engineer George Stevens told the City Council last night in recommending the Chamber of Commerce proposal.

Employed by the County Regional Planning Commission and by other municipalities.

During September an additional 234 new dwelling units were added in Torrance, of which 68 were single-family and 22 were multiple. This is many times the 30 units added during August and the 78 units added during July.

As of July 1, the Regional Planning Commission estimated the population here at 16,977, while for August it estimated 17,387 dwelling units existed, based on building permits, and figuring 100 percent occupancy conservative in some areas of the county.

And we've added a few since Oct. 1!

El Camino Plans Huge Expansion; Work Authorized

Plans for the development of El Camino College campus and plant were approved at the meeting of the college's Board of Trustees this week, according to President Forest Murdock.

In addition, preliminary drawings were approved and Architects Marsh, Smith and Powell were authorized to proceed with plans for the student union cafeteria, administration classroom building, shop and a home arts wing.

This will provide 17 more classrooms to accommodate the rapidly-growing enrollment of El Camino, which serves the southwestern section of the county, including Torrance.

The trustees also authorized bids for purchase of dirt that will be needed for compaction for a stadium to seat 20,000 persons.

Improvement for Parking Lot Outlined

Improvement plans for the city's parking lot at Cravens avenue and El Prado were outlined to the City Council last night by City Engineer George Stevens.

Guide lines for parking would be painted on the area after surfacing, to provide all-day parking space for employees of local stores and other business places. When the work is completed, employees, who drive their cars to work will be asked to park on the city-owned lot in order to leave the parking space nearest to the business center for shoppers.