



ROYAL COURT . . . Attending her majesty Pat Merola, "Miss Torrance of 1951," following her coronation last Saturday night were these members of the royal court. (Back row, left to right) Dorothy Sandstrom, Alice Gargalis, Sandy

Gulbranson, Queen Merola, Shirley York, and Jackie Johnson, "Miss Torrance of 1950." Seated are Zola Bellwood and Donna Fuller. (Herald photo).

Sharp Dip Noted Among Non-Workers in Area

Unemployment Figures Show Steady Decline

Unemployment in the Torrance area has taken a considerable dip during the past two months with 42 per cent fewer persons seeking employment in April than in February, so stated Mrs. Wilona Ellis, manager of the local office of the California Employment Service.

In February 642 persons in seven different classifications were seeking employment thru the office at Gramercy and Cravens avenue. As of April 9 the number seeking work dropped to 372 persons, Mrs. Ellis said.

Increased activity in defense plants in the area was credited with the drop in unemployment. Of the number currently seeking employment 205 are women.

"Many of the women are housewives re-entering the labor market for defense work," Mrs. Ellis claims.

Of the 107 men seeking work 32 per cent are veterans.



WANDERING TORTISE . . . Burma Bolles, secretary in the Whitney Finance Company office, seems a little mite provoked at her visitor from the desert who casually walked into the Sartori avenue office Monday and proceeded to take over. Typing out his own Lost and Found Want Ad, Tommy the Turtle indicated he would be available for claiming should his owner miss him. He is at Lonita 690-J. (Herald photo).

Car Rams Truck; 3 Hurt; Driver Cited as Drunk

After ramming the rear of a pickup truck and injuring three teenagers, "J" Robert O'Brien, 24065 Hawthorne boulevard, was arrested by Torrance police Friday night and booked for drunk driving.

Taken to the Harbor General Hospital were James Fitzgerald, 15, of Gardena, with a possible skull fracture; James Edwards, 15, of Lawndale, with minor injuries; and Lavolla Brinkley, 14 of Hawthorne, with minor injuries.

O'Brien was booked at the Torrance jail after officers rescued him from his auto, in which he was pinned beneath the steering wheel.

The accident took place at 10:30 p.m. last Friday night at Hawthorne boulevard and 230th street.

Driver of the pickup truck was listed as John Robert Cadon of Hawthorne.

California State Income Tax Deadline Extended

Only three business days remain to file state income tax returns on 1950 earnings, Thomas H. Kuechel reminded taxpayers this week.

If help is needed in preparation of returns, visit the tax office at the Inglewood City Hall, 365 East Queen, Inglewood, which will remain open until 5 p.m. Friday, April 13, and Monday, April 16.

Single persons with net incomes of \$2,000 or more and married persons with combined net incomes of \$3,500 or more must file state returns.

Doctors Remove Man's Hand Hurt In Roller Mishap

His hand caught between two rollers at the Rubbers graft plant last Thursday, A. J. Sipes, 23309 Belleporte avenue, Harbor City is today recovering from an operation during which doctors were forced to remove his hand at the wrist.

Sipes was first rushed to the Harbor General Hospital where he was administered a hypodermic and then transferred to the Torrance Memorial Hospital. There Dr. John Beeman assisted by Dr. Eugene Cooke amputated the mangled hand.

G. P. Promotes Local Workers

Promotion of two employees at the Torrance refinery of the General Petroleum Corporation was announced this week by company officials.

Upped from his former position as maintenance control en-



GATES PHILLIP
... Promoted

gineer to refinery engineer was T. J. Gates.

Succeeding him was A. J. Phillip who was formerly an inspection engineer.

Gates came to the company as an engineering department pressure equipment inspector in 1946. He transferred to the refining department in 1948.

Phillip joined the oil company as a pressure equipment inspector in 1946. He served in the engineering department in several capacities both at Vernon and here in Torrance. He joined the refining department as maintenance engineer in 1943.

Freedoms Foundation Honors National News

For its outstanding contribution to furthering the cause of Freedom and the American Way of Life through the columns of the "National News," official publication of the National Supply Company, the local concern last week was awarded a gold medal from the Freedoms Foundation.

Reese H. Taylor, president of the Union Oil Company, made the presentation at ceremonies held in the Bovard Auditorium at the University of Southern California on Thursday, April 5.

Accepting the award on behalf of the company was Mrs. Blanche Nagy, editor of the publication.

The award was the second such honor to be bestowed upon the local company.

Freedoms Foundation, with headquarters in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, is a non-sectarian, non-political organization which encourages all Americans through its awards of cash, medals and certificates of honor, to think more about the priceless heritage of freedom and how that freedom can be perfected and preserved—then speak up fearlessly for freedom wherever their influence can be felt.

Screening of the thousands of entries was done first by veterans of the Valley Forge Memorial Hospital, with final judging done by an awards jury made up of State Supreme

Machine Shop Classes Give Valuable Aid

"War or no war," says instructor Tom Bray of the free adult machine shop classes at the Torrance Adult School, "there is nothing more satisfying for present and future years than a substantial knowledge of a well recognized trade like machine work."

Four free adult classes are open to all adults regardless of residence at the Torrance Evening High School. They are held each evening from 6:30 to 10 Monday through Thursday. Both beginning and advanced students are welcome, and each may work on his own individual project.

Those beginning this training need no previous experience. They may, after conference with the instructor, decide on the particular type of work they plan to enter. Instruction can be given in drill press, shaper, mill, grinder, lathe work, and use of hand tools.

"In addition to defense training, machine shop work is a vital industry in peace time factories," Mr. Bray points out. "Machine Shop," he went on, "is a double barrel trade. Always good for the good man."

Court Justices and heads of national patriotic societies and civic organizations. Chairman of the 1950 awards jury was Dr. Milton S. Eisenhower, president of Pennsylvania State College. From among the 860 top winners from all over the country, the jury selected 50 individuals and organizations from the southwestern area who were honored at the ceremonies.

HOSPITAL TO GET MORE SURGERY FACILITIES

Herman Light, Los Angeles architect, was awarded the contract for architectural plans for a surgery facility at the County's Harbor General Hospital at Torrance by the Board of Supervisors at Tuesday's meeting.

Supervisor, Raymond V. Darby, who presented the motion, stated that the hospital has been working under a handicap because of the lack of such facilities. The hospital has grown from its original capacity of 400 beds to 700 at the present time, and services the entire medical profession from Torrance, Long Beach, Inglewood and San Pedro.

The need for surgical facilities requires immediate attention from the standpoint of Civil Defense measures, Darby said.

Light was one of the original architects for the hospital when it was first constructed by the Army, before taken over by the County.

Tartar Teen Talk

By MARIAN McDONALD

A week ago last Tuesday the faculty sat around council fires at Torrance High planning the various committees and all the details for this year's operetta, "Belle of Bagdad," to be presented May 3 and 4. The faculty is cooperating with the student body in every way possible to make this operetta a big success.

Mr. Kilburn is handling the business end and ticket sales; Miss Mabel Kloster and Mr. Don Bradford are the teachers in charge of publicity; Mr. Wang and Mr. Newton Metfessel will be general chairmen. Dances are already in progress with Mrs. Betty Schaefer and Miss Doris Avis in charge. Mr. Dan Desmond will rehearse all speaking parts and assist in some of the dance numbers. The high school orchestra will be under the very capable direction of Mr. Harold Dunn. Mrs. Evangeline Morros will be in charge of stage scenery, sets, posters and advertising.

Mr. George Zavislian, the man behind the scenes, is rehearsing all talented singers and choruses for this operetta. It is his hope, and all of our hopes, that everyone will attend the performances of "Belle of Bagdad" on May 3 and 4. After seeing and hearing such splendid performances in the "Brewster Boy," what's to keep us from selling out all the seats in the high school auditorium, for the coming operetta, "Belle of Bagdad."

Tomorrow, the 13th of April, Mr. Allen's first period geometry class and Miss Stanford's first period sewing class have a date with the beach. Why? They won the PTA membership drive. Let this be a lesson to all those who didn't turn in memberships this year.

Today our track team is competing in the field events at the Inglewood Relays. Best of luck boys.

Also today the baseball team is playing Leuzinger there and the Junior Varsity is playing Leuzinger here.

Did you see all those students wandering around school last week looking worried and harassed with a hand full of notes and gesturing wildly? Well don't be worried about them, they were just practicing for the annual Lions Club speech contest. Coming out on top to represent Torrance High in this contest were Barbara Jackson, Jo Ann Radulovich, and Rodger Wright. Good luck to three very fine speech makers.

The Freshmen and Sophomore classes have been very busy lately running around the halls, holding whispered conferences, seeing people, and trying to keep everything a big secret. Well, it finally came out. These two classes are sponsoring an April Frolics Dance in the Civic Auditorium, April 20 from 7:30 to 11:30. Tickets are a couple and stag. But of course the Freshmen and Sophomores get in for twenty-five cents if they have paid their class dues.

The TTE Club and Dramatic Arts Classes are planning to attend the El Camino musical "Of These Things" at the Redondo High School Auditorium April 13. On the 27th of April they are planning to go to Los Angeles City College to see the very famous play, "Taming of the Shrew."

Experience Dangerous Accident Survey Shows

Experience can be dangerous—even deadly.

This may surprise you, but statistics compiled by The Travelers Insurance Companies show that more than 98 per cent of last year's fatal traffic accidents were caused by drivers with at least one year's experience.

Fun Festival Nets Youth Band \$545

The Torrance Area Youth Band realized a net profit of \$545.88 on the "Fun Festival" staged here last week, according to Forrest Meyers, president.

The money will be used to defray the expenses of the Band's Fifth Anniversary Band Benefit Parade to be held in Torrance on May 19th. The Pan American Amusement Corporation who furnished the rides and other equipment for the fun festival has promised to make a return engagement next year.



"NATIONAL NEWS" HONORED . . . The National Supply Company was honored by the Freedoms Foundation last week for the company's contribution to promoting the cause of Freedom through the company's magazine, the "National News." Accepting a gold medal in behalf of the company is Mrs. Blanche Nagy, editor of the monthly publication. Reese H. Taylor, president of the Union Oil Company, made the presentation. With Taylor are Dr. Fred D. Fagg Jr., president of USC, and Don Hedding, chairman of the board of directors of the Freedoms Foundation. A photograph of the medal is shown in the insert.

Kathy Fiscus Law Lacks Legal Teeth

City Attorney James Hall took steps Tuesday night to correct a quirk in the Kathy Fiscus law.

The law makes it a misdemeanor to maintain an open pit, sump, or well. BUT, Attorney Hall discovered, there is no penalty for the crime.

Hall was attempting to use the law last week to cite a Long Beach man, an operator of an oil well in Torrance, for maintaining an open oil sump when he discovered the law had "no teeth in it."

The South Bay Humane Society reported that four dogs had been rescued within the past 21 days from an oil sump at Sepulveda, boulevard and Western avenue.

The operator of the well and sump, J. L. O'Donnell, stated he would fill and fence in the sump immediately.

Hall asked the City Council for permission to amend the law to include a penalty for the crime. He got it.

City May Offer Reward To Halt Trash Dumping

Attempting to discourage dumping of rubbish alongside Torrance streets and in other unauthorized places within the city, the Council Tuesday night took action to create a reward fund for civilian sleuths reporting persons dumping trash.