

Inquiry on Oil Dump Operations Ordered

A check into the validity of using the Cassidy Dump in the Pacific Hills area as an oil dump was ordered by the City Council Tuesday night as residents of the area contended to express their protests against operation of the dump and a sand and gravel pit in the area.

City Engineer Jacob Joseph told the council that a Long Beach firm had been licensed by the city to operate a trucking operation here, but he could not say that the dumping had been properly licensed, therefore the order by the council for the check.

On a second motion, contingent upon the first, operators of the dump were ordered to fence in the dump in conformance with the city's oil ordinance. The fencing would be compulsory if the operators of the dump were found to be conducting their operations within the proper licensing, otherwise an action to force the closing of the dump would be in order.

Complaints from residents in the area and along Hawthorne boulevard, route of the trucks from the oil fields to the dump, centered about the heavy volume of truck traffic and the spilling of oil up and down the length of Hawthorne boulevard in South Torrance.

Joseph said that he had personally observed the operations during the week, and that the trucks appeared to be using all possible precautions in loading and driving between the fields and the dump in order to keep

from spilling any of the loads.

City Engineer Joseph and City Attorney James Hall were ordered by the council to check into the validity of the operations.

In discussion about the operation of the Torrance Sand and Gravel Products, residents of the area were told by the city engineer that the operation of the plant was within the law as far as the terms of the variance granted the company.

William Cameron, who lives at 3040 Winlock drive, had asked about the variance inasmuch as the operation of the company had been moved closer to the Pacific Hills homes during the past year.

It was pointed out that the original variance confined the operations to a 50-acre site, and Joseph said investigation showed that the company was still within the legal area.

City Attorney Hall reminded the residents present in the council chambers that their only recourse was to file a nuisance complaint against the operators of the pit.

In the meantime operations continue and the residents appear reluctant to initiate court action to halt the operators.

Father of Mrs. Levy Dies in Los Angeles

Funeral services for Joseph Berkowitz, 82, father of Mrs. Sam Levy of 1503 El Prado, were held Friday, October 5, from the Malinow-Simons Mortuary in Los Angeles. Mr. Berkowitz died Thursday following a lengthy illness.

Beside his daughter here, he leaves two sons, Harry and Joe, both of Los Angeles. Burial in the Home of Peace Cemetery followed final rites.

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Talk on Tilt-Up Schools Arouses Wide Interest

A talk given by Mrs. Grace Wright, vice president of the Torrance Board of Education, has brought the eyes of state educational leaders toward Torrance, where two of the first pre-cast, all-concrete schools are now in the process of construction.

Mrs. Wright spoke last week to delegates attending the School Trustees Association convention in San Jose. Her report that the schools were costing \$9.96 per square foot left a definite impression on the trustees of other districts who are faced with the problem of furnishing classrooms for California's rapidly expanding school population.

Visiting Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, this week was Francis Dunn Jr., a member of the California Legislative Committee of the Educational Committee of the Legislature. He is planning to bring members of the committee to Torrance to observe the actual construction of the pre-cast schools to be erected on Madrona avenue and in the Riviera area.

FIRES DAMAGING
Forest fires destroy fish as well as other game, destroy shade, increase soil erosion that fills holes in streams, and wash wood ashes into the water, forming poisonous lye.

New Water Scheme Advanced by Drale

A suggestion that Torrance make the badly needed improvements to its water system on a pay-as-you-go basis rather than float the proposed \$2,000,000 bond issue, was tossed at the City Council Tuesday evening by Councilman Nick Drale.

Before voting on the ordinance of intention of forming Water District No. 3 here, Drale asked City Manager George Stevens if it were true that the water rates in Torrance would be increased to pay off the principal and interest on the proposed bonds.

Stevens told the councilman that was the plan submitted by James C. Montgomery, hydro-engineer hired by the city to survey the water system and recommend a method of expanding and modernizing it.

"If we are going to raise the rates to pay for the bond issue, why can't the city just raise the rates and pay for the improvements on a pay-as-you-go basis?" Drale asked.

Stevens pointed out that such a method of financing improvements on the city's water system would be entirely impracticable because "you can't build a reservoir on a pay-as-you-go basis over a period of 10 years."

"And it's not 10 years from now that we need the water improvements, but we need them right now," Stevens said.

Drale said he based his suggestion on the fact that no one knows what kind of a city Torrance will be 10 years from now. It was pointed out again that the improvements planned were needed to make the system adequate now. The reservoir and improved feeder lines to be put in if the bond issue is passed at the coming elections would serve as a basis for expansion of the capacity of our water works, and is needed now to make the system up-to-date in the matter of fire protection, and in the supply of water to

industries and the new home developments.

Drale voted for the ordinance of intention after agreeing that the hearings to be held on the bond issue would be the proper place to air such matters.

Rites Pending For Pedestrian Crash Victim

Pending yesterday were funeral arrangements for a 76-year-old Pasadena woman who was killed in an auto-pedestrian accident at 235th street and Arlington avenue, Sunday evening.

The victim is Mrs. Josephine G. Brown, who has a niece, Dorothy Turner, living at 1860 Plaza del Amo. A brother, Joseph LaPorte, lives at 24203 Lomita drive.

Seconds before the accident, the victim had inquired of J. R. Stroh, an off-duty policeman, where she might catch a bus. She was struck a few seconds later as she attempted to cross Arlington avenue.

Released on \$300 bail was the driver of the auto, a 27-year-old Marine corporal, Walter Raymond Connor, of the El Toro Marine base. Connor was charged with manslaughter, a misdemeanor, and released by City Judge Otto B. Willett, who set his preliminary hearing for October 18 at 2 p.m. Police Chief John Stroh said the prosecution would not push the case, since there was no indication of negligence on the part of the driver, and because there were no witnesses to the accident.

The body was taken to the Stone and Myers Mortuary, pending completion of funeral arrangements by the survivors.

Polio Victim Admitted To New Special School

Admittance of one of their classmates to the Harlan Schoemaker School for the Handicapped in San Pedro last week was cause for celebration among members of Mrs. Ethel M. Lewis Home Visiting Class of the Torrance School District.

Gaining entry to the specialized school was Nancy Jones, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Jones, of 1612 Cota avenue. Nancy has been unable to attend regular school classes for more than three years since being stricken with polio.

She has been an industrious member of the Home Visiting Class, taught by Mrs. Lewis, according to the teacher. She has been in this class since returning from Rancho Los Amigos Hospital more than a year ago.

Admission to the new Schoemaker school was gained after Warren Hamilton, director of special services for the school district, submitted an application on behalf of the district to have Nancy admitted.

ALL HAPPY
"We were all very happy about the news," Mrs. Lewis said. "New Nancy can get the proper therapy for those arms, legs, and back, that need to be come so much stronger before she will be able to walk again."

Helping Nancy celebrate her admittance to the school were five of her classmates in the Home class here. Picnicking in the park were Carolyn Grayson, Deanna White, Bernardo Lucero, Paul Pedersen, and John Jenovovich.

Nancy reported this week that she is doing well in her spelling lessons and has taken her social studies on Canada and Alaska. Nancy is very happy about her new school, Mrs. Lewis reports.

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New Walteria Community Church Lists Services

The Walteria Community Methodist Church will hold Sunday School and church services in the Recreation building at the Walteria city park on Sunday morning, beginning at 9:45 a.m., with classes for kindergarten, primary, junior children, youth, and adults. Tom Kirk is the Sunday School superintendent. The worship service will be held at 10:30 a.m. with the vested Youth Choir, under the direction of Mrs. Robert Cramer.

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