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Local Officers to Attend Bank of America Confab Officers from the Torrance branch will be among representatives from 27 branches of the Bank of America who will meet Tuesday night at a dinner meeting of Harbor District officers at the Inglewood Elks Club.

Council Finds Water Ballot Count Okay

A canvass of the recent water bond election ballots by the City Council Tuesday evening confirmed the original tally reported last week of 165 votes favoring the program, 276 opposed.

No other official business was brought before the adjourned meeting of the city fathers. Immediately after canvassing the ballots, the council adjourned and met in an agenda meeting to discuss various matters of business and legislation to come before future council meetings.

Among the things reportedly under study by the council was the recruitment of a city engineer, an agreement with the Dominguez Water Company to furnish water to the Truman Brown tract in West Torrance and the acceptance and rejection of various bids submitted to the city.

Peerson Freed On \$2000 Bail; Case Continued

Fay B. Peerson, 44-year-old oil refinery welder, was released from county jail yesterday on \$2000 bail after his preliminary hearing on two charges of assault with intent to commit murder was continued to February 13.

Tuesday Peerson appeared before Judge John Shidler in Gardena, Justice Court for preliminary hearing on charges that he shot his estranged wife, Norma, 38 and Cecil Byron Huffine, 38, in a motel at 2472 Pacific Coast highway.

A continuation was granted by Judge Shidler because both shooting victims are still unable to appear in court.

Mrs. Peerson was released last week from Harbor General Hospital, while Huffine is still confined there.

Judge Shidler reduced the bail on Peerson from \$5000 to \$2000. He posted the bail yesterday morning, jail officials reported.

Peerson, a former resident of Torrance, was employed at the General Petroleum refinery here at the time of his arrest by deputy sheriffs. He and his wife had taken over operation of the motel in Lomita a few weeks before the shooting.

Phone Company To Move to New Building Soon

Business operations of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company will move to the company's newly-completed building at 1307 Craven avenue on January 24, it was announced this week by Manager A. B. Smith.

The new quarters will replace the present business office at 1307 Post avenue where thousands of Torrance subscribers have paid their telephone bills and carried on telephone business transactions for nearly six years.

"We hope that subscribers won't be confused by the similarity of addresses," the manager declared. "Although the street numbers are identical, the new office is two blocks away from our present location."

Smith said that the new office in the quarter-million dollar building will enable the company to give better service to customers as a result of increased space for personnel and records, and to provide for future growth of the exchange.

Construction of the new two-story building was started just a year ago after ground-breaking ceremonies were held by civic leaders and telephone officials, with Mayor Bob L. Haggard turning the first spadeful of dirt.

Torrance Leads Area In Building Permits

Torrance, 18th largest city in Los Angeles County, was surpassed in the amount of building permits issued in 1951 by only six other cities in the county, permit totals showed this week.

Beating Torrance in the permit totals were Los Angeles, Long Beach, Burbank, Pasadena, Arcadia and Compton. Burbank, Arcadia and Compton are newcomers to the top of the list as they trailed Torrance last year.

Of 74 localities in the Southland ranging from Fresno to San Diego, Torrance was number 12 on the list this year with a total of \$12,865,814. Torrance's record total last year was \$16,009,783.

The top 12 localities and the amount of building permits issued during 1951 in each community were as follows:

Table with 2 columns: City Name and Permits Issued. Includes Los Angeles, San Diego, Long Beach, Burbank, Pasadena, Fresno, San Bernardino, Riverside, Arcadia, Compton, and TORRANCE.

Other communities in the Torrance area were quite a ways down the list. Inglewood had a 1951 total of \$6,677,618. Redondo Beach had \$6,079,089. Hawthorne had \$4,911,883. Palos Verdes had \$3,149,070. Gardena had \$2,340,286, and Hermosa Beach had \$1,537,026.

Held Wednesday McFarlin Rites

Final rites were held Wednesday for William John McFarlin, 60, a 10-year resident of Torrance who died January 8 while enroute to his native state of Pennsylvania.

Mr. McFarlin lived here at 2840 Sepulveda boulevard. He died in Salt Lake City.

Services were conducted by the Montebello Masonic Lodge at Chapel of Chimes in Inglewood. Interment followed in Inglewood Park Cemetery.

Mr. McFarlin is survived by a daughter, Mrs. George E. Gay of San Dimas; a son, Rev. Paul Combs McFarlin of Astoria, Ore., and three sisters, Mrs. E. J. McClellan, Mrs. Belle Bailey and Mrs. A. W. Patterson, all of Pennsylvania.

Industrial First Aid Class Opens January 26

An advanced course and an instructor's course in first aid will be started on January 26 at 1 p. m. in the city's Civil Defense office, 1754 Torrance boulevard, George C. Powell, assistant director, has announced.

The course is designed for industrial personnel and is patterned for industrial hazards, Powell said.

More Jobs

drawn up by one manufacturing industry.

General Petroleum's announcement this week about the expansion at the Torrance refinery said that a new thermoform catalytic reformer (known as a plant here) if the government approves the plans.

The new reformer would be the key to a new process which is a continuous method of upgrading low quality gasoline stock to a gasoline which, with the addition of tetraethyl lead, will have an octane number of 100 or more, according to Gale L. Adams, the company's vice-president and director of manufacturing.

Three of the TCR units have been planned by the Socony-Vacuum Company for the United States and the total cost of the three units will be \$27,000,000, officials say. The units are all similar, so it can be assumed that the Torrance refinery expansion will cost around one-third of that total, or approximately \$9,000,000.

Melvin Bennett Arrives In U. S. After Sea Duty

Melvin G. Bennett, fireman, USN, arrived in San Diego last week aboard the landing craft tender USS Satyr after 11 months in the Far East.

Bennett is the son of Percy Bennett, 24651 Hawthorne boulevard, a detective sergeant on the Torrance police force.

The seaman, a graduate of Torrance High in 1946, expects to get leave later this month. He is now stationed in San Diego.

Opens New War Classes

Two free classes designed to prepare adults for war emergencies have been set up by the Torrance School of Adult Education.

A course in civil defense is given each Tuesday night at 7 o'clock at North Torrance Elementary School, four blocks East of Crenshaw boulevard and 174th street. This course will cover fire fighting methods, atomic radiation, formation of rescue crews, and handling of sabotage and subversives.

George C. Powell will handle this course.

A free first aid class, conducted by William Stidham of the Los Angeles county life guard service, will be given each Tuesday night at 7 o'clock at the Seaside Elementary School.

Additional classes to meet the war emergencies will be started from time to time as the needs of local citizens become known.

Kresse

ferred to the Rope and Fence department of Columbia Steel Company in San Francisco. He was made superintendent of the wire rope mill at the Pittsburgh plant in April, 1942 and two years later was elevated to the position of works engineer.

In April, 1947 Rice was appointed division superintendent of the sheet and tin mill at the Pittsburgh plant and five months later was promoted to assistant general superintendent.

Rice is married and the father of three children: Karen L. Suzanne A. and D. Wayne Rice. They have resided at 1122 "C" street, Antioch. He is a member of the Association of Iron and Steel Engineers, The American Iron and Steel Institute and the Columbia Athletic Association.

Part of Avenida Avezada, an unpaved portion, was washed away at the spot the pavement ended, leaving a house almost marooned in its wake.

In other areas waters failed to do much damage, although 174th street between Denker and Normandie was closed by more than two feet of water, and Normandie was flooded out from 166th to 182nd streets.

Industrial plants in the Torrance area were undamaged by the waters, a survey conducted by the Herald revealed yesterday. Not so fortunate were many large plants in other parts of the Los Angeles area. Many were hard hit by the surging waters.

Yesterday street department crews were hurriedly repairing many washed out spots on city streets. Many of these small ruts, similar to chuck holes, were a foot deep.

The Torrance area got off light as far as the major part of the Los Angeles area was concerned. Downtown Los Angeles, only 20 miles distant, recorded nearly 4 inches during the second storm as streets were turned into rivers. The storm caused at least two known drownings in the metropolitan area. The San Fernando Valley took an even worse beating.

Although winds that accompanied the storm reached speeds of 30 miles per hour, only one tree in Hollywood Riviera was reported down. During the storm the Fire Department was also called out to pump out the Maple avenue sump.

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WARNERS 478 W. 6th St. - SAN PEDRO THEATRE - TEL. 2-7227 STARTS SATURDAY 1 P.M. THE LOVES OF PANDORA IN FLAMING TECHNICOLOR! M-G-M presents the spectacular romance! JAMES MASON - AVA GARDNER Pandora and The Flying Dutchman

Local Boy to Testify in Bethel School Case

Nine-year-old Leonard Vuchan of 1005 Maple street is expected to testify this week in the Santa Ana trial of Mrs. Julia Ward and Mrs. Carolyn Munger, operators of the Bethel Christian School near Anaheim.

Young Vuchan was one of three boys the defendants allegedly punished unjustifiably while they were attending the school. The two women are charged with burning Vuchan and two other students to teach them the dangers of fire.

LOMITA Theatre Philip Friend - Charles Coburn Wanda Hendrix "The Highwayman" "Flight to Mars" "The Captains Blood"

STADIUM NOW PLAYING - The Cold Steel and Iron Men "FIXED BAYONETS" "CAVE OF OUTLAWS" "THE LADY PAYS OFF" "THE CAPTAIN BLOOD" TORRANCE "ACROSS THE WIDE MISSOURI" "JOURNEY INTO LIGHT" GRAND JAPANESE FILMS EVERY TUESDAY SPANISH FILMS EVERY WED. & SAT. PHONE TORRANCE 269

GARDENA "THE BLUE VEIL" "FIXED BAYONETS"

PARK "DESTINATION MOON" "MAN FROM PLANET X"

AL ROYER'S HITCHING POST IN PERSON TEX WALLACE AND HIS WESTERNERS Sat. 11 p.m. to 4 p.m. KXLA 1110 Every Night 11 to 12 Dancing Every Sat-Sun. Afternoon 15513 So. Western, Gardena

El Camino Schedules Ready Today

Schedules of classes to be offered by El Camino college during the spring semester will be at the college today, according to college officials.

The local college offers both day and night programs, with courses planned for terminal majors, college transfers, and self-improvement. Day and evening school programs are offered to any resident of the college district without charge.

Registration for the spring semester starts January 28. Information concerning registration, enrollment, and classes offered may be obtained at the Administration building on Crenshaw boulevard or by calling ME104 4-6631 or Plymouth 6-1421.

Women's Leaders to Be Guests at Luncheon

Presidents and program chairmen of all local women's organizations will be guests of the Sherwin-Williams Paint Co. at a luncheon January 29 at the YWCA.

Mrs. A. E. Palmer will handle the decoration of the luncheon tables. Speaker for the occasion will be J. M. LaFollette, regional color supervisor for the paint company, who will speak on "Color Styling Your Home." He will tell of the methods of selecting the correct colors for the home.

Luncheon reservations are being handled by Shirley Harold at the Sherwin-Williams store here.

LAKE CARGO

The Great Lakes fleet has exceeded the one-hundred million tons of cargo only twice in 1944 and 1951. Iron ore is first, coal second, grain third.

HARBOR DRIVE-IN THEATRE WED. THUR. FRI. SAT. JAN. 16-17-18-19 BING CROSBY - JANE WYMAN HERE COMES THE GROOM 20th Rogers SUNSET IN THE WEST SUN.-MON.-TUE. JAN. 20-21-22 A Place in the Sun DICK POWELL Peggy DOW You Never Can Tell

Did You Say Charleys? Yes, I Said Charleys! Eat With Charley DANIEL'S CAFE WE NEVER LOSE 1625 Cabrillo-Torrance