



Madrona Elementary School to Open Tomorrow



MOVING DAY . . . Principal Herman Schick and Mrs. Margaret Chandler, second-third grade teacher, lend a hand to get the new Madrona School classes ready for 330 pupils tomorrow morning. Workers yesterday were putting the finishing touches on the new classrooms at Madrona and El Dorado Aves.

First 'Tilt-Up' School to Open

Tomorrow is M-Day for about 330 students now attending Fern and Greenwood elementary schools. Beginning about 9:15 a. m. tomorrow, students in the first, second, third and fourth grades at Fern Ave. will be loaded onto buses with their pencils, slates and books for the 15-block move into the new Madrona Elementary School.

Hailed during early construction stages as the first school in the nation to employ the "tilt-up" method of construction, the new school was being given the final touch up yesterday.

Principal Herman H. Schick gave the new school his stamp of approval after looking it all over. He and teachers for the new school were busy moving books, supplies and other classroom paraphernalia into the new buildings yesterday.

Schick has been with the school district since last fall when he was hired as the vice-principal for the North Torrance Elementary School. He was moved to Fern Ave. Elementary two months ago to prepare for the move into Madrona.

The school will house classes from the kindergarten through the sixth grades.

The kindergarten and fifth and sixth grade classes will report directly to the new school tomorrow morning instead of moving by bus.

OFFER HERALD READERS NEW INSURANCE POLICY

In keeping with its public service policy, the Torrance Herald is now offering to its readers and subscribers a \$10,000 travel, pedestrian, and automobile accident insurance policy at a cost of only \$1 per year.

This insurance policy is made possible through special arrangement with the California Life Insurance Co.

Every subscriber to the Torrance Herald, 15 to 59 years of age, can have a policy simply by paying \$1 per year; and \$1.25 a year for ages 5 to 14 and 60 to 79 years.

Each member of a family residing at the same address where this newspaper is delivered also can have individual policies by paying the premium for the particular age group.

The insurance offered by the Torrance Herald provides for payments up to \$500 for total disability, and an additional hospital benefit of \$100 is included where hospitalization is required.

All benefits of this policy are paid in addition to any other insurance the subscriber may have.

To obtain this \$10,000 travel, pedestrian, and automobile accident insurance policy, telephone the Insurance Department of the Torrance Herald at Torrance 444 or mail the application blank appearing in today's publication.

Meeting Called To Hear Report On Parking Here

The long-awaited report on the survey being made by the city's Parking Authority will be made public Thursday evening at a meeting in the council chambers of the City Hall. It was announced yesterday by C. T. Rippey, chairman of the group.

Results of a survey and recommendations of the Parking Authority which have been formed as a result of the survey will be announced at that time, Rippey said. The meeting, to which all interested parties are being invited, will open at 8 p. m.

J. H. Paget, member of the Authority, has collected questionnaires from merchants, professional men and land owners throughout Central Torrance area and has had the replies put into report form, he says.

"About 75 per cent of the questionnaires sent out have been returned," Paget said. He indicated that personal contacts were made in case of the remaining 25 per cent in an effort to get a 100 per cent reply.

"All businessmen in Torrance should be vitally interested in our report," Paget said.

Details of the report were not available. However, Paget said a large number of the replies which were returned to the Parking Authority indicated little or no opposition to the installation of parking meters.

C of C Seeking New Members In One Day Drive

A one-day Chamber of Commerce membership campaign will be launched at 9 a. m. Tuesday with a pep talk, coffee and doughnuts, according to Dean Sears, chairman of the membership committee.

Members of the Chamber will meet at the C of C office, 1345 El Prado, at 9 a. m. and will pair off into teams to work the city over from one end to the other in a search for new members.

"We are trying to work up a prize for the team which turns in the most new members," Secretary Dale Isenberg said yesterday.

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NAVY MOVES TO ACQUIRE ALCOA BY CONDEMNATION

Navy Files Suit To Condemn Site

Action to acquire the huge Alcoa plant at 190th St. and Normandie Ave. through condemnation proceeds has been filed in Federal Court in Los Angeles by the U. S. Navy, it was learned yesterday.

Named in the suit, which was apparently filed several weeks ago is the Columbia Steel Co., known now as the Columbia-Geneva Division of U. S. Steel Corp.

Filing the action was Frank Mead, real estate manager for the Navy in this area. The steel company has until May 23 to answer the action.

The action is believed to be connected with the move of Douglas Aircraft to acquire the 214-acre manufacturing plant.

It is known that Douglas has been seriously considering exercising their option to lease the industrial facility from Columbia. Officials at Douglas have repeatedly told the Herald that "the deal is still on."

It has been reported that architects of the large aircraft industry have been in the former Alcoa plant here for several weeks and that the company has taken out insurance on the facilities—both indicating that a move by Douglas to take over the plant had gone far beyond the planning stage.

Both Douglas and Columbia plant protection personnel have been on duty at the plant, observers have noted.

Reports that the Government has approved a huge loan for expansion of the Douglas operation also lends weight to the belief that the firm is planning to take over the plant which it optioned to lease several months ago.

Officials of U. S. Steel and Douglas Aircraft were not available for comment yesterday.

Columbia Steel acquired the former Alcoa plant from the War Assets Administration on

Oct. 22, 1948, and announced plans to convert the plant into a cold reduction mill which would employ about 1500 persons. Those plans were never carried out.

Haslam Promoted To Assistant Chief of Police

Willard H. "Pop" Haslam was named "right-hand man" to Chief of Police John Stroh in a joint announcement by City Manager George Stevens and Chief Stroh.

Haslam, who came on the force in 1935, will serve as assistant chief and will be in charge of police activities during the afternoon shift, 3 to 11 o'clock.

Active in the training of new law enforcement personnel for the city, Haslam was named captain in 1949. He earned his first promotion in 1940 when he was elevated in rank to sergeant.

Official oath of office will be administered tomorrow morning. Haslam scored in the top spot on a civil service examination for the assistant's position.

Commanding the night watch, 11 p. m. to 7 a. m., is Lt. A. S. Thompson, who was promoted from sergeant only last Wednesday.

Pedestrian Hit By Car Suffers Serious Injury

A sixty-five year old pedestrian who was struck by a car while crossing Cabrillo Ave. near Cravens, Wednesday evening, is still in Harbor General Hospital with serious injuries, hospital attaches reported yesterday.

The victim, Emory Brown, is suffering from concussion of the brain, a fractured leg and three fractured vertebrae, the hospital reports. He resides at the Torrance View Trailer Park, Torrance Blvd., near Henrietta St.

Driver of the car which hit Brown was listed as Ray Sleppy, 1755 Santa Fe Ave. He was not cited.

Traffic officer Don Nash said that contradictory statements were obtained from witnesses, some stating that Brown was in a crosswalk, others that he was not.

Eighth Army Lauds 578th 'Bulldozer'

"The Bulldozer," newspaper of the South Bay area's 578th Engineers Battalion, received an official pat-on-the-back yesterday from the U. S. Eighth Army.

Judges named the Bulldozer the second best unit newspaper published in Korea during March. Competing for the spot were some 50 publications.

The weekly mimeographed paper was started last November when the 578th was in Japan. When the 40th Division moved to Korea, the paper continued.



PROUD SWIMMER . . . Eleven-year-old Andy Welmer, 720 Pacific Lane, is proud of his "Learn to Swim" certificate, but no more so than the other 150 boys who received the awards Friday night at the YMCA. Jim Krueger and Mrs. V. T. Vanderpool passed out the awards as a climax to the annual YMCA "Learn to Swim" week program during Easter vacation. The boys were shown the Red Cross movie "Learn How to Swim."

GAS EXPLOSION RIPS HOME, BURNS OWNER

Leaking butane gas which filled the house and accidentally was lighted was blamed by firemen for an explosion which blasted a North Torrance home and sent one man to the hospital with serious second degree burns of the hands and face late Wednesday night.

Firemen theorized that Pedro Jimenez, of 1840 W. 178th St., lit a match to fire a small wall heater and gas which had accumulated from a small pipe leak exploded.

One wall of the house was blown out completely and bedding and portions of another wall burned in the blast, Act. Fire Capt. Bill Johnston, Torrance Station 3, said.

Jimenez was taken to the hospital by relatives before firemen arrived. Harbor General Hospital authorities yesterday said that his condition was "serious."

The blast was felt by residents for many miles, firemen reported.

Five Toss Hats For Board Race

Five names will appear on the ballot for membership on the Board of Education at special school elections to be held May 16. The filing period closed Wednesday night.

Those who tossed their bonnets into the race were the three incumbents, Mrs. Grace Wright, Carl Steele and Dr. Rolin Smith. Others who filed were J. A. Beasley and Mrs. Kathryn Matson.

Three Car Crash Results When Brakes Give Out

A slam-bang crash at Torrance and Crenshaw Blvds. resulted after the brakes in one car failed, the auto jumped the curb, struck a second machine and forced it to collide with a third Thursday afternoon, police records show.

Betty K. Jaime, 23, Hermosa, driver of the brakeless auto, told officers that when her brakes failed to operate, she piloted her car over the curb to avoid colliding with cars in the intersection.

Her auto knocked over a stop sign, then bumped into a car driven by Phillip T. Jacobs, 22, of 4917 Sharynne Ln. Jacobs told police he swerved to avoid a collision and piled into a vehicle driven by Buddy Powers, 17, of 4315 W. 178th St.

After investigation, officers cited Miss Jaime for operating an unsafe vehicle, records reveal.



BOSS MEN . . . Chief of Police John Stroh, left, confers with W. H. Haslam, who Friday was named assistant chief of the Torrance Police Department. Haslam, who has served as a police captain for three years, scored number one on the Civil Service examination list.

MISS YOUR HERALD?

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