

# \$36 MILLION PLASTIC PLANT LOCATES HERE

PUBLISHED EVERY SUNDAY AND THURSDAY MORNING

## TORRANCE HERALD

—and 8 Companion Newspapers, Total Combined Circulation—22,868

5¢

Sunday and Thursday  
Home Delivered by Carrier  
30 Cents Per Month

38th YEAR—No. 51

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, AUGUST 7, 1952

PHONE TORRANCE 444

12

16 PAGES



**HELD BY POLICE . . .** Theresa Pfefferkorn, 22, and her husband Frank, 17, are being held by Harbor Division police after Theresa told detectives how she and her young spouse looted several Harbor City business places, and robbed a young gas station attendant. They were arrested after a Torrance girl spotted their license number and called police.

### Tells Crime Story

## Young Bride Faces Court on Check Rap

A young, raven-haired bride who unfolded a tale of crime and adventure for police investigators, will appear in San Pedro Municipal Court today for preliminary hearing on a forgery rap. Her teenaged spouse is being held for juvenile authorities for questioning.

Theresa Pfefferkorn, 22, and her husband Frank, 17, were arrested Thursday after an alleged three-month crime spree which included robberies, burglaries and forgery. They were nabbed by officers who traced a license number furnished by a Torrance gas station girl, Carol Goss, who jolted down the number of a car which she thought was suspicious after cashing a check from a Harbor City cafe. The check later was found to have been stolen.

### Not Even Xmas, But Government Does Out Gift

The Torrance Unified School District got a real neat gift this week, and it isn't even Christmas. Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, revealed that the Federal Security Agency notified him that Torrance schools would receive from \$118,000 to \$200,000 under Public Law 874—assistance to areas populated by defense industry workers. Hull said the first check, to help pay for the new Howard Wood school near Kettler Knolls, was forthcoming.

## Annexation of Area Hit By TUSD Board

### Educators Hear Request for Aid By City Council

It wasn't ice water that members of the Torrance school board tossed on to a request by the city council for financial assistance to the city's recreational program, but it put a chill on things for a while. Four councilmen, Vic Benstead, Nick Draie, Harvey Spelman and Mayor Mervin Schwab appeared before the Board of Education Tuesday night in an appeal for help with the city's increasing recreational needs. Recreation "Top Heavy" Benstead said, "We feel that the school district should participate in the program." Councilman Draie called upon the board to consider helping the council reorganize the recreational policy of the city. "I feel that the city and the schools should assume equal responsibility for fulfilling the recreational needs of our residents," Draie said. Spelman and Mayor Schwab concurred in the statements made by their colleagues. "Recreation and education are tied together closely," Spelman urged, "and we need your assistance."

But, the Board, armed with facts and figures, showed that the increasing costs of education has eaten into the budget to such an extent that little if any financial aid could be offered. School Now Contributes The school now contributes over \$5000 in community services which include the use of schoolrooms and playgrounds by the city and outside organizations. It was shown.

A report will be made in the near future to the council advising what, if any, administrative and financial aid can be given.

### Jet 'Copter Tests Slated For Airport

Testing of an experimental pulse jet helicopter developed for the U. S. Army by the American Helicopter Co. of Manhattan Beach will get underway at the Torrance Municipal Airport in the near future, it was learned yesterday. Tests of the small, one-man helicopter will be started later this month, according to a company spokesman. The small craft is to be propelled by small jet motors on the tips of the rotors.

### SCHOOL RAPS ANNEXATION PLAN OF CITY

Administrators of the Torrance Unified School District lashed out at the City Council in its move to annex 25 acres of vacant land near 236th St. and Western Ave., Tuesday night, because it will eventually "cost the taxpayers an additional \$43,860." Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, told the visiting council members at a Board of Education meeting that although the district might net some \$10,040 in tax revenue from the 300 proposed homes, the high cost of educating the children will place a heavy burden on the district.

**Lose Money** The homes, Dr. Hull pointed out, each assessed at \$2000, would yield only a trifle over \$10,000 at the current school tax rate—which is at the maximum allowable by law, while total cost of transporting and educating the youngsters in the tract would exceed \$54,000. The council was asked to annex the property by John Kettler, housing tract developer, so that all of the homes within the Kettler Knolls subdivision would be within the City of Torrance. Some 300 new homes are planned.

"We also will have a continual battle on our hands," Dr. Hull said, "in that those children in the new area will be located a stone-throw from a L. A. City High school soon to be erected, yet we will make them attend, and transport them, to a Torrance high school."

### Funeral Today For Ebersole

Funeral services for Jacob Franklin Ebersole, 80, of 4304 W. 159th St., will be held at 11 a. m. today at the Stone and Myers Chapel. Rev. Freeman A. Brunson, pastor of the Church of the Nazarene, will officiate. A resident of this area since 1928, Mr. Ebersole died Sunday. He was a retired carpenter. He leaves two daughters, Orpha M. Elmen of his home address, and Ora M. Mekim of Oroville, Calif., and two sons, Virgil R. of Olympia, Wash., and George W. of 1654 W. 218th St. He also leaves 19 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. Interment in Pacific Crest will follow final rites today.



**WONDERS SHOWN . . .** Some of the uses of the new "wonder plastic," which will be manufactured here in the new Carbide and Carbon Chemicals Co. plant, are shown to R. L. Minkler, (left), president of General Petroleum. With him are R. N. Graham, vice-president in charge of manufacturing; and Dr. J. G. Davidson, president of the chemical firm.

### 1025 Enrolled For Summer

Total enrollment of children in Torrance summer school was set at 1025, with an average daily attendance of 855, the Board of Education was informed this week. Enrollment was open to all students and sessions were held in seven schools with 30 teachers employed. Largest attendance was at the Torrance Elementary, where 173 pupils participated. Other enrollments were: Seaside, 166; Fern Avenue, 154; Perry, 109; Walteria, 108; North Torrance, 102; and Crenshaw, 42.

### Lions Aid Fund For Quake Help

Cooperating with other Lions Clubs in this district, the Board of Directors of the Torrance club Wednesday night voted to contribute \$25 to the Tehachapi-Monolith Lions Club for welfare and relief work resulting from the recent Tehachapi earthquake. At the board meeting held July 30 it was voted that the club would cooperate in one major fund-raising project of each service club in Torrance in return for similar assistance to the Lions Club. The plan was recommended by the Inter-Service Club Council.

## Chemical Co. Plans Huge Plant Near GP

A new "wonder plastic" industry comparable in scope to the General Petroleum refinery will be constructed in Torrance, it was announced yesterday.

The multi-million dollar plant of Carbide and Carbon Chemicals Co. will be constructed on 140 acres at Huntington St. and Hawthorne Ave., purchased from the General Petroleum Corp., it was announced by Dr. J. G. Davidson, company president.

Basic materials for the plastic industry will be manufactured here from raw materials supplied by the General Petroleum refinery, Dr. Davidson said. The company produces the new plastic which is being featured

For additional details and photos, see page 9.

In "squeeze bottles," Kordite clothes lines, catsup bottles that look like tomatoes, and thousands of other post-war developments.

Value of the new plant will be nearly that of the total new construction in the city during the past three years—all boom years.

Plans for the new plant were originally revealed by Dr. Davidson on July 28, shortly after certificates of necessity were issued by the Defense Production Administration. The actual site had not been chosen at that time, he said.

Efficiency Cited "We feel that being located right next door to the source of raw materials is a most efficient arrangement," Dr. Davidson said. "In addition, Torrance offers excellent climatic conditions and transportation facilities as well as fine living conditions for the approximately 350 people the plant will employ."

In addition to the wonder plastic, the new plant will produce ethylene glycol, the base for permanent anti-freeze, the best-known brand of which is Prestone Anti-Freeze.

The plant is being designed to produce from 50 to 60 million pounds of polyethylene and from 5 to 10 million gallons of ethylene glycol per year.

First in West "Ours will be the first large petrochemical plant to be built in the west and this is an indication of our organization's faith in the future growth of the great area," Dr. Davidson said.

The company, which is a division of Union Carbide and Carbon Corp., operates similar petrochemical plants in West Virginia, Texas and Indiana.

In negotiations for the sale of the site and the 20-year supply contract General Petroleum was represented by Gale L. Adams, vice president in charge of manufacturing.

"We feel we are fortunate in three ways in concluding these new agreements," Adams said. "We've gained some new and very pleasant neighbors, we've helped bring a fine plant to Torrance, and we found a new market for the by-products of our Torrance refinery," he said.

No indication was given as to when construction of the new plant would be started.

### Local Chamber Extends Welcome To New Company

R. I. Plomert Jr., president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, last evening released the following statement concerning the announcement that a new \$36,000,000 industry, was being located in Torrance.

"It is a pleasure, on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce, to welcome the Carbide and Carbon Chemicals Company to Torrance. Their plant will be a happy addition to our family of industries, which are located in the fastest-growing community in Southern California.

"Our fine school system, efficient city government, many new homes, recreational and park facilities, have contributed greatly in the selection of Torrance as its new home by this new industry."

"Team work with labor in the business and industrial field will make possible many more industries locating in our city. The Torrance Chamber of Commerce invites Carbide and Carbon Chemicals Company to make use of all of the services and facilities of our organization."

### Lt. Gov. Knight To Speak at Pep Rally Monday

Goodwin J. Knight, Lt. Governor of California, will appear here next Monday evening to address Republicans and Democrats at a political pep rally which will get under way at the Torrance High School auditorium at 9 o'clock. Lt. Gov. Knight's appearance here will follow a talk he will give in El Segundo the same evening.

Ronald H. Hartman, vice-chairman of the Los Angeles County Republican Central Committee, announced this week that the purpose of the Lt. Governor's talks will be to elect the presidential ticket of General Eisenhower and Dick Nixon, and to elect Bob Finch to the House of Representatives from the 17th Congressional District.

"Knight plans to arouse action and channel enthusiasm with this purpose in mind—All good Americans must join together now to do the job in '52," according to Hartman.

### Rule of Thumb For Answering Letters Given

This little story concerning correspondence has been making the rounds in London. If you get a letter which states, "The matter is now under consideration," it really means "We lost the file." If you write again and they reply, "The matter is under active consideration," it really means, "We are now beginning to look for the file." On the other hand, if you want folks to give serious consideration to your selling offer and reply promptly by phone, mail or in person, just list the items you want to sell in the widely read Torrance Herald and companion newspapers classified ad pages. You'll like quick action like this:

1940 CHEVROLET convertible coupe, new tires, \$50. Balance, \$251.50, at \$25.15 per month; 1942 Buick sedan, \$200 cash, balance, \$319, at \$28.25 per month. Good condition inside and out. Must sell on account of illness, 1750 W. 254th.

Mrs. E. H. Bishop, 1750 W. 254th St., says, "I received 19 calls on this ad and sold one car on Thursday and the other car on Friday that we advertised in the Torrance Herald."

Phone in your action ad now. Just call Torrance 444 for a courteous ad-writer.