

# MILLION DOLLAR MONTH CONTINUES CITY'S DIZZY CONSTRUCTION PACE

PUBLISHED EVERY SUNDAY AND THURSDAY MORNING

## TORRANCE HERALD

—and 8 Companion Trade Area Newspapers Reach 100,000 Readers

Entered as second class matter Jan. 30, 1914, at postoffice Torrance, California, under Act of March 3, 1879.

38th Year—No. 85

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1952

PHONE TORRANCE 444

12

24 PAGES



SPANGLES UP . . . Downtown Torrance got its official Christmas look over the week-end as crews completed the street decorations along Sartori Ave. and El Prado. This view, looking northwest on Sartori from Marcella, shows

what the two streets will look like for the next couple of weeks. Merchants will be open tomorrow and Saturday night until 9 p.m. and starting next Friday, Dec. 12, will be open each night until Christmas.

### School Crowding To Be Eased By September, Board Is Told

Crowded teaching facilities in three elementary schools will be relieved by September, as two new schools and four additional classrooms are scheduled to be completed before the fall term opens, the Board of Education was told Tuesday night.

Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, reported that contractors hoped to have Wood School, Carr School and four rooms at Madrona completed in time for occupancy by pupils next semester. Bids will be let on all three projects next week.

They will be pre-cast concrete construction. This construction will alleviate congestion at Torrance Elementary, now registering 1080 pupils; North Torrance, with 938 students, and Perry, with an average of 35 students in each room.

Dr. Hull presented a chart to the board which, in addition to giving present total enrollment and classrooms, indicated growth expected by Jan. 1 and June 1, 1953.

Today, some 6014 youngsters are taught in grades from kindergarten through eighth in 11 schools with 134 classrooms by 131 teachers. This works out to an average of 33.3 pupils per teacher, close enough to the ideal of 33.

**Load To Swell** . . . by mid-summer, next year, the load is expected to swell to 6866 students, with 189 teachers, or an average of 33.7 per instructor.

Rooms released at North Torrance will be devoted to shops, cafeteria and home economics classes, Hull indicated. In other schools, notably WALTERIA, space other than regulation classrooms is being utilized. These make-shifts, Hull hoped, would be done away with when expansion of the elementary system is completed.

**Hillside Named** . . . The board chose a name for the school site located in the Weston Hills subdivision, voting to call it Hillside.

Aquisition of another site across the street from the proposed North Torrance High school was discussed, with the board granting authority to Hull and Ernest Ingram, assistant superintendent, to open negotiations with the owners at \$2500 a acre. The plot of ground contains

### Street Corners Flooded By Rains

Torrance Tuesday dried out from the effects of a storm which dumped .62 inches of rain on the community within about four hours.

The downpour started about 7 p.m., and by 8:50 Torrance police were scurrying in answer to calls of trees toppled, barricades needed and intersections flooded.

Torrance Municipal Airport reported two aircraft were toppled over on their noses at the height of the storm. The planes, belonging to Acme Aircraft, were undamaged.

From 8:50 to 10:30 p.m., the police log looked like this: "Underpass at 190th and Hawthorne flooded.

"Barricades needed at West and Torrance.

"Corner of 187th and Crenshaw flooded, sandbags needed.

"Tree down on the west side of Torrance Blvd. at Cerise.

"Intersection of 223rd and West was flooded.

"A portion of 166th St. between Arlington and Crenshaw flooded."

The rains abated about midnight Monday, after dropping a 24-hour total on Torrance of .77 of an inch. A 6.4-foot tide which pounded Redondo Beach Tuesday morning was more spectacular than damaging, it was reported, with nothing worse occurring than the usual washing up of spray onto the streets.

The rainstorm was accompanied by winds which at times

### Shops to Stay Open Evenings

Downtown merchants will hold their doors open until 9 p.m. tomorrow and Saturday to aid Christmas shoppers. Beginning a week from tomorrow night, Dec. 12, stores will be open every night until 9 o'clock.

### Four Torrance Servicemen Are Home From East

Four Torrance servicemen returned home this week from duty in the Far East.

Aboard the Navy transport Marine Lynx which arrived in Seattle Sunday was Cpl. Roy T. Delaney, whose home was listed as Torrance. Aboard the USS Calliente, a fleet oiler, when it docked in Long Beach this week were R. D. DREWETT of 5411 Reese Rd., F. L. HOLWAY of 20521 S. Vermont, and E. L. SHACKLEFORD of 5411 Reese Rd.

### Abusive Magazine Sales Crew Shooed by Police

Torrance police Tuesday tapped the wrists of five impolite salesmen who were trying to peddle magazine subscriptions in the 2300 block of Danaha St. Residents of the area complained by telephone that when the salesmen were refused, they would get very abusive.

### Chamber Directors Set For Fellowship Dinner

Members of the City Council, the City Manager, and the two honorary members of the Chamber of Commerce board of directors will be personal guests of the individual board members when the Chamber's annual fellowship dinner is held next January, it was announced yesterday by Robert I. Plomert Jr., president of the group.

### Building Continues To Set Dizzy Pace

Construction in Torrance continued to set a dizzy pace during November as the city building department issued permits worth \$1,028,616.

The monthly total brought the year's grand total to \$17,365,029, well over the \$16,000,000 record set for the year 1950.

Contributing heavily to the November total were permits for 80 homes in North Torrance issued to the Prairie Co., and permits for 13 homes issued to the GRC Corp. for North Torrance.

Also showing up during the month were the first permits for the huge Carbide and Carbon Chemicals Co. plant which will rise on Del Amo Blvd. east of Hawthorne Ave.

Good Month Seen . . . Additional permits for the new industry in addition to a possible 100 new home permits have been predicted for December. Possibility of some initial permits for the new Dow Chemical Co. plant to be built on Crenshaw Blvd. was indicated.

Although each new building permit issued during December will set a new record for the city, the chances that the Dec. 31 total will be a record for long are slim when considered in the light of building in Torrance glided for 1953.

Prospects Listed . . . Practically "in the bag" for the new year will be several valuable permits for the Carbide and Carbon Chemicals plant, which was rated at \$36,000,000 by company officials when first announced last summer; a \$10,000,000 refinery expansion at General Petroleum; the multi-million dollar Dow

Chemical plant; and the more than 1300 homes planned for South Torrance by the Ellinwood Corp.

Other industrial site inquiries are being made almost daily and the probability that at least one more \$15,000,000 plant will be constructed here was indicated this week.

These plans, coupled with the normal growth of the city should make the 1952 record have a short stay in the limelight.

### Marine Pilot In Emergency Landing Here

Tragedy was averted by a narrow margin about 4 p.m. yesterday when a Marine Corps pilot made a wheels-up landing at the Torrance Municipal Airport with a Corsair fighter.

The pilot was able to walk away from the plane after it skidded off the runway and into the adjacent field, witnesses said.

The emergency landing was made when the ship ran out of fuel, the pilot said. The plane suffered only minor damage. The cow flap was peeled off and the belly was skinned. There was no damage reported to the airport runway.

### Nurse Accused Of Shoplifting

Trial will be held this morning in Judge Otto B. Willett's court in the case of the lady accused of doing her Christmas shoplifting early.

Virginia Hayes, a nurse, was arrested yesterday by Torrance police officer Harold Tresize on the complaint of Paul Diamond, owner of the Gay shop.

Diamond said the woman, who is about 5 feet 3 and weighs around 130, came into his shop last week and opened a charge account.

Yesterday, she returned, purchased about \$35 worth of merchandise and left, Diamond said, with a \$69 size 10 ladies' coat stuffed under the one she was wearing.

Officers at the station said it took Tresize and Desk Sgt. Karl Erlberg to put her in a cell, pending a hearing before Judge Willett.

She gave her address as 1416 Cota Ave. Officers turned up a suitcase full of cosmetics with Savo-On drug labels, which they suspected might also have been shoplifted.

### Realtor Checks Thermometer, Heaves a Sigh

Realtor Don A. Kelley checked his thermometer yesterday morning and smiled. "It wasn't hot, but it suited him just fine. Kelley returned this week from a business trip to Wichita, Kans., where he was caught in the severe snow storm which swept over much of the Midwest last week. His plane grounded because of the storm, Kelley was forced to return to California by train. The realtor, who lives at 22944 Walnut Ave., said yesterday: "Man, this California weather is really wonderful."



TAX PROBER AND NEW COMMISSIONER . . . Congressman Cecil R. King, left, whose House Tax Investigating Committee probes are credited with bringing about the complete reorganization of the Bureau of Internal Revenue, discusses local revamping with Stewart A. Berkshire, who this week took over as commissioner of the newly-formed California-Nevada-Hawaii Internal Revenue District. King also led the delegation of Southern California Congressmen in urging the Treasury Department to locate the new regional headquarters in Los Angeles.

### King Leads Battle For New Tax Set-up

Final steps in the sweeping "anti-corruption" reorganization of the Bureau of Internal Revenue brought about by recommendation of Congressman Cecil R. King's Tax Investigating Committee were taken this week as the new district comprising California, Nevada and Hawaii, with headquarters in Los Angeles, went into operation.

Under the new program, all Internal Revenue Bureau positions are filled through selection by Civil Service procedure. The newly-installed district commissioner is Stewart A. Berkshire, a veteran of 19 years in the U. S. Treasury Department.

The plan also reduces by almost one-half the number of income tax districts in the nation and will afford a more efficient operation of the Bureau.

Congressman King termed the reorganization move as "the most important revamping effort in our government in modern times."

"Under the new set-up," Commissioner Berkshire declared, "it is our aim to give the taxpayers more direct and better service."

In urging Washington Treasury officials to locate the new district headquarters in Southern California, Congressman King pointed out that more income tax returns are filed in the Los Angeles area than in any other section of the district.

The move, successfully led by the 17th District veteran legislator, was seen as a break in the "habitué pattern" of putting all principal federal offices in San Francisco.

It is expected that about a thousand employees in the San Francisco office will be transferred to Los Angeles as a result of the move.

### Sea Scouts Win Pennant in L.B. Rendezvous

Sea Scout Ship 721-S took the first whaleboat pennant for high scoring in seamanship events at the Sea Scout Rendezvous, held at Marine Stadium in Long Beach over Thanksgiving week-end Nov. 28 through 30.

The eight-man crew, participating under the leadership of Crew Leader Fred Hilton and Skipper Dr. J. P. Bay, showed outstanding work in competition among senior Scouts from California, Arizona and New Mexico.

Sea Scout Ship 721-S is sponsored by the First Baptist Church of Torrance. At present, the Scouts are putting the final touches on its 17-foot sailing anticipation of the coming sailing season.

### One Injured In Five Week-end Accidents

Five traffic accidents during last week-end kept Torrance police hopping, with one wreck sending an 18-year-old youth to Harbor General Hospital for treatment of facial lacerations.

Terence K. Huston, 18, 5744 Olive Ave., Long Beach, was treated and sent home following a two-car crash at 1:30 p.m. Sunday on Highway 101 at the entrance to Torrance Municipal Airport.

Huston was a passenger in a car driven by Jo Anne Milette Drake, 23, 23220 Roberts Rd., which collided with one driven by Jacqueline Beaver, 31, 22325 Linda Dr.

The Drake girl told police that her car skidded across the center line when she applied the brakes after seeing the Beaver vehicle start a left turn, apparently into the airport road.

Other accidents involved collisions between cars operated by Eugene V. Trotter, 2459 Torrance Blvd., and Magnus Koch, 2075 Torrance Blvd., Sunday, at the latter address. Koch's car was parked at the curb. George J. Webel, 34, 18404 Re-

gina, and W. P. Laney, 18, 311 2nd St., Hermosa Beach, Sunday at Crenshaw and 162nd. Leo King, 25504 New Hampshire, reported that his car was struck sometime Saturday night while parked in front of that address. The driver of the other car apparently drove off without reporting the incident. A car driven by Nestor M. Padilla, with 16 teen-agers as passengers, overturned Saturday at 190th and Falda, but miraculously, all passengers escaped injury. Padilla, 56, 3401 W. 187th, told police his right front tire slipped off the pavement into a muddy shoulder, and when he tried to pull the vehicle back on the road it flipped.

### Fire Insurance Rates Lowered On Dwellings

For the first time in California history the Board of Fire Underwriters has set up two different insurance rates for dwellings and for household goods. It was announced here yesterday by insurance broker Russell Lund.

The rates, which became effective Dec. 1, show a slight raise for contents of a dwelling while a decrease in rates for dwellings was noted.

For downtown Torrance, the rate is set up in the following schedule, according to Lund: Dwellings with composition roofs, 42.5 cents per \$100 insured for three years. With wood shingle roofs, the rate is 50 cents per \$100.

Under the same rating, contents will cost 60 and 67.5 cents. Extended coverage in all cases is 10 cents.

Previous rates in the downtown sections ranged from .525 to .625 for dwellings and contents.

Rates outside of the section bounded roughly by Sepulveda, Maple, Del Amo and Western are slightly higher.