

# CAA Releases More Airport Land for Industrial Use

# Parking Meter Hearing Slated

PUBLISHED EVERY SUNDAY AND THURSDAY MORNING — THE ONLY Newspaper Published AND PRINTED In Torrance. Established 1914.

## TORRANCE HERALD

—and Torrance Herald Shopper reach 100,000 Buyers

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

40th Year—No. 47

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, SUNDAY, JUNE 13, 1954

PHONE FAirfax 8-4000

12

12 PAGES



(Herald Photo)

**QUEEN ENTRY . . .** Miss Carol Winter, candidate of the North Torrance Civic Improvement Association in the coming "Miss Community Fair" contest will give contestants a battle to the wire for votes, her sponsors say. The contest officially opens on June 28.

### Elks Lodge Organizing Group Formed

Joseph Yates has been named chairman of an organizing committee formed to charter a lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks in Torrance. It was announced here yesterday.

Named to a committee to serve with Yates were M. L. Fenwick, treasurer, and George Lehr, secretary. About 12 members of the organizing committee have been named, Yates said.

### U.S. Check for \$45,895 Reaches School Coffers

Torrance Unified School District got a check for \$45,895 from the Federal Department of Health Education and Welfare this week, according to Superintendent J. H. Hull.

Tab represents three-quarters of the estimated \$66,527.94 total entitlement to the local district which has been approved by the federal agency for the current school year, Hull said.

Final total may be considerably larger, he revealed, making the prediction on an initial check

### City To Employ Architect for Park Planning

An architect will be employed to prepare a master plan of Torrance park development if the City Council approves a recommendation of the Recreation Commission and Recreation Director Harry Van Bellem.

The city fathers have under advisement a recommendation that William Woollett, noted Los Angeles park planner, be retained to lay out methods of improving the city's parks. Work is planned with revenues derived from a \$150,000 bond issue approved by the voters last April.

### Local Plant Gets National Safety Award

Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company's paint manufacturing plant here has been cited by the National Safety Council for its perfect safety record last year.

Herschel E. Post, general manager of Pacific Coast operations, announced that the local plant has received a "Certificate of Commendation" from the National Safety Council for completing the 1953 calendar year without a lost-time accident.

During 1953 Torrance employees worked nearly 400,000 accident-free man-hours to win Pittsburgh Plate's top safety award, the "Certificate of Honor." In chalking up one of the safest years since the plant was placed in operation three years ago, they worked approximately 17,000 more man-hours than in 1952.

All cited Post credits last year's outstanding safety performance to "the combined efforts of every one engaged in some phase of the Torrance operations."

The Torrance plant played a major role in a new all-time safety record set by Pittsburgh Plate's paint division last year.

of questionnaires filled out by parents of local school children. Form showed that a greater proportion than had been estimated were engaged in defense work.

This is the basis on which the money is allotted under terms of Public Law 874. Funds earmarked for payment of teachers' salaries and maintenance of school buildings.

Balance of the entitlement is expected in September, Hull said.

### Council Slates Talks on Meters

Parking meters will come up for discussion at the City Council meeting June 22, it was indicated this week by City Attorney James M. Hall. A public hearing on the controversial subject probably will be held at that time.

The public hearing was set after the city traffic commission, consisting of prominent civic leaders, recommended that meters be installed on a trial basis on seven streets in the business district.

Attorney Hall has prepared an ordinance which would set aside net revenues from meters for the purchase of off-street parking lots intended to relieve some of the congestion on downtown streets. These parking lots would be purchased at cost from George Bender, prominent Torrance investor.

Suggested Locations The commission recommended installation of the meters along Cravens avenue, between Torrance boulevard and Cabrillo; Cabrillo avenue between Post and Carson; Sartori between Torrance and Cabrillo; Cabrillo between Cravens and Border; Marcellina between Border and Arlington; Gramercy between Cabrillo and Carson and Post and El Prado from Cravens to Border.

The Traffic commission also recommended the extension of center street parking along Cabrillo as well as permission for public parking in front of the civic auditorium and theaters when those structures are not occupied.

### Fewer Job Seekers Local Employment Office Shows Sharp Improvement

Unemployment lists, kept by the Torrance office of State Department of Unemployment, showed a sharp improvement in June over April, a study of the sixth of a series of monthly news letters released by Winona Ellis, local office manager, reveals.

Skilled labor registrants dropped from 239 in April to 184. Service workers—domestic day workers, restaurant workers, watchmen, guards, janitors, etc., declined from 112 to 85 while professional workers remained at 26.

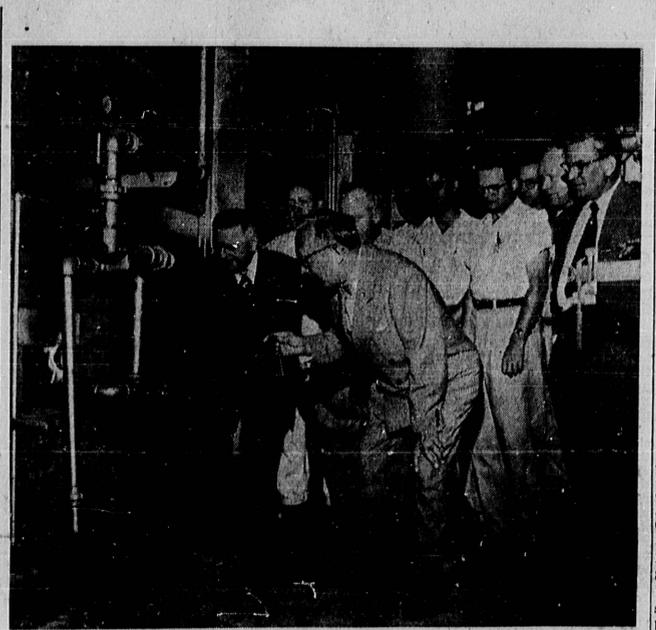
Of the 889 residents registered at the local office, 375 are women and 514 men. A few of the men are disabled veterans.

According to the Los Angeles Labor Market Bulletin, the number of unemployed workers in the Los Angeles area totaled 118,500 in April as compared with 76,400 in April of 1953. Since that time, the general picture has improved steadily with less than five per cent of the area's labor supply unemployed in recent weeks as compared with ten per cent in 1950 at this season of the year. Claims for unemployment insurance benefits are declining daily.

### Hint Assessment District For Riviera Flooded Area

City Attorney James Hall was instructed this week to draw up a schedule of assessment district proceedings as the first move in formation of a district to finance the draining of the flooded saucer of Paseo De Grecia in Hollywood Riviera.

The council also directed the building department to issue a building permit for the one remaining undeveloped lot in the area.



(Herald Photo) FIRING UP . . . W. O. Thompson, manager of works operations for American Radiator and Standard Sanitary Corp., is shown relighting No. 3 kiln at the local plant Thursday while plant supervisors looked on. The kiln has been shut down for repair.

### Freeway Bids Below State Estimates

Bids below engineers' estimates were received this week for construction of southerly terminus of the Harbor Freeway, state division of highway officials reported.

The Binnell Co. submitted a proposal of \$3,077,969 for job, low among the eight bids received. All are being held for study, and awarding of the contract is due in about two weeks.

Work, slated to begin in July, will require almost two years for completion. Entailed is construction of the freeway from a point just north of Pacific Coast Hwy. in Wilmington to Battery St. in San Pedro.

Route will follow the present Figueroa St. to G St., thence go in a southeasterly direction over a hill just south of the Union Oil Co. refinery. Right-of-way has been acquired and cleared.

### Am-Stan Refires Big Tunnel Kiln

American-Standard's No. 3 kiln, shut down for repairs since last July 27, was relighted here Thursday with W. O. Thompson, manager of works operations for the large firm, doing the honors with the torch.

The kiln, representing an investment of nearly \$200,000, is one of four tunnel kilns in operation at the local plant. These kilns are 333 feet in length and are operated continuously at high temperatures. The No. 3 kiln, before its shutdown last summer, had been in operation more than five years at temperatures exceeding 2200 degrees Fahrenheit.

Fifty-six feet of the crown brickwork in the kiln was rebuilt during the shutdown, Plant Manager H. W. Creeger reported.

Thompson, who is here on tour from the company's Pittsburgh headquarters, and Creeger expressed optimism over the company's increasing sales.

"Every effort is being made to reach and maintain maximum operating capacity at the Torrance plant," the officials reported.

### City Bid Topped For Airport Oil

The well is going straight down and was below 1500 feet yesterday. This is the depth at which another firm abandoned a well about a half-mile west of the field.

The Bandini representative said their test will go to bedrock. The firm would not divulge any further plans, but any drilling from the field would have to be done by whipstocking or slant drilling since CAA regulations forbid location of rigs in the flight strip area.

Bandini Petroleum Corp. topped the City of Torrance and one other bidder for mineral rights at Torrance Municipal Airport, it was learned here this week.



(Herald Photo)

**TOOTHPICKS ANYONE? . . .** That's what Elmer Moon, one of several chaperoning T.H.S. grads and their guests at Thursday's all-night party, needed around midnight. For a look at the sleepy-eyed sponsor around 4 a.m. (before breakfast) see photo on page 7.

### City Gets New Area To Lease

Prospective lessors of land adjoining the runway at Torrance Municipal airport have been conceded a greater usage of available space by a ruling of the Civil Aeronautics Administration, according to an announcement Friday by City Manager George Stevens.

Heretofore the C.A.A. had insisted that the building line setbacks be at least 775 feet from the existing runway. Now it will be possible for prospective builders to locate up to a 700-foot setback and they still will be able to make use of ground space for parking up to within 500 feet.

The ruling adds impetus to the development prospects of the airport, enhanced considerably in recent weeks by interest shown by several aircraft industries now seeking locations at the airport.

### Red Cross Blood Bank Due June 21

Hopes of once again "going over the top" at their next blood bank, slated for Monday, June 21, at the Civic Auditorium, are being voiced this week by Mrs. Gordon Jones, blood recruitment chairman of Torrance Branch, American National Red Cross.

"The quota of 250 pints of blood was reached last February, and all volunteers are now working harder than ever to over-reach that record," she said.

Mrs. Jones assured donors that once they donate, their pint is credited in a personal blood bank book, insurance in the event they or their immediate family is ever in need of this life-saving fluid.

Those wishing to donate are asked to telephone the local branch office at FAirfax 80510 for an appointment on June 21 or mail a card to the office, 2325 Torrance Blvd.

### Dominguez Tract Open

More than 300 civic leaders and guests joined with the officials of Dominguez Estate Company in a gala dedication ceremony Wednesday afternoon observing the opening of Victoria St. from Long Beach Blvd. to Santa Fe Ave. in connection with establishment of the vast new Dominguez industrial district.

Included in the Torrance delegation to the event were: Charles Jones, Sam Levy, Dean Sears, Arthur Otse, Paul Levinger, R.L. Haggard, Don Armstrong and Lawrence Harvey.

### Council Postpones Action On Hospital Expansion Bid

A motion to grant a variance to Torrance Memorial Hospital to allow construction of two wings was defeated in the City Council meeting here Wednesday night, and the matter was held over for study until June 22.

The petition for a variance, approved by the Planning Commission after two public hearings, calls for approval of proposals for building two wings on the front of the hospital on Engracia Ave.

Councilman Willys G. Blount's motion to concur with the Planning Commission's recommendation received the support of Mervin Schwab only. Councilmen Victor Benstead, Albert Isen, and Mayor Nicholas O. Dralle

are submitting the petition of over 1000 signatures of people over 21 who are protesting the variance. We object to it because it would be unsightly, would not conform to existing setbacks to other buildings on the street and would act as a barricade to adjoining properties. The best solution is to build a new hospital to serve surrounding area. Torrance hospital is more than a community hospital, it seems as though other communities would cooperate and build a structure to take care of increased population."

A final hearing on the matter is scheduled before the City Council here Tuesday evening, June 22.

A report from the City Attorney is expected at the next meeting.

### Fire Bureau Gets Nod of City Council

Adoption of a fire prevention code and establishment of a bureau of fire prevention got the nod from the City Council this week on the recommendation of Fire Chief J. J. Benner.

A new ordinance will place the state fire code into full force and effect here, strengthening the fire department's efforts to keep down fire hazards, Benner said.

The prevention bureau brought into official existence by the statute will be charged with enforcing provisions of the code. Capt. Robert Lucas will head the organization, and additional personnel will be added later.

### Student Art Show Slated by Harbor

The Art Department at Harbor Junior College, under the direction of Harold H. Jones, will present its initial show of student art work in the College library from Tuesday, June 8 through Tuesday, June 15.