

Burglar Takes \$12,650 in Jewels From Beach Home

28,600

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COURT ORDER HALTS ANNEXATION

New Refinery Unit Now in Production

New Units Add Power To Gasoline

Introduction of two new gasolines this week by General Petroleum Corp. through its Mobilgas dealers marked the culmination of several years and planning and work and the expenditure of several million dollars to build the "Octane Tower" at the Torrance refinery to produce the gasolines. Refinery Manager A. E. Thompson reported yesterday.

The new tower at the Torrance refinery — technically known as the thermator catalytic reformer — was erected during the past two years at a cost of nearly \$10,000,000.

The 250-foot tower, first of its kind, boosts the octane rating of straight-run gasoline by means of a head-catalyst which removes carbon molecules and reforms the gasoline vapors.

Octane Boosted
"The result is a gasoline component of extremely high octane rating which, when combined with chemical additives, brings new power, mileage, and economy to motorists," Thompson reported.

Mobilgas dealers throughout the west are now offering two grades of gasoline tailored for the automobiles out on the road today, Thompson said. The new grade of Mobilgas, which sells at the price level of "regular" gasoline, is designed for the majority of 1948-1953 automobiles which have a medium high for automobiles — especially the 1955 models — which have a very high compression ratio.

The new gasoline manufactured here is going into Mobilgas station pumps as far north as San Francisco, and will power thousands of motorists throughout the western states, Thompson said.

Man's Car Painted

Someone threw white paint on his car and that of a guest at his home, Joseph A. Bennett, of 5527 Clearside Ave., reported to Torrance Police Sunday. The vandals also painted the words "Walteria" and "Billy" on the street, he said.

Salvation Army Drive to Begin

The annual Salvation Army Salvage Week campaign will be conducted in Torrance next Monday through Saturday.

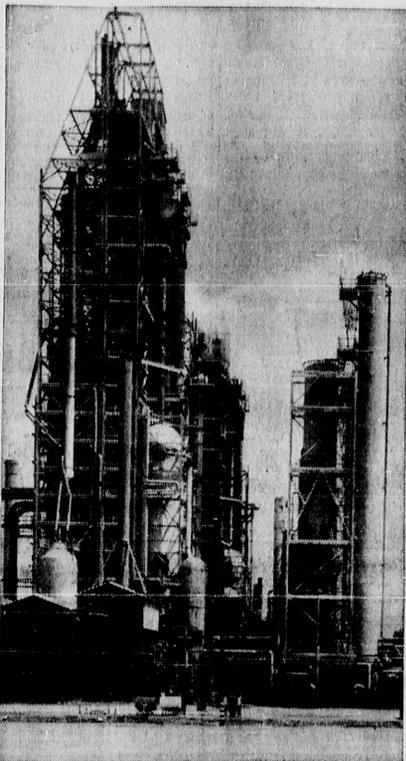
A special fleet of Red Shield trucks will call in answer to telephone calls from local residents who have discarded but still usable articles to donate.

The articles will be reconditioned in workshops of the Salvation Army Social Service Center that serves this area. This will provide a social rehabilitation program for needy and handicapped men.

Donations of cast-off articles last year enabled the big center to provide 265,550 hours of work therapy, 60,180 meals and 20,150 lodgings.

The program requires a constant inflow of usable articles such as clothing, shoes, furniture, dishes, mattresses, bedding, kitchen utensils, home appliances, silverware, stoves, radio-cas, according to Brigadier William J. Parkins, manager of the center.

James J. Hugh Sherkey Jr., chairman of the local citizens committee assisting in the Salvage Week campaign, urged local residents to telephone FAir-fax 8-1635 for a Red Shield truck.



NEW OCTANE TOWER . . . From this new refining tower at the Torrance General Petroleum refinery comes the two new gasolines which went on sale throughout the Southland Monday. The tower was damaged by fire last fall, but has been rebuilt and is now supplying the new Mobilgas and Mobilgas Special to California dealers.



CIRCUS COMES TO TOWN . . . Helping to feed hay to the baby elephants at the Clyde Beatty Circus which came to town yesterday are Billy and John Guyan, of 2119 Gramercy Ave. Youngsters from one to 100 enjoyed seeing the animals, clowns, acrobats, and other circus characters at both matinee and evening performance.

Bond Voting Registration Closes Today

Today is the last day to register for voting in the June 7 school bond election. Warren Hamilton, director of special services, reminded voters.

Registration may be made at the City Hall, or with a deputy registrar.

Deputy registrars are: Paul L. Burnham, 360 Crenshaw Blvd.; Mrs. Shirley G. Felts, 22309 S. Western Ave.; Mrs. Olea M. Brown, of 2035 Middlebrook Rd.; Mrs. Theresa H. Fetherolf, of 2405 Torrance Blvd., Apt. A; Mrs. Freda A. Oses, 904 Sartori Ave., Apt. 4.

Mrs. Anne E. Collins, 17025 Crenshaw Blvd.; Mrs. Elvera C. Wright, 18328 Roslin Ave.; Mrs. Athalie B. Cheslow, 2719 W. 174th St.; Miss Rose Sarukian, 17390 Crenshaw Blvd.

Mrs. Marie B. Martin, 2637 Dalemead St.; Mrs. Cecelia J. Carrigan, 24442 Ward St.; Mrs. Marilyn M. Livingston, 5313 Highgrove Ave.

William A. Mason, 204 Via la Circula; Mrs. Agnes B. Jones, 251 Calle de Andalucia; Mrs. Lynetta M. Bowman, 531 Calle de Andalucia; and Mrs. Catherine S. Peters, 226-B Calle Miramar.

Taxes Due Tomorrow

Robert C. Kieckwood, chairman of the Franchise Tax Board, has warned California taxpayers that their state income tax returns must be filed on or before tomorrow to avoid a penalty.

State tax returns are required of all single persons with income of \$2000 or more and all married couples with combined incomes of \$3500, he said.

At the same time, tomorrow is the deadline for filing federal returns on 1954 income. Penalties will apply if the tax is not delivered to the director of internal revenue, or if post-marked later than 12 midnight tomorrow.

Baby Sitter, Friend Charged with Theft

A 17-year-old baby sitter and her 16-year-old boy friend will be taken to Juvenile Court on charges that they stole \$250 in watches and jewelry from Mrs. Marie Ricks, of 1028 Hickory Ave., Detective Capt. Ernie Ashton said yesterday.

A man's and ladies' wrist watch and a man's ring were stolen from her home, Mrs. Ricks reported. The girl was a baby sitter at the Ricks home.

Local Unit Set to Join Guard Alert

The local bridge company of the 132nd Armored Engineer Battalion will be one of the country's Army and Air National Guard units to be called in "Operation Minuteman," national one-day alert tests to be held this spring.

According to Capt. Douglas J. Horlander, commander, all national guard units in the country and territories will be called upon simultaneously in a training test of national guard mobilization plans.

"We ask the people of Torrance not to be alarmed when the alert is sounded and our national guard unit is temporarily mobilized," he said.

The exact time and date of "Operation Minuteman" will be kept secret, he said. Alert orders will come from the California Adjutant General, and will be coordinated with the national plan.

Maj. Gen. Edgar C. Erickson, chief of the National Guard Bureau, will give the alert order from Washington.

Palos Verdes Move Stopped

Proposals and counter-proposals concerning the annexation of the unincorporated portions of the Palos Verdes peninsula hit the courts this week, and the city of Palos Verdes Estates today is under court order to halt proceedings to annex a strip across the area to halt a proposed annexation of the area to Torrance.

Under the terms of an order issued Monday evening by Superior Court Judge Arnold Praeger in Los Angeles, the Palos Verdes City Council cannot take any further action on the matter except to cancel any hearings now scheduled. A hearing was scheduled before that body on April 19.

Judge Praeger issued a writ of review and alternate writ of mandate on the plea of attorneys for the Great Lakes Carbon Corp. and that firm's associate companies in the matter. The city of Palos Verdes was directed to drop the proceedings entirely, or appear at 9:30 a.m., May 2, to show cause why the city's actions should not be permanently halted by the court.

Subterfuge Charged

In seeking the injunction against the annexation proposal of Palos Verdes, The Great Lakes Carbon Corp., Capitol Co., Rancho Palos Verdes Corp., Grandview Building Co., and McCarthy Co. labeled the Palos Verdes City Council move a "fraudulent scheme and subterfuge and as part of an agreement and conspiracy on the part of the members thereof."

The petition alleged that the annexation proceedings were instituted before the Palos Verdes city officials to halt the annexation of the nearly 7000-acre peninsula area to Torrance.

A review of the entire proceedings before the Torrance City Council and Planning Commission was contained in the suit. The petition referred to the public hearings before the city Planning Commission held prior to the countermove made by Palos Verdes Estates.

Utility Questioned
Utility of the shoestring strip which jutted out into the property proposed for annexation to Torrance was described as useless in the suit. The Great Lakes attorneys said the size and shape of the land proposed for annexation to Palos Verdes was such that it could not be used for any lawful municipal purposes. Streets could not be plotted across the strip because of the existence of a deep canyon running through the area and the area could not be used for subdivision purposes because it is only 203 feet wide which would preclude installation of a roadway through the strip and development of dwellings along the roadway.

For the same reasons, the city of Palos Verdes Estates could not offer reasonable police and fire protection, sanitation and refuse collection service, and other municipal services.

Values Threatened
The strip of land 203 feet wide and more than 8000 feet long which Palos Verdes proposed to annex would cut across the two properties now proposed for development by the McCarthy Co. and the Grandview Building Co. Such action would serve to greatly reduce the value of these properties, the suit contended.

Purpose of the Palos Verdes action in seeking to annex the area, according to the suit, was to prevent builders from proceeding with home development in the area and to regulate and control building of residential and commercial structures outside the city limits of Palos Verdes Estates.

Officials of Palos Verdes Estates were reported yesterday to be preparing a counter suit on the matter, but the report could not be confirmed.

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THS Doing Good Job, Panel Says

High school gave them generally good preparation for college work, four former THS students told a meeting of the Torrance Educational Advisory Committee Tuesday.

In a panel discussion of high school work, the quartette agreed that in general, their preparation had been good, but they found themselves with less command of English than they would like to have.

Moderator John Armour, Torrance High School teacher, declared that lack of knowledge of English is a nearly universal weakness among students entering college, according to surveys.

Four Participate
Participating in the panel discussion were David Scholl, University of Southern California student; Carol Chapman, Pepperdine coed; Greg Jenkins, El Camino student; and Sally Sprout, Whittier pupil.

Torrance high school sends out questionnaires to graduates, Armour said, to find out what courses were most beneficial and which might be improved. Checks are also made to determine what graduates are doing.

All four students agreed that good study habits were most important to a college student.

Polio Shots to Start Monday, Officials Hope

County Health Department officials hope to begin giving Salk polio vaccine to children in this area starting Monday, if the serum arrives by that time, according to Dr. Benjamin Kogan, local health officer.

Some 12,000 first and second graders in the Torrance health area are eligible for the shots, he said, with about 90 per cent of parents granting their permission on previously-obtained forms.

The shots will be given through the schools, with county health doctors and private doctors in charge. They will be given only to first and second graders, with serum for other children available only through private doctors.

A scheduled shot has not been released as yet, he said, due to uncertainty as to the arrival of the shipment of vaccine. All shots are expected to be administered in one week.

Original plans had called for a second shot to follow the first in about one week, with a third to be given a month later. Dr. Jonas Salk, originator of the serum, Tuesday recommended that the second shot follow in one month, with the third shot seven months later.

Face Charges After Crash

Misdemeanor manslaughter charges were filed yesterday in Compton Superior Court against the 18-year-old driver of a car involved in a fatal crash at Rosecrans and Broadway last Saturday.

Jack L. Johnson, 18, of 21337 Caroldale Ave., was the driver of a car which collided with one driven by Julius Arthur Egger, 46, of Compton, who was killed in the crash. Egger's eight-year-old son, Michael, is still in critical condition at Harbor General Hospital.

After colliding with Egger's car, Johnson's auto skidded into a telephone pole, breaking it off. Egger's car collided with a third car, driven by Roy Campson, 38, of Los Angeles.

The misdemeanor filing indicates that no gross negligence is being charged.

\$12,650 in Jewels Taken

Jewelry and coins valued at \$12,650 were stolen from a box in her home, Mrs. E. W. Ruber, of 156 Camino de las Colinas, reported to Torrance Police Monday.

Missing were a man's diamond ring, valued at \$4250; two women's diamond rings, worth \$4750 and \$3265; a woman's diamond and opal ring, valued at \$275; four \$20 Swiss gold pieces; and three \$10 Swiss gold pieces.

The valuables were kept in a locked box in a filing cabinet in the den of her home, Mrs. Ruber told Sgt. Percy Bennett. They were taken sometime after March 28, when she last looked at them, she said.

William A. Mason, 204 Via la Circula; Mrs. Agnes B. Jones, 251 Calle de Andalucia; Mrs. Lynetta M. Bowman, 531 Calle de Andalucia; and Mrs. Catherine S. Peters, 226-B Calle Miramar.

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GETS FINAL APPROVAL . . . Final approval of a variance to permit construction of this temple for Torrance Masonic Lodge was granted by the City Council Tuesday evening. The temple will be built on 1 1/2 acres of ground at

the northeast corner of Plaza Del Amo and Cabrillo and will contain a banquet hall, committee chambers, and service units. This is the artist's conception drawn up by Architect W. F. Durr of San Pedro.