

# Fire Department to Occupy New Station Tomorrow

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# Torrance Douglas To Be Enlarged

## Manufacturing Firms Proposed

Plans for erection of several light manufacturing plants on the southeast corner of Carson St. and Crenshaw Blvd. were unfolded before the Torrance Planning Commission, Wednesday night.

At the first hearing on a proposal to change the zone of M-1 on the property, Lloyd L. McDonald, representing a building firm which is seeking to buy the land, outlined the new plans for the property. His firm will buy the property from the Dresser equipment Co. if the zoning can be obtained, he said.

Present buildings on the corner would be taken down, and modern light manufacturing plants of 7500 to 15,000 square feet of floor space would be built, he said. He promised that there would be no "nuisance" factories.

**No Noise or Smoke**  
In answer to a question from Arthur Ide, of 2317 Carson St., who felt there might be too much noise and smoke, McDonald assured him that the plants would not be of this type.

In other action, action of the petition of the Grand Construction Co. for rezoning the west side of Crenshaw Blvd. between 176th and 181st Sts. was postponed for two weeks, because of the failure of the firm to meet with nearby residents.

The commission had asked that the company meet with homeowners to arrive at a satisfactory solution to their objections. The first hearing was held on plans for a new Catholic High School, and adjoining commercial development, near Torrance Blvd. and the western city boundary. No objections to the plan were received, and a second hearing will be held in two weeks.

The Edison Co. petition for a change of zone on property on 182nd St., near Amie St., was discussed at the first hearing, with final action expected in two weeks.

C. L. Blanchard, district manager, said the firm wanted a change from R-2 to A-1 zoning to add equipment only, within the present buildings. He explained that the change would expand the firm's KVA from 5100 to 7000.

The possibility that the change would interfere with the planned extension of Amie St. was brought up by City Engineer Ronald Bishop, and the matter will be studied further.

**Fence Approved**  
Permission was granted D. E. and R. W. Hendrickson, of 110 Paseo de Gracia, to build a four-and-one-half foot redwood fence around a patio, with a 15 foot setback, instead of 20.

The proposal of Samuel J. Paltin, D. D. for a variance and conditional permits to build a medical center at 16638 Crenshaw Blvd., was sent to committee.

Also sent to committee was the request of Harry J. Early for rezoning of property on Lomita Blvd., east of Madison St., from M-2 with oil drilling rights to M-2 without oil drilling rights.

**Prowler Takes Under-Clothing in Raids**  
Three Torrance women reported to police Thursday that a prowler had taken a number of articles of under clothing from their clothes lines during the past two weeks.

The women, Pat Mitchell, 18405 St. Andrews Pl., Marge Hagar, 18402 St. Andrews Pl., and Barbara Maure, 18332 St. Andrews Pl., said the clothes were taken during the night.

## Everything Set To Switch Over To New Station

Fire Chief J. J. Benner announced Saturday that the department will occupy the new central station at Crenshaw and Carson St. Tuesday.

Under construction during most of this year, the new station will become the nerve center for the city's fire fighting forces.

Extensive preparations for the change in fire headquarters will be culminated about 1:30 p.m. tomorrow when telephone, radio, special alarm systems, and other facilities are "cut over" to the new station. Telephone lines into the new station already are "hot," and the switch over from the old station to the new is expected to be fairly smooth.

At the same time, other facilities such as the ADT automatic alarms have to be switched, and all other communication systems have to be put into working order at the new station and the old station systems disconnected.

Moving the trucks is the simplest part of the procedure, Chief Benner states.

But the accumulation of a quarter of a century in closets, storerooms, and files is something else again.

## Planners Study Proposed Hotel In Riviera Area

The possibility that southwest Torrance might become the site of a swank ocean-buff resort hotel was discussed Wednesday night at the Torrance Planning Commission meeting.

The Don-Ja-Ran Corp. and the Peeters Building Corp. applied for zoning variance for 16 lots located between Palos Verdes Blvd. and the ocean bluff, just north of the Palos Verdes Estates boundary. It is located just south of a new housing tract being built by the Don-Ja-Ran Corp.

**Push Hotel Set**  
Attorney Norman L. Stern sent a letter in which he declared that his firm was considering building a hotel with facilities such as those now available at the Bel Air Hotel and the Santa Ynez Inn.

"The natural beauty of this site and its key location would seem to afford an opportunity that would be both something the city might point to and be proud of, and something that would be a financial success for the operators of such an undertaking," the letter said.

**Many Facilities**  
Considered as features in the building are dining rooms, cocktail facilities, and parking areas as well as the usual hotel accommodations.

At the present time, Torrance has no zoning ordinance to take care of hotel, but under the land use ordinance, the present R-4 zoning would allow hotel construction. Riviera deed restrictions also would allow such a structure, according to Hollywood Riviera Community Assn. officers.

The hotel would be located on lots 142 to 168 in tract 18379. A member of the local draft board for many years, he also served for three years as Veterans Service Center officer, all without compensation. A member of the U. S. Calvary, he served in the Spanish-American war and was a past commander of the J. Franklin Bell Post of Spanish-American War Veterans. He also was a member of the Disabled American Veterans Post 82.

**Eugene H. Gwynne Jr. In Navy at San Diego**  
Eugene H. Gwynne Jr., seaman apprentice, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene H. Gwynne, of 1208 Kormblum Ave., is serving in San Diego at the Fleet Training Center.

Gwynne reported here for duty Aug. 15 from the Naval Receiving Station at Treasure Island. Before entering the Navy in January, he attended Torrance High School.



**DOWN THEY GO . . .** Taking down the old signs at the Central Torrance Fire Station in preparation for their move to new quarters tomorrow are local firefighters. Capt. R. E. Moffitt holds the ladder as C. R. Robertson takes down "Torrance," while Capt. Gordon Northington holds the ladder as B. G. Franklin hands "Fire Dept. No. 1" to Paul Smith. After 20 years in the old station, the firemen will move to the new quarters at Crenshaw Blvd. and Carson St.

## Girl, 3, Hurt Critically In Street Mishap

Three-year-old Judy Ann Woolheater, 19005 Burn Ave., received critical injuries Friday evening when struck by a car while crossing Halison Ave. near Burn.

Harbor General Hospital authorities, where the youngster was rushed by Wright's Ambulance, declined to comment on the girl's condition late Saturday. She suffered a fractured leg and a possible skull fracture, the hospital said.

She was struck by a car driven by Orvin J. Bee, 27, 49923 Hawaiian, Torrance Police said Saturday. Bee was not held.

Jack E. Johnson, 25, 1210 El Prado, and Barry Emmer, 15, 1253 Elm, were hurt shortly after midnight Saturday when their car overturned at Carson and Madrona, police said.

## Post Honors Civic Leader

A resolution paying tribute to the late James G. Caldwell, Carson civic leader who died Apr. 7, was passed last week by the Bert S. Crossland Post 170 of the American Legion.

A member of the local draft board for many years, he also served for three years as Veterans Service Center officer, all without compensation. A member of the U. S. Calvary, he served in the Spanish-American war and was a past commander of the J. Franklin Bell Post of Spanish-American War Veterans. He also was a member of the Disabled American Veterans Post 82.

Mr. Caldwell served as an official in the U. S. Port of Customs. He was president of the Carson Civic Betterment Assn. at the time of his death. By the death of James G. Caldwell on Apr. 7, 1955, a great loss has been suffered by the public generally, veterans in particular, his family, and the Navy in January, he attended Torrance High School.

## City Eyeing New Building Record

Torrance's building activity during August continued at a fast pace, almost insuring that the city will pass its record-breaking 1954 building total this year. Last year, more than \$45,000,000 in permits were issued.

Five new tracts, the new civic swimming pool, recreation buildings at three Torrance parks, a school warehouse, and several industrial buildings held bring the August total to \$4,522,012 and the year's total to \$3,155,231. At the same time last year, \$27,634,732 in permits had been issued.

**Million Dollar Tract**  
Biggest of the group issued was a 110-home tract near Torrance Blvd. and Anza Ave., valued at \$1,063,733, to Don Wilson and Milton Kaufman. The builders also received a permit for 11 homes, worth \$86,650 near the same location.

Also in the totals were 73 homes near 180th and Glenview Ave., presented by Grande Vista Homes, and valued at \$727,100. The Cimmaron Land Co. presented 57 homes near 185th and Gramercy Pl., worth \$573,100.

**Swim Pool Set**  
The new Municipal Swimming Pool, to be located near Torrance Blvd. and Madrona Ave., was valued at \$243,785. Permits also taken out by the city included \$32,841 for a Master Park recreation building, \$55,515 for recreation and utility buildings at Seaside Park, and \$38,782 for recreation and utility buildings at Walteria Park.

The Torrance Unified School District took out a permit for a \$76,500 warehouse, while the Pacific Smelting Corp. made plans for a \$40,000 office and warehouse. Permits got off to a fast start, as the city took out a \$365,500 permit for the new City Hall and a \$185,210 permit for the new Police Department Building.

Also in the September permits were a \$45,000 water cooler at Columbia Steel, and a \$50,000 addition to the Foods Market, 17504 Crenshaw Blvd.

**Recommend Architect**  
Appointment of Bowen, Rule, and Bowen as architects for the Anza and West Torrance Elementary Schools was recommended last week by the Torrance School Board.

The Anza School will be located in the new tract between Torrance and Sepulveda Blvds., west of Hawthorne, while the West Torrance School will be built near Del Amo Blvd. and Anza Ave.

A proposal which would encourage homeowners to improve their property by means of a tax exemption was presented to the Southern California Planning Congress Thursday night by Dean Arthur B. Gallion, of the USC School of Architecture.

Some 150 persons, with 28 local representatives, heard Dean Gallion speak at the dinner meeting, held in the Fish Shanty. His talk provoked lively

## Eight Projects Now Under Way

Expansion of facilities at the Torrance location, El Segundo Division, Douglas Aircraft Co., Inc., has been authorized by the Navy Bureau of Aeronautics because of a great need for more space to meet increased production requirements for the Navy's F4D Skyraider interceptor.

The increase is approximately 10 per cent. When all new construction is completed, the Torrance facility will have 1,669,886 square feet of covered floor space.

There are eight projects under way at the present time, and one more is planned for the future.

In the sub-assembly area, the plastics groups occupy 43,000 square feet and this space is needed for center wing and fuselage installation work on the AD-6 Skyraider. A separate plastics building is being built to alleviate this situation. It is the largest structure under present plans, and it will accommodate the department's increasing activities.

**Shops Relocated**  
The tooling division now occupies 28,000 square feet of assembly area. This space is needed for the assembly of the F4D, so the tooling building will be extended.

An enlarged maintenance building is necessary to relieve the crowded conditions of the electrical and mechanical maintenance groups.

The carpenter shop will be relocated to permit a portion of the addition to be used for steel and sheet metal fabrication, machinery repair and overhaul.

The need for a maintenance storage shelter, to store shop and materials handling equipment used in plant operations, will be taken care of by addition of a new shelter.

**Trucks Laid**  
Due to the necessity of testing radomes under ideal conditions prior to their installation on airplanes, a new landing range area, composed of two small wooden structures, is under construction.

A building formerly used for transformer repair is being rehabilitated for property and record storage.

West of the Torrance facility, split tracks have been laid for easy access to a new jigs and fixture storage area.

Two boilers to heat adequately the additional floor space are necessary so the boiler building is being enlarged.

A paint booth building, for painting entire airplanes, is planned for the near future.

**Firemen Save Life of Girl**  
Fast action by County Firemen apparently saved the life of a one-year-old Lomita girl last week, after she was found face down in her bathtub.

Carla Stroup, of 1954 W. 254th St., was revived by Firemen John Hunter and Joe Ancherberg, after her frantic 10-year-old sister sought help. The children's mother was a way from home.

The sister, Brenda Stroup, said she was giving her sister a bath, when she went into another room for a towel. When she returned, the girl said, she found her sister face down in the tub. She ran to a neighbor's for help, and the neighbor called the Fire Department Rescue unit.

Taken to Harbor General Hospital, the girl was reported on the way to recovery.

**Report Loss of Gas**  
Watts Construction Co., officials reported to police Friday that gasoline was taken from some trucks parked on the company lot at 7802 Western Ave., Thursday night.

by Dean Gallion. These areas could be resubdivided and made into attractive parts of the city.

Mayor Albert Ison welcomed the planning officials to Torrance, and Milton Breivogel, regional planning commission chairman, also addressed the group.

Members of the Torrance Planning Commission and Councilman Nicholas O. Dralle were present at the meeting, as well as city officials and other interested persons.



GERALD J. LARSON  
... Faces Check Charges

## Man Who Passed \$5000 In Bad Checks Jailed

A young Gardena man, whose affinity for powerful cars and western clothing led him on a bad check cashing merry-go-round, will be arraigned this week in South Bay Municipal Court, after being booked in Thursday at Torrance Police Station.

Gerald J. Larson, 22, 18616 Normandie Ave., who, police say, admits to passing worthless checks in excess of \$5000 in the past month, is alleged to have passed a \$700 check at Butler Buick Co., here Aug. 27, down payment on a new car.

Torrance detectives say Larson said he then drove the new car to Inglewood, where he wrote another false check and turned in the new car for another 1955 model automobile. Inglewood authorities found him in a bar in that city, clad in western togs. They returned him to Torrance.

Authorities say Larson admitted cashing bad checks throughout the county, buying clothes and cars with the false documents. He bought a 1953 model automobile in Compton to start his bad check cashing whirl.

The 1955 model vehicle he bought at Butler Buick Co., and turned in in Inglewood had been re-sold by the Inglewood car concern, local officers said. All the automobiles are now back with the original owners, however.

Larson, who had previous police records for bum check passing, petty theft and assault and battery, was described as "very cooperative" by Torrance detectives.

He presently is on probation from a petty theft, checks conviction in Gardena.

## Friday Services Will Note Start of Jewish Year 5716

The Jewish population of this area will begin the observance of Rosh Hashana—the Jewish New Year 5716—this Friday, with observances in synagogues in this area.

Ten days of penitence and self-scrutiny will be noted at Temple Menorah, Redondo Beach, and the Gardena Valley Jewish Center, 14725 Gramercy Pl., Gardena. Observances will conclude with Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, starting at sundown, Sunday, Sept. 25, and ending at sundown the next day.

God's universal rule and the brotherhood of man are stressed in the prayers and music of Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur, most solemn day on the Jewish calendar, is devoted to prayer, fasting, and repentance. Dances and parties will note the close of Holy Days on Sept. 26.

Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur High Holy Day services will be held for the first time in the new home of the Gardena Valley Jewish Center, on Sept. 16, 17, 18, 25, and 26.

Rabbi Moishe S. Amine will conduct services, with a choir in attendance. Further information can be obtained at DA 46748, DA 42613 or DA 46175.