

Herald Weekender

Containing Stories from Sunday's Herald

The following stories are reprinted in part from the Sunday, Aug. 4, Torrance HERALD. These represent only part of the complete news, sports, and society sections which give HERALD subscribers complete, up-to-the-minute review of Torrance news. To receive this news first, call the Circulation Manager at FA 8-4000 and ask for twice-a-week delivery of your local paper, The HERALD.)

Chief of Police Exams Set

Examinations for the posts of police chief and assistant police chief are expected to be held next month.

The promotional tests have been ordered by the City Civil Service Commission, according to Board Secretary, Walter Bradford.

The office of Torrance Police Chief has been vacant since the April 1 retirement of W. H. Haslam, and Assistant Chief Percy Bennett has served as acting police chief.

Hotel Zone Ducked

The Torrance Planning Commission Wednesday night tossed a hot potato back into the laps of the City Council, as it sent the controversial Don-Jaran hotel-motel problem back without recommendation, except that a hotel instead of motel be placed on property along Torrance Beach, on the southern city boundary.

At the request of the Council, the Planners had been studying possible rezoning of the property to single-family residential use from the present hotel-use classification. The Council was miffed because they felt that Don-Jaran was planning a "motel-type" building instead of the resort hotel the Council had expected.

Narbonne Set to Open

Faring better than South High, the new Narbonne High School on Western Ave., at least will be open this September.

Although some juggling of classrooms may be necessary, school administrators declared the plant will be in operation come the first day of school.

Library Group Formed

A committee to determine the location of Hollywood Riviera's proposed \$200,000 library has been formed.

The group, named by Riviera Home Owners Assn. president, Ben Russell, will try to determine the most desirable location; whether or not it would be better to enlarge Walteria Library or construct new facilities; and if city land is being considered.

Permit Totals Told

Building permits during July totalled \$1,819,471, bringing the year's total to \$11,529,833, according to Walter Bradford, senior clerk in the city engineer's office.

Huge 'Vacuum Cleaner' to Clean Air Installed at National Supply

A giant "vacuum cleaner" that uses 780 15-foot bags and that occupies its own four-room building has been installed at the Torrance plant of The National Supply Co. as part of the management's continuing fight against air pollution.

The \$125,000 system which serves the electric melting furnace department, is capable of moving 75,000 cubic feet of dust-laden air per minute, pared to 28,000 cubic feet per minute moved by the system formerly used. Because of its efficiency, even the finest particles of dust are trapped, allowing only clean air to be discharged to the atmosphere.

"Baghouse" Filters

Ducts over each of the electric furnaces carry all smoke from the melting operations to the new building known as a "baghouse," in each room of which are suspended 755 dacron bags, 15 feet long and 6 inches in diameter. Acting much like the bags of household vacuum cleaners, these bags collect all the dust from the air that passes through them.

Once an hour, one room at a time is automatically shut off from the system for 10 seconds, during which the bags are shaken vigorously, causing the dust to fall from them into a collecting hopper at the bottom. From this hopper, the dust is carried by a conveyor to a discharge chute where it is mixed with water to form sludge. At intervals the accumulated sludge is hauled away to a dump.

The former system used close-fitting collecting hoods mounted on top of the melting furnaces. From these hoods, the dust-laden air was carried by ducts to a large collector in which it passed through a curtain of water. Only small quantities of the finest particles of dust escaped to the air, but these caused a visible discharge that brought complaints of air pollution.

Another disadvantage of the former system was that its smaller capacity prevented collection of the quantities of smoke that result when gaseous oxygen is injected into melting furnaces. Because of this, the plant could not use the gaseous oxygen method, employed by most steelmakers, which results in greater melting efficiency. With the new system, gaseous oxygen can be used with no danger of air pollution.

The new system was engineered by the H. J. Horrell Co., Los Angeles, in cooperation with the engineering department of the plant. The baghouse was designed by the Dracoo Corp., of Cleveland.

National Supply's Torrance plant is the largest completely integrated machinery manufac-

ing plant in the west. It has three electric melting furnaces, with capacities up to 50,000 pounds per heat, as well as a foundry, together with facilities for forging, heat treating, plating, welding, and machining of steel, and assembly of machinery for use in the oil fields and by a variety of other industries.

The plant was established in Torrance in 1912 as that city's first industry and has grown to include 33 principal buildings on a 39-acre tract. Conscious of its responsibility to the community, the management has been conducting a war on pollution for many years.

Firing controls on the steam plant, scrubbing towers on the hot acid vats, dust collectors at grinding wheel locations, combustion controls on waste incinerators, and dust collection and scrubbing towers in the foundry sand system are among the methods used.

Norman Olson Appearing At Hope Church

Norman Olson has returned to Hope Evangelical United Brethren for a series of 12 Thursday night lessons on "Prophecy of the Bible," according to the pastor, the Rev. Monrad Bergesen.

The series of talks, presented on Thursday nights at 7:30, will continue through September.

He is a former member of the official board of Trinity Methodist Church, Los Angeles where he conducted the Wednesday Night Bible Class for 14 years. He also is the founder and president of the Layman's Bible Study League. For 25 years, he has devoted his full time to preparing, publishing material, and conducting Bible classes in many cities.

His present course at Hope Church includes 12 studies of Bible prophecy and history. Subjects include "Purposes of Prophecy," "Prophecies of Prophecy," "Parts of Prophecy," "People of Prophecy," and "Present Position of Prophecy." He is now having a book published on the subject.

The meetings are open to the public.

Hahn Seeking Freeway Link To 190th St.

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn has invited city and Chamber of Commerce officials of Torrance and other southwest area cities along with members of the Inter-City Highway Committee to a meeting at his office this morning to discuss methods and plans to obtain appropriations for completion of the Harbor Freeway southward to 190th St.

Hahn emphasized the need for immediate action by pointing out that the next meeting of the State Highway Commission, which decided the appropriations, is only a week away. The supervisor said he had been advised that plans for the freeway between 124th St. and 190th St. were ready for bids when the money is made available. Construction is in progress now to 124th St.

Hey Diogenes, Visitors Aid Your Search

Two visitors to Torrance have reason to believe that not all the people around here are honest.

The two were relieved of their money while they were sunning themselves on Torrance beach.

First to report to Torrance police was James Huestis of New Jersey. He told officers his car wind-wing had been pried open and his wallet taken.

He later found the wallet tossed in the nearby bushes. Missing was his money: 50 cents.

Howard McHenry of Oakland did not fare so well. He reported to police his car had been broken into and \$85 in cash taken from his trousers which were lying on the front seat.

Bethlehem Steel Typifies Industrial Boom of Area

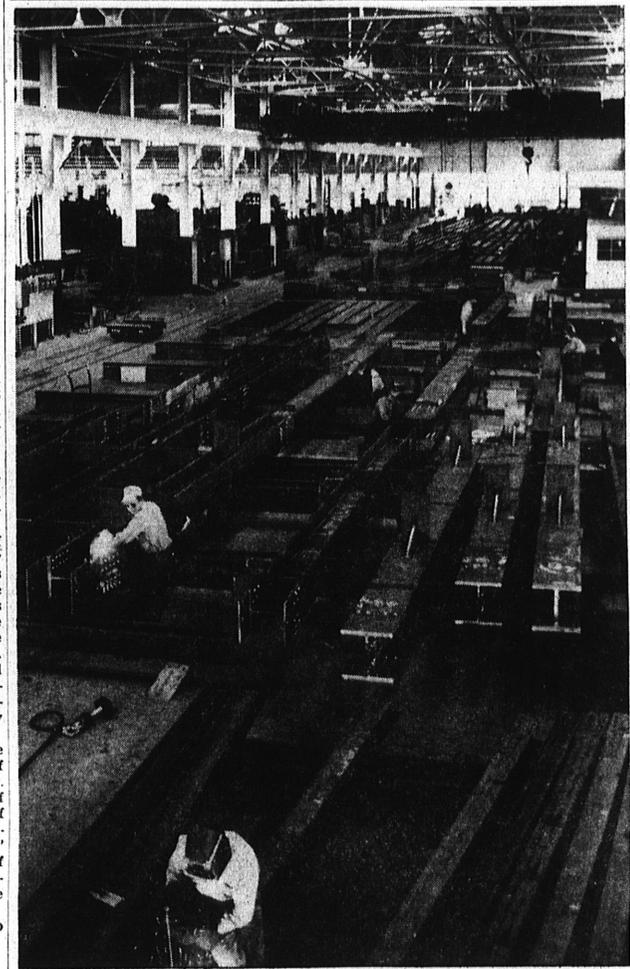
YOUR SECOND FRONT PAGE

Torrance Herald

EDITORIALS * * * FEATURES * * * WANT ADS

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 1957

Nineteen



THREE ACRES OF STEEL... Bethlehem Pacific Coast Steel Co. has more than three acres under a roof at its Torrance plant where complete steel fabricating work is carried on. Here, some of Bethlehem's 180 employees work on huge girders which will go into builds and bridges throughout Southern California.

New School Official Will Assume Post

A new educational consultant to help develop a program to "bridge the gap" between elementary and high school arrived in Torrance this week and will take up his duties about Sept. 1.

Frederick Cyphert is one of four consultants hired by the Torrance Unified School District to coordinate the entire school curriculum. He will work primarily with the seventh, eighth, and ninth grade program.

He recently obtained his doctorate from the University of Pittsburgh, studying the use of the library in junior high schools for his thesis. Last year, Cyphert taught at Ball State Teachers College,

Plunge to Close Saturday During Water Festival

The Torrance Municipal Plunge, 3331 Torrance Blvd., will be closed for regular swimming this Saturday morning, due to the Playground Water Carnival which will be held from 9 a.m. to noon.

All the children of Torrance who are interested are urged to enter this Water Carnival through their local playground or park during this week.

The pool will be opened from 1 to 5 p.m. on Saturday afternoon for regular swimming as scheduled.

Verry Home Following Accident

El Camino Football Coach Norm Verry has returned to his home in Manhattan Beach where he is recuperating from injuries received in a water skiing accident.

Verry was hospitalized at Washoe Medical Center for three days following the accident at Lake Tahoe.

He sustained head injuries when a ski smashed against his head after a fall. He reportedly was unconscious for 11 to 12 hours.

Despite the fact he must remain in bed for the next two weeks, El Camino officials were hopeful Verry would be able to take part in the opening of college football season, Sept. 1.

Fabricating Speeds Work At Job Site

In mushrooming Southern California, one of the most common sights is that of steel girders which form the framework for new office buildings and freeway bridges.

A large share of the steel which goes into these new structures comes from Torrance—the Bethlehem Pacific Coast Steel Corp. plant, 2100 W. 190th St.

There, the steel is fabricated—that is, it is readied for the actual construction job. The huge girders, ranging in size up to 90 feet, are cut to the desired length, holes for bolts or rivets are punched and drilled in the right places, and the component parts are assembled into the fabricated section ready to put into place on the job site.

Pieces Assembled
The work at the local plant replaces much of the assembly which used to take place at the construction site. Here, the pieces are readied to fit together with other steel girders, almost like a "do-it-yourself" kit.

Putting the holes in huge sections of steel and cutting the girders at the right widths and angles requires a tremendous amount of planning, because a mistake could hold up a whole construction job.

In engineering and drafting rooms, detailed plans are made for the particular job. Then, cardboard templates are made of the steel fittings, so that angles will be right and holes punched in the correct places.

Sent to Shops

Then the plans are sent into the fabricating shops, which cover three acres. Equipment there includes shears capable of cold shearing steel plates one inch thick and 60 feet wide, punches which can make holes in plates up to 1½ inch thick, drills which punch holes in thicker plates, an electric eye which guides a series of flame cutting nozzles, and many other technical devices.

Giant cranes and hoists handle the huge pieces of steel, distributing them for cutting, riveting, welding, or whatever needs to be done to them.

Steel Stored
Now, some 4000 tons of steel (2,000,000 pounds) are stored in the yard, with about half of this fabricated monthly.

The steel is shipped to the Torrance plant from the East via Long Beach Harbor, while some of the lighter pieces are trucked in. In most cases, huge trucks carry the steel from the Torrance plant to wherever the construction job is located, usually in the wee hours of the morning.

The local plant is expected to begin work soon on the steel for what is reported to be the largest construction project ever begun in Southern California—the new Los Angeles County Hall of Administration.

Furnishes "Guts"

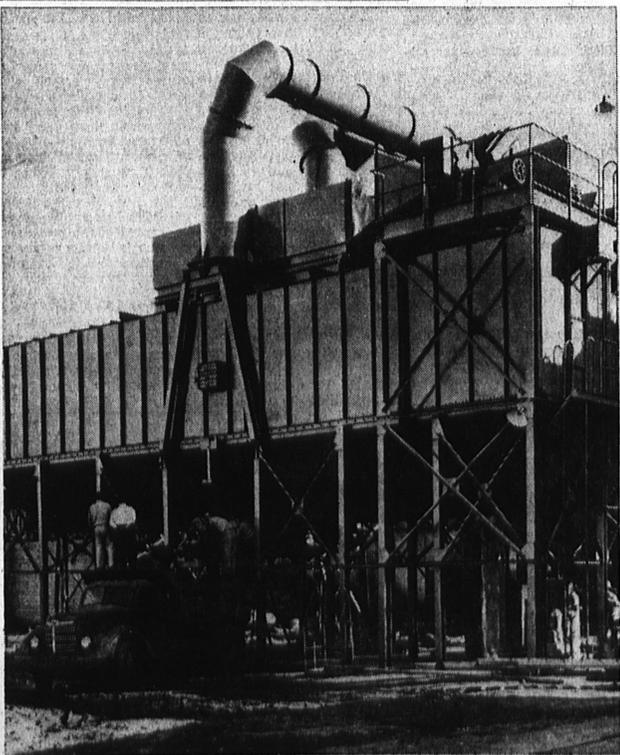
Since it opened here two years ago, the local plant has turned out the "guts" for such buildings as the new County Courthouse, four bridges over the Los Angeles River, additions to Douglas Aircraft Co., Robinson's Pasadena Department Store, a flight test hangar at Edwards Air Force Base, and office buildings for the Texas Co., Tidewater, IBM, Western Electric, and many others.

"Shop fabrication of basic parts reduces considerably the time needed in the field to erect the frame," F. C. Todd Jr., manager of the local plant reports. "In view of the rush toward new construction in Southern California, and the part structural steel plays in this rush, fabricating works such as ours become increasingly important to the Western builder."

Todd pointed with pride to Bethlehem's gleaming new office building here. You guessed it—steel.

Phone Hike Asked

Pacific Telephone yesterday asked the California Public Utilities Commission for a re-pricing of some of its services to offset increased wage payments, higher local and state taxes and other costs.



THE 'BAGHOUSE'... This is an exterior view of four-room "baghouse" installed as part of the war on smog at the Torrance plant of the National Supply Company. Dust-laden air from the electric melting furnaces in the next building is passed through dacron bags 15 feet long which trap even the finest dust particles and discharge the clean air to the atmosphere. Mixed with water to form sludge, the dust is hauled to a dump by trucks, one of which is shown.



IT'S FAIR TIME... Reminding Torrance area youngsters that it is time to start making plans for the annual Los Angeles County Fair in Pomona will be these familiar pony carts which will visit areas of the city next Tuesday. The wagons will leave the civic center area at 11 a.m. and tour the downtown and adjacent areas until 1 p.m. distributing folders, buttons, and window stickers.