

# Torrance-Made Drilling Rig Shatters World Mark

A Torrance-built National Supply rig was used by Phillips Petroleum Co. Monday in breaking the world's record for deep drilling.

University "EE" Well No. 1, 13 miles east of Fort Stockton, Texas, reached the former record of 22,570 feet, established in Louisiana in 1955, and was heading for greater depths.

The hole broke the Texas state record, 21,687 feet, on April 28.

For the job, Phillips selected its Rig 27, a National Supply Type 130 Rig which it had previously used in Alaska. The

only unusual piece of equipment was a hydraulic table, developed by Phillips, which is used to cushion the shock caused by stopping the drill pipe as it is being run, and to prevent a squeeze as the extreme weight of pipe is fitted into slips or clamps.

**Pumps From Ohio**

The slush pumps were manufactured at the National Supply plant at Toledo, Ohio. All the other National equipment was manufactured at the company's Torrance plant.

The 136-foot Lee C. Moore derrick rests on a 18-foot sub-

structure. It has a total load capacity of a million pounds.

The well is on an 8100-acre block. Drilling began in October, 1956.

Because of the extremely hard formation, drilling is proceeding at about two feet per hour. Bits last 75 to 80 hours, after which the entire string of pipe must be pulled and then re-run with a new bit, taking about 12 hours.

Approximately 17,600 feet of pipe fell into the hole last February, when drilling had proceeded to 21,396 feet. Part of the string was recovered by

fishing, but it was necessary to leave 39 stands of pipe in the hole, and drill around it, starting the new hole at 19,965 feet.

Twenty-inch casing was set at 1480 feet, 13 3/4-inch at 6020 feet, and 9 5/8-inch at 10,996 feet.

National Supply has designed special wellhead equipment in case the deep well becomes a producer.

The deepest production in Texas is at about 15,000 feet, in the Puckett field, 20 miles away, where Phillips is the principal operator.

By George Sixta

## RIVETS



## RED RYDER

By Fred Harman



## SUPERMAN

By Lew Kleis



## VIRGIL

By Lew Kleis



# New Red Cross Officers to Be Installed Here

Annual installation dinner for the Torrance-Lomita branch of the American National Red Cross will be held next Monday at the Jump 'n Jack restaurant in Walleria, it was announced yesterday.

Chairman of the new slate of officers will be Dr. Warren Low of Lomita, who succeeds Stanley Remelemyer, Torrance city attorney.

A special invitation to attend is being issued to all local residents. Reservations may be made by calling Mrs. Gordon Jones.

Installation ceremonies will be presided over by Remelemyer, and a film entitled "Disaster and You," will be shown by Ed Russell, director of disaster for the Los Angeles Chapter.

Officers to be installed with Dr. Low include Hanley Rogers, first vice chairman; Virginia Jones, second vice chairman; Henry Halverson, third vice chairman, and Mary Pagac, treasurer.

Secretarial services will be donated by various members of the South Bay Chapter of the National Secretaries Assn.

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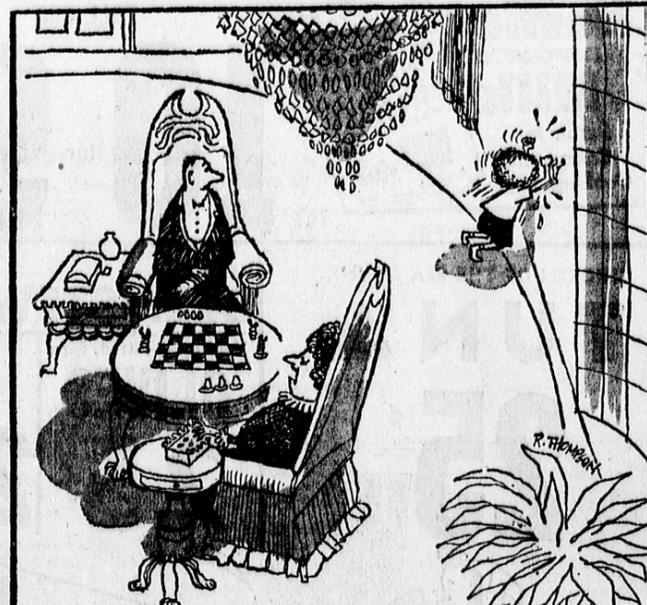
# Thrifty Manager Celebrates Year With New Store

Jack Mertz, popular manager of the South Bay Shopping Center Thrifty Drug Store, has been the head man at the local store since it first opened the doors one year ago. During the store's initial year it has reflected Mertz's alert leadership by climbing to one of the top positions in Thrifty's huge chain.

Mertz, who resides at 5103 W. 121st St., Hawthorne, has been a Thrifty employ for over 12 years. He began as a trainee in Thrifty's management-trainee program and has since progressed up the ladder to his present position. His son, like father, is also a Thrifty trainee being currently enrolled in that program.

A World War II veteran, Mertz attended Northwestern University. He is married and in addition to his son, also has a daughter. Prior to his managing the South Bay Store, he managed one of Thrifty's downtown Los Angeles units.

John German, 4833 W. 117th St., Hawthorne, is the assistant manager and like Mertz, has been at the South Bay location since the opening. John Riley is the Thrifty district manager for the South Bay Thrifty.



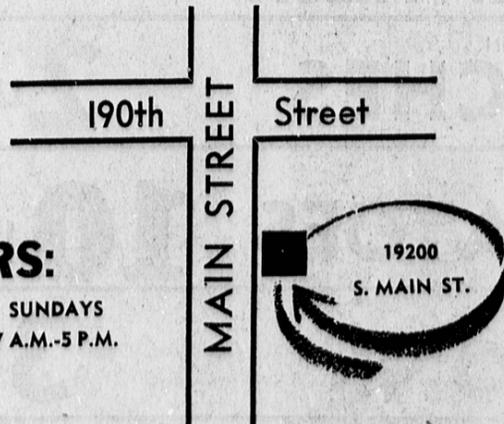
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