

# Industrial Land Owners Told to 'Get on the Ball'

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## Torrance Herald

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# NAB 2 FOR DOWNTOWN HOLDUP

## Pair Nabbed In Las Vegas

Some private sleuthing on the part of a local drug store executive apparently paid off this week when two suspected bandits were arrested in Las Vegas at a gaming table and returned to Torrance.

Charles W. Soens of Anaheim, executive of McCown's

Drugs, 1327 El Prado, went to Las Vegas on a hunch after a bandit robbed the local store of cash estimated between \$2000 and \$3000 Sunday night.

Assistant Manager James Cemore, 19, told police Sunday night that he and his wife, Judy Ellen, 17, were surprised by a dark haired bandit as they were closing the downtown Torrance drugstore. The bandit had apparently hidden in the store until closing time, Cemore told police.

"IF YOU WERE in my shape, you'd have to do this too," the bandit told the manager and his wife.

Cemore said he was forced at gunpoint to open a safe in the store and put the money in a plaid overnight bag which the bandit held.

Mrs. Cemore was then ordered to tape her husband's hands behind his back, and tape his ankles.

THE GUNMAN then taped Mrs. Cemore and left, warning them not to do anything for 20 minutes. They freed themselves and called police.

Playing what he described to Las Vegas police as a hunch, Soens visited the casinos of the desert spa Monday and spotted two men at a blackjack table who aroused his suspicion.

Officers who took the pair into custody reported they had seven \$100 bills in their possession in addition to casino chips and an automatic pistol.

THE PAIR were identified as Harry C. Aartman, 34, of Los Angeles, and Stephan A. Randazzo, 29, of Inglewood.

Det. Sgt. Don Hamilton was scheduled to return from Las Vegas last evening with the pair.

## GI Back To Face Charges

A 23-year-old soldier who has been returned from Korea to face a rape charge here will be brought back to Torrance tomorrow from Travis Air Force Base where he is now being held.

Police reported yesterday that Benny Ray Whitely, who was named in a warrant a year ago last April charging the sexual assault against a 13-year-old girl, had been flown back to the United States to answer the charges.

The subject of a search for more than a year by the local police, Whitely joined the Army after the alleged assault.

## Arraignment Of Forgery Suspect Set For Tomorrow

A Harbor City woman will be arraigned tomorrow in Inglewood Superior Court on eight counts of forgery.

Suspected of passing forged checks in South Bay markets is Madeline May Williams, 24, of 1335 Anaheim St. who was arrested at her home Friday, June 26, when twenty-one checks, amounting to a total of \$855 were found in her possession by Manhattan Beach Det. Lt. Frank Lodwick.



J. H. PAGET  
New Chamber President  
**PAGET HEADS C of C**

J. H. Paget, manager of the J. J. Newberry Store in downtown Torrance, has been elected president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce to succeed Fred W. Mill, it was announced here yesterday.

Paget will hold office until June 30, 1960.

Elected first vice president in the annual elections was Richard S. Pyle, manager of the Pacific Telephone office here. Glenn Koger was named second vice president and Jack Phillips treasurer.

THE NEW president has been a director of the Chamber of Commerce for seven years and is past president of the Downtown Retail Merchants' Division of the Chamber.

He also is a director of the Executive Dinner Club, and a former member of the city's park and recreation commission and parking committee. He has been active for many years in the community's fund drives and civic events.

KOGER WAS the 1958 "Citizen of the Year" in Torrance and has been a top executive in the area's fund campaigns. He is currently president of the Harbor Area Welfare Board. He is vice president and general manager of the Rome Cable Corp.

Phillips, president of Paramount Builders Supply, has been active in the Chamber for several years, and has been on the board of directors for three years. He has been chairman of the city's Ranchero Days celebration, and active in other organizations, including the city's Civitan Club.

Continuing as secretary to the board of directors for the Chamber will be Manager Dick Fitzgerald.

## Gunnery Meet To Feature Firebees

Forty-four Firebee drones produced by Ryan Aeronautical Co.'s Torrance plant were selected this week to serve as the only free-flying targets to be used at a Navy gunnery meet to be held in the vicinity of Yuma, Ariz., and off San Diego next Nov. 30 to Dec. 4, according to an announcement made yesterday.

## Council Votes Zone Changes

A notice to industrial property owners of the city to "get on the ball" was served by the city council here Tuesday evening along with a decision to rezone more than 90 acres of property held for many years as industrial sites to permit the development of a housing project.

"The Santa Fe started moving as soon as we began chopping off their property for our civic center. Maybe this will encourage the Standard Oil Co. to take a second look at their property," Councilman Bob Jahn commented after the council had voted 5-1 to approve rezoning of the industrial land.

THE COUNCIL approved the petition of the Getty Oil Co. to rezone the huge tract of industrial land at the southwest corner of Crenshaw and Sepulveda. Standard Oil owns several hundred acres of industrial land on the south and west sides of the rezoned site.

Some changes were ordered by the councilmen — principally to delete a portion to be rezoned for multiple residential, and to change perimeter R-1 zones to R-3 to serve as a buffer between the R-1 residential and the industrial property.

ALSO ON the agenda was a tentative tract map for the area which had been approved by the planning commission.

Willis Blount called the move a "blackjack," and the proposed developers, Don Wilson and R. A. Watt, agreed to withdraw the tentative map until a later date.

Only Mayor Albert Isen opposed the rezoning approval, stating that the city could not afford to lose its industrial property.

"We must locate good sound

industry here if we are going to progress," he said.

IN OTHER action, the council voted to approve formation of a street lighting assessment district over the strong protests of some residents of several Victoria Knoll streets on the grounds that it would detract from the rural atmosphere of the area, and would impair their view.

AT ONE POINT, Mayor Isen had to threaten to eject some of the angry protesters from the meeting.

The council also rejected a proposal from the park and recreation commission that the Entradero Sump be developed as a pitch and putt golf course after William Deuel, an adjacent property owner, presented a petition of homeowners opposing the suggestion.

## New Bus Routes Serve Shoppers

Changes in the North Torrance-Los Angeles line of the Torrance Municipal Bus Lines will now provide service to the shopping center at 190th and Anza, it was announced this week by M. A. Chamberlain, bus superintendent.

The new service will take buses into the Southwest Park area on Halston, north on Anza to 190th St., and back to Hawthorne where they will continue the run to Los Angeles.

## At Meeting

### Hospital Advisors Reflect Optimism

An atmosphere of hopeful optimism prevailed at a noon luncheon meeting yesterday of the advisory board of the Little Company of Mary hospital.

With Chairman Robert L. Plomert of General Petroleum presiding, tentative plans for elaborate dedication ceremonies this fall were discussed following reports of construction and fund-raising progress.

Fears that the steel strike might delay the big project were allayed by George Leverenz, superintendent of construction, who explained that virtually all needed steel was in place with the exception of lockers, and the hospital could open on schedule without them. Leverenz reported terrazzo work would be finished in six weeks.

Sisters Mother Lucy and Carmelita have established temporary office headquarters on the fourth floor of the magnificent new structure on Torrance Blvd. Telephone number of the hospital is FR 6-8771 and the Sisters are prepared to answer all inquiries relating to any phase of the funds campaign or the hospital itself. Mail may be addressed to P. O. Box 2214.



ATTENDS INSTITUTE . . . F. P. Adams, chief engineer of Chanslor Western Oil & Development Co., Torrance, is among 32 officials of Santa Fe Railway attending a special six weeks' Institute of Business Economics session at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. This year's course began June 22.



BIG TOE ARTISTRY . . . Mark Markel, 11, displays his big toe artistry during a toe painting contest at McMaster Park. Mark, who's also something of a contortionist, created a space man out of his pedal digit by using a little poster paint and a lot of imagination. (Herald photo)

## Groups Choose Sides in Lomita Water Squabble

Opposing factions in the current controversy over the management of Narbonne Ranch Water Co. No. 1, Lomita—which has led to a temporary ban on new construction within the area serviced by the company while the Public Utilities Commission studies the matter—went on record this week with their respective stands in separate letters sent

to the water commission in San Francisco.

Confidence in the commission's ability to determine whether or not annexation to the county district would be feasible was expressed by the Lomita Civic League, while the Lomita Chamber of Commerce called for immediate action and money to pump into the ailing Narbonne Ranch Water Co. No. 2.

STRIKING out against the agitators for improved water service was the Lomita Chamber of Commerce, which labelled the citizens whose complaints had led to the investigation "a small pressure group and a few radical individuals."

AFFIRMING its approval of the action which brought the situation to the attention of the PUC was the Lomita Civic League, which clarified its past position of not taking any stand with the explanation that the group had previously considered annexation a matter for individual decision. The civic league accused the opposition of being a "small minority which was defeated 3-1 a couple of years ago when they tried to get control of Lomita."

THE CHAMBER suggested that action be taken to obtain funds for relieving the water company's immediate difficulties, with plans to do a permanent remodeling project hinging on procurement of additional funds later. They hinted at the possibility of securing the money from the state or other governmental body.

Urging "positive and immediate action," the Chamber stated, "We are deeply perturbed over the present and impending results of the Commission's drastic order which threatens the security and peaceful occupation of private property of owners and tenants, who, in most instances, were in possession of building permits from the County of

Los Angeles and had started construction of their buildings prior to the Commission's hearing of May 19. These applicants had no way of knowing, or were they notified that the PUC ruling would bar them from obtaining water, and they therefore completed their construction projects in the belief that they would be able to connect to the existing water facilities as soon as their buildings were ready to be occupied."

EXPRESSING confidence in the PUC is the following excerpt from the Civic League's letter:

"Many of our members have attended the hearings and are confident that your investigators are competent to decide whether bad management alone is responsible for the deplorable service, and whether there is any possible justification for the diversion of funds from the purpose for which they were collected. We are anxiously awaiting your final report."

## Today's Herald Full of Dollar Day Sale Items

A three-day Dollar Days sale sponsored by Downtown Torrance merchants opens today and will continue through Saturday.

Special values in the stores throughout the Downtown Torrance area are being offered during the sale, business leaders report.

Many of the values to be offered during the summer Dollar Days sale are advertised in today's 48-page edition of the HERALD, and in a supplement printed by the HERALD. Check the merchants' messages thoroughly to gain top value with your shopping dollar.

## A Penny for your Thoughts

"What is your pet peeve?" That is the question the HERALD'S inquiring photographer asked several "well-adjusted" persons in Torrance this week. Their pictures and answers appear below:

Claude Groom, Compton, department of Motor Vehicle district supervisor:

"I have no pet peeve. I like everybody and everything." (Ed. comment: It's comforting to know the people at the Motor Vehicle Bureau are so easy to please. Comes from keeping calm with irate motorists, no doubt.)

Marguerite Grosvener, Torrance, manufacturer's representative:

"The people who drive in the left-hand lane and go five or ten miles under the posted speed limits. We fast drivers need more room to let loose." (Ed. comment—Are you listening, Mr. Groom?)

Mrs. Gwen Adams, Chancellor-Western Oil Lease, Torrance, housewife:

"Taxes, I suppose." (Ed. comment—Ah, yes, the perennial pet of pet peeve polls, popularity precluded by pollsters.)

Aaron Babinski, 1522 W. 204th, BF Goodrich service man:

"Being blamed for something I have not done. People should think before jumping to conclusions." (Ed. comment—Or before jumping off rooftops or bridges.)

Bob Scarborough, 2708 Andreo, telephone switchman:

"Parking space—the lack of it—and 'cotton-pickin' meters." (Ed. comment—We still say "motorists are irate.")

Our own pet peeve: Inquiring photographers who insist on confusing the reader by inserting "Ed. comments."

## Delaware Picked For Air Race End

Wilmington, Del., will be the destination of next year's Powder Puff Derby, the all-woman transcontinental air race, it was announced this week at Spokane, Wash.

The race, which will leave from Torrance Municipal Airport, is sponsored by the Nines Assn., a women's pilot organization.

The group met in Spokane this week in convention at the end of the 1959 race which terminated here.