



SALUTED . . . Mrs. Cella Pons, businesswoman and property owner in downtown Torrance for 26 years, was named "Mother of the Year" by the South Bay Chapter of Hadassah at a luncheon meeting Tuesday. Mrs. Pons was surprised at her selection, club officials reported. Mrs. Pons is a charter member of the local chapter and one of its founders.



BEGINNING PROJECT . . . Merchants, city officials, and civic leaders gather under shadow of heavy equipment to inaugurate extensive remodeling project in downtown Torrance. Officials expect the \$108,000 program to take about 60 working days to complete.

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What frenzy dictates, jealousy believes.—John Gay

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Building Gets OK

Establishment of a drainage fee for areas of the city subject to flood hazards opened the way Tuesday evening for building to be resumed in some areas of South Torrance and the Victor Precinct which had been under a Council-imposed ban.

The fees, varying among the several districts, will serve to permit some building pending completion of drainage assessment districts, also authorized by the Council Tuesday. Purchase of property in South Torrance and in the Vic-

tor Precinct was authorized as the first step in providing storm drain sumps for those areas.

The little-used 1913 assessment act is being followed in the formation of the districts.

Pyle Appointed

R. Richard S. (Dick) Pyle, manager of the Pacific Telephone Co. here, was named to the city's Youth Welfare Commission by Councilman J. A. Beasley Tuesday night.

Obituaries

JESSE JAMES HYLES

Services for Jesse James Hyles, 74, were held at Ingolds Chapel in Fontana, Calif. Saturday with the Rev. C. L. Bruce officiating. Interment at Green Acres Memorial Park in Bloomington followed the services.

Mr. Hyles, who was born in Hicho, Tex., August 13, 1888, came to Torrance in 1936.

He is survived by eight children: L. Frank of Hicho; Jesse F. and Harold D. of Torrance; James B. W. Wayne, Mae Moore, and Syble Thralkill, all of Fontana; and Ruby Luster of Temple City.

Mr. Hyles is survived also by four brothers and two sisters: John E. of Santa Maria; Fred and Charles of Hicho; Oscar of Tulare; Rose Snider of Lawton, Okla.; Lillie McAnnally of Plainview, Tex.; and 16 grandchildren and 19 great grandchildren.



GETTING PREVIEW . . . City Council members get a preview look at the new telephone building at Torrance Boulevard and Arlington Avenue as the firm gets ready for its open house program feting 50 years of service to Torrance. Here Mayor Albert Isen (back to camera), and Councilmen Victor E. Benstead, Nicholas O. Drale, and J. A. Beasley chat with Manager R. S. Pyle while information operators go on with their never ending calls in the foreground. (Herald Photo)

Thief Strips Vehicle Lot

About \$536 worth of batteries, tires and wheels were stolen from ten new vehicles parked in a back lot at Paul's Chevrolet, 1640 Cabrillo Ave.

The theft occurred sometime between Saturday and Tuesday night by suspects who possibly entered the lot through an unlocked chain link gate. Service Manager Norman Robinson told police. All of the new vehicles are unlicensed and one was a truck.

Harbor Student Elected Mayor

Harbor College student, Mrs. Teena Clifton, has been elected mayor of Rolling Hills Estates. Mrs. Clifton is also a member of the general advisory committee of the college.

Pacific Telephone Notes Golden Anniversary Here

Pacific Telephone kicks off its golden anniversary of service to Torrance today with an open house at 2154 Torrance Blvd.

The celebration continues tomorrow. Hours both days are 1 to 9 p.m.

Manager Dick Pyle said visitors will see the information, business and employment offices in the modern, two-story building.

"Incidentally," the manager said, "our employment office is celebrating an anniversary of its own—having been established here a year ago last Monday."

He said more than 2800 job applicants were processed during that year and 280 were hired.

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visitors will notice switchboards in the process of being connected.

The office handles about 25,700 "113" calls daily, a figure that is expected to increase immediately to 31,000 when the new switchboards are put into operation.

TELEPHONE installation and construction crews will be on hand to show open house guests the tools and implements used in hooking up lines and other equipment.

Several times during each open house day a visitor will be selected for a free long-distance call to a point within the continental United States. Pyle said. Invitations have been mailed to subscribers.

"Here's an opportunity for everyone to see what we are doing to meet Torrance's explosive growth," the manager said. "I hope as many as possible will be able to come in, say hello and look around."

The Numbers Grew, Too

While the Pacific Telephone is celebrating its 50th anniversary in Torrance, evoking comments on growth of the firm from a handful of subscribers to today's thousands, a search of the HERALD'S records can show that the firm has grown in other ways, also.

Take the matter of telephone numbers—much in the news lately.

Early records indicate the HERALD had a very simple number back in the "Hello, Central" days. It was simply 1-J.

Came the days of growth and the number was changed to 200.

At a still later period, in the early 30s, the number grew to 444, and "Hello, Central" was still with it.

Along came the automatic dialing systems about 10 years ago and the HERALD's number took on more figures to become FAirfax 8-4000.

Its complete number today—unless changed overnight—has grown to 213-328-4000. For local callers it's still FA 8-4000, but it's a long way from 1-J.

Highlight of the open house may be the information quarters established last September. The "113" office has drawn state-wide attention because of its colorful and unusual aspects.

"For instance, the color scheme turquoise switchboards yellow walls and a gray floor give a cheerful atmosphere not ordinarily found in an information office," the manager pointed out.

Teacher Plans Montana Stint

Miss Florence Schmidt, head of the teacher training program at Marymount College, will be a faculty member of the nine-week summer school at Northern Montana College in Haber, Mont.

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See the equipment that goes into action each time you dial a call.

TELEPHONE OPEN HOUSE

2154 Torrance Blvd., Torrance—Thursday and Friday, May 9 & 10

Grownups and children too—all have loads of fun at Telephone Open House. Both you and the youngsters will be fascinated by the "magic" of your telephone system as it springs into action every time you spin the dial. You're invited to step behind the scenes to see how it works! There'll be plenty of telephone people on hand to show you lots of interesting displays and exhibits . . . so plan to come early. Bring the whole family, friends and neighbors too! Everyone has fun at Telephone Open House.

