

LAWSUIT TO CLOSE DUMP THREATENED

Record Air-Hop From Torrance

Soderstrom Plans to Set New Mark

Torrance Municipal Airport will be the take-off point on a record establishing non-stop transcontinental airplane flight of Charles Soderstrom, Jr., San Pedro Ford dealer, the Press learned this week.

Torrance Better Merchants, retail division, Torrance Chamber of Commerce, invited Soderstrom to take off from Torrance after learning of his willingness to start the flight here instead of from one of the larger airports nearby. They promised Soderstrom a rousing send-off, with community participation.

Soderstrom's plane is kept in the Acme Aircraft Co. hangar at Torrance Municipal Airport, where the company, composed of Roger Keeney, Hugh K. Crawford and Charles R. Klinkert, already are converting the Beechcraft four-place plane for the non-stop record attempt to LaGuardia field, New York. The flight will be made some time after June 1.

It was said at the airport that Soderstrom will make the flight from Torrance, even though it means a night take-off without airport lights, as a matter of local community spirit. Much national publicity will be gained thereby. He is financing the flight himself just for the sport of the attempt, it was said.

Already sanctioned by the National Aeronautics Association, the flight will be to establish a record for light land planes of the third classification, or weights from 2200 to 3800 pounds. Soderstrom's Beechcraft, is powered by a 185-horsepower Continental motor, and he just completed a 12,000 mile flight with his family from Torrance through the south to Florida, north through Washington to New York and west over the sky-way route of his planned record making flight.

Acme Aircraft will make several tests of the plane after reconversion, before the actual transcontinental flight starts.

Shoppers Shortcuts

By HAZEL KELLER

AN ABSOLUTELY perfect way to please mother is by eating out at the most popular Torrance rendezvous of food connoisseurs. The Ding How Chinese Restaurant, 1652 Cabrillo and Carson streets has exciting Chinese or American dishes served family style with all the added "extras" to make the dinner perfect. Or if you prefer eating at home—phone Torrance 81 for a pickup order. The Ding How Cafe, a little bit of the East transported into the West.

GO ALL OUT this year, and give Mom a "special" present. One she'll appreciate a great deal. A family photograph from the Photo Arts Studio, 1520 Cravens Avenue. It's just the ticket if Mom is quite a distance away. Call the Photo Arts Studio—Torrance 2253—and inquire about their special Mothers Day rates. Incidentally, Photo Arts will move to a new location, 1311 Post Avenue, on or about June 1st, but in the meantime will continue their outstanding photography at 1520 Cravens Avenue. Remember, one photo is worth hundreds of letters.

INSPIRED BY the thought of Mothers Day, Louise Beauty Shop, 1521 West Carson street, decided Mom should have a special permanent in honor of her day. Therefore Louise has reduced her noted cold-wave permanent from \$6.95 to \$3.95, complete with shampooing, cutting and individualized styling. Call Louise's Beauty Shop, Torrance 2642—open evenings by appointment.

WANDERING OVER the streets of Torrance and gazing into the shop windows, looking at the wonderful displays of clothing for Mother's Day, the scintillating blouses at Levy's Department Store, 1311 Sartori Avenue, were so distinctive in styling and charm that I feel you absolutely must give Mom several to round out her wardrobe. "Hendan" creations... Bembergs... tailored in all sizes, these Levy blouses come in a very wide selection of colors, prints and patterns. For the lady who knows clothes these (Continued on Page Four)

PENINSULA



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Board "Gag" Rule Draws Protest

CITIZENS DENIED VOICE AT MEETING

Imposition of the "gag rule" at Board of Education meetings brought scores of protests from indignant citizens who appeared at the meeting of the board May 2, and were denied their lawful privilege of addressing the board members by Dr. H. A. Wood, President.

Wood said that if school patrons want to be heard, there is a place for them to voice their ideas at the Torrance Educational Advisory Committee meetings. The T.E.A.C. is a private group, meetings of which the public is not informed, those denied the right to address the Board of Education said. The Board of Education is a public body, with regular meetings, open to the public, and the public has a right to be heard at these meetings.

Whether or not the "gag rule" is the idea of Dr. Wood as president of the board, or a demand of Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, was not immediately determined. However, Hull, early in his career, is said to have expressed the idea that the smaller attendance at Board of Education meetings, the better he will like it. Also, the charter was amended at his request to provide separate Board of Education elections, presumably because fewer citizens vote at such elections, and they are easier to swing.

Dr. Wood, Mrs. Evelyn Carr and Judge Shidler all are coming up for reelection on May 19. A. L. Jackson is a fourth candidate. Three board members will be elected.

There were some 50 citizens in the audience at the board meeting of May 2, and several wanted to be heard on matters of teacher employment, "resignations" of teachers, salary raises for Hull and others, but Dr. Wood refused to recognize them.

"This is purely an administrative matter," he said, and no citizen could gain the floor, nor the ears of the board members.

Fast Action In Parkway Cleanup

Within a week after the Press reports don the disgraceful condition of the center park strip on Torrance boulevard from Madrid avenue to Western avenue, city park department crews were at work cleaning weeds out of the strip and restoring dying plants to life.

Petitions were circulated in the area asking that the park strip be restored to its former beauty, and they were presented to the City Council Tuesday night. City Manager George Stevens said he would have the area cleaned up and Wednesday morning, the men were at work.

Cleaning the area along the Pacific Electric tracks, from Border avenue to Western avenue, also is being demanded.

Attend Convention

San Jose was the destination of Prexy Howard Percy and Velko Miletich of the Junior Chamber of Commerce last weekend, May 5, 6, 7, and 8.

The Jaycees held their state convention in this beautiful northern city, with many items of importance to attend to and issues to vote upon. One of the main items on the agenda was the election of the state president and district vice presidents.

Outdoor Girl Contest



PORTUGUESE BEND — Entries for the Rancho Palos Verdes Outdoor Girl contest, which offers more than \$200 in prizes to the winner who will represent Los Angeles county at the California Rodeo in Salinas, will close May 10, Glen Young, manager of the Portuguese Bend Riding club, sponsors of the contest, announced today.

Young disclosed that seven girls have qualified to date for the Outdoor Girl contest which will be held May 13 and 14 in connection with the first annual

Children's Horse show at the Portuguese Bend Riding club. Outdoor Girl entries to date, Young announced, are: Marilyn Snow, Rolling Hills; Blanche Deal, Redondo Beach; Margaret Carroll, Hawthorne; Ann Eisenhauer, Compton; Joni Wood, Torrance; Gylene Matton, Westminster, and Sylvia Stinson, Long Beach.

Young said he would receive Outdoor Girl contest applications at the Portuguese Bend Riding club until 5 p. m., May 10.

Entrance to a Beautiful City



Pictured above is one of our main entrances, through the newly finished Western Ave. Cleanup project on this street has been discussed by several local service clubs including the Lions Club and the Junior Chamber of Commerce, but to date no action has been taken. According to reports received this week, residents near the area will petition the City Council to take action in speeding up the cleanup.

Teachers Rehired By School Bd.

Following teachers and administrators were approved for employment during the next school year at salaries indicated:

Superintendent, Hull, Dr. J. H. \$11,000; Business Manager, Ingram, Emmett W. \$8,800; Administrative Assistant, Posner, Albert N., \$6,480 (12 mos.); Curriculum Librarian, Powell, Gertrude E., \$4,770 (12 mos.); Director of Instruction, Rehboldt, Walter, \$6,720 (12 mos.); Secondary Principal, Steinbaugh, John K., \$6,800.

Elementary Principal, Eckert, Earl W., \$4,800; Elementary Principal, Henderson, Roland C., \$5,400; Elementary Principal, Kirks, B. Boone, \$5,400; Adult Education Principal, Manashaw, Donald G., \$5,200; Elementary Principal, Morton, Robert C., \$5,500; Secondary Vice-Principal, Wallace, Charles E., \$5,400.

Elementary Teacher, Anderson, Merlyn X., \$3,150; Speech Correction, Beaver, Elizabeth O., \$3,550; Elementary Teacher, Bennett, Erma D., \$3,725; School Nurse, Caldwell, Violette N., \$3,400; Attendance Supervisor, Hamilton, Warren W., \$3,850; Elementary Teacher, Lewis, Ethel M., \$3,550; School Doctor, Markham, Dr. H. Veazie, \$4,200; Research Director, Meibo, Dr. Irving R., \$1,500; Director of Music, Milstein, Abe, \$4,600; Elementary Music, Reist, Lloyd A., \$3,700; School Psychologist, Rouman, Jack, \$3,550.

Elementary Teachers: Balloch, Dorothea B., \$3,725; Bentwood, Frank H., \$3,150; Bergman, Mildred L., \$3,600; Boland, Floy D., \$3,725; Chisholm, Cathryn M., \$3,600; Clere, Ruby M., \$3,150; Dexter, Sharon D., \$3,725; Gardner, Sophia S., \$3,700; Hoyle, Maxine, \$3,725; Hulzing, Howard M., \$3,700; Jones, Lloyd G., \$3,150.

Elementary Teachers: Kentta, Katherine E., \$3,600; Kilburn, E. Louise, \$3,725; Knoll, Veda L., \$3,850; Lewis, William B., \$3,000; Lindgren, Ruth B., \$3,150. (Continued on Page Four)

Regulatory Signs

Traffic commission has recommended the following regulatory signs be posted: One-hour parking on the west side of Cabrillo Ave., between Sartori and Cravens Avenues, and two-hour parking on Gramercy Ave. between Border Ave. and Carson St.

Open House Heralds Third Anniversary

Ultra modern is the word for Torrance's newest building addition.

Ultra modern is the word for Paul's Chevrolet showroom on Cabrillo, Grand opening will be held Saturday afternoon and evening when the famous General Motors Previews of Progress science show will be given in Torrance through the courtesy of Paul Loranger of Paul's Chevrolet.

Stage demonstrations will be featured in the rear with special preparations for the showing of the movie "Soap Box Derby," which will be given after the 7:30 program.

Ewalt Will Head Lions

Albert Ewalt was the sole nominee for president of Torrance Lions Club for the year to start July 1, 1950, as the Lions held a closed meeting for the purpose of selecting candidates for next year's slate of officers in the Woman's clubhouse Tuesday noon. Ewalt's nomination is tantamount to election, since there can be no further nominations, it was said.

Paul Diamond will be first vice president, there being no other nominations for that office. Ewalt is first vice president and Diamond second vice president, this year. Dr. Don C. Moshos is retiring president of the club.

Nominated for the office of second vice president are L. Milton Isbell, John Ott and F. S. Selover. Fred Boren is sole nominee for secretary and Ken Olson for treasurer. Lowell Spring is unopposed for Tail Twister, and Warren Hamilton for Lion Tamer.

Candidates for director, with two officers to be elected, are: C. B. Walls, Roy Peterson, Henry Berkowitz and Merlin R. Cook.

The election will be held on June 6, with installation at a dinner date later that month.

The nominating committee consisted of Dr. Rollin R. Smith, Albert Isen and W. B. Hickcox, all past presidents of the club.

Protests Overruled As Land Purchase Nears

Threats of a lawsuit to prevent the city from using land adjacent to home for dump purposes were voiced Tuesday night as the City Council virtually ignored petitions protesting the expansion of the cut and fill area at Plaza del Amo, from Western avenue to Border avenue. The Council decided to meet again to discuss financing the purchase of 10 acres at Border and Plaza del Amo, right across the street from modern homes, for purposes of the dump, while admitting that only two and one-half acres containing the old brick pit are essential to the city.

Parking Authority Is Named

The City of Torrance now has a parking authority, to work out the complex problem of automobile parking in the central business area of Torrance.

Chairman is Police Chief John Stroh, and assisting is Councilman Nick Dralle.

The authority will recommend to the City Council steps to be taken to solve the parking problem, studying the availability of vacant land for permanent parking, the prospect of building a structure to house cars, and other phases of the situation.

As parking areas become more scarce, the business district expansion trend will be toward outlying sections, and parking meters which have been considered as a "solution" will add to that move, it was said by interested observers at the Council meeting Tuesday night.

Contract Inquiries Answered

At the request of several readers, the Press has viewed the minutes of the Board of Education meetings to determine the contractual status of Superintendent of Schools J. H. Hull, and presents the following record:

Hull was hired on April 1, 1947, at \$10,000 per year, with \$40 per month automobile allowance. His contract was for four years (provided by law) to run until July 1, 1951.

On February 3, 1948, upon unification of the school district, the contract was extended at the same salary, for four years, from July 1, 1948 to July 1, 1952.

On May 3, 1949, he asked and got a salary raise to \$10,800 a year, effective July 1, 1949, and the contract otherwise remained the same.

On May 3, 1950, Hull asked for a raise to \$11,000 per year, and got it, over the protests of Carl Steele and Judge John Shidler, board members, after Hull assured the board that the raise would not alter the effective dates in his contract.

In some districts, it is pointed out, superintendents have been known to perpetuate themselves in office for as long as 20 years by altering the contract every few years and making necessary its renewal for four years. Steele said he is going to guard against that in Torrance.

PRESS SPOTLIGHT By ALEX WHITE



DELBERT VAUGHN

Life started for Delbert Vaughn on a farm in Hopkins County near Commerce, Texas. He first attended school in a rural school house near Branon, Texas, and continued there through the eleventh grade but completed high school in the sub-college of East Texas State Teachers. His education was continued at East Texas State Teachers College, where he was awarded teacher's credentials. It is an interesting sidelight on Vaughn's character to note that his college education was made possible through his own earnings. The first years of his adult life were spent in the teaching profession, starting in a rural, one-room school in Franklin County. He was able to advance to teaching the sixth and seventh grades at Miller Grove, after having taken a summer course which enabled him to secure a higher teaching certificate. At about that time in his life, he took and passed a Civil Service examination which won for him an appointment as an employee in the Dallas post office. While spending thirteen years there he worked as a clerk and also as a letter carrier. It was in the fall of 1942 that Vaughn requested and received a leave of absence to enlist in the U. S. Navy and during his tour of duty was assigned to the mail service and saw service in all parts of the Pacific. After returning to the mainland from 27 months overseas service, he was stationed at Terminal Island as chief in (Continued on Page Four)

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