



**REALLY SUPER**—Shown above is Mrs. Robert Ernst of Kettler Knolls shopping in the new self-service meat department of Roth's market. Busy housewives are discovering the new meat department hours quite convenient, especially the evenings and also all day Sunday. Butchers are on duty at all times for the convenience of meat lovers who prefer special cuts and other additional services. Self-service meats are becoming more and more popular in Southern Calif. as evidenced by their appearance in the newest markets built by the large chains. —Press Photo

## Rent Decontrol Effective Here

Disagreement over the question of whether or not rents in Torrance were decontrolled by the housing expediter when he removed controls from the City of Los Angeles on Dec. 21 was settled this week as the Press secured definite confirmation from U.S. Senator William F. Knowland and Rep. Cecil R. King that the decontrol order is effective here.

## AZUSA ROCK GIVES CEMENT FOR 'Y. W.'

The YWCA building got closer to realization this week as the Azusa Sand and Gravel Company donated about one-half of the needed ready mix cement for the planned construction, according to Mayor Bob Haggard. The site for the building is to be east of the County Health Center on Carson st. in Torrance.

Sam Levy, YWCA building chairman, said that the committee now has \$12,000 of the \$15,000 needed for the structure. "Construction will begin as soon as we can get steel for the foundation," said Levy.

He also announced that donation of building materials as well as time and labor will be welcomed and appreciated by the committee.

Any one wishing to contribute gifts of building materials needed for the construction or time and labor, which will be needed when the construction begins may do so by contacting Mayor Bob Haggard at Torrance 664.

### BACK AGAIN

## Card Sharks Caught, Fined \$50 a Piece

Apprehended by Detectives, Capt. Ernest Ashton and Percy Bennett, Friday morning were two of the three card sharks who swindled a Columbia steel worker out of a \$120 pay check two weeks ago in a game of Three Card Monte.

Sam Siegel and Franklin Young were discovered at 7:50 a. m. last Friday morning near the South Steel Co. gate, trying to entice steel workers coming off the night shift into a game of Three Card Monte when they were apprehended by Detectives Ashton and Bennett of the Torrance Police Department.

Siegel and Young were fined \$50 each under Section 330 of the Penal Code.

## Mrs. Conner Announces Local Chairman For Dimes Campaign

Mrs. Clara Conner, Torrance postmaster and recently appointed chairman of the March of Dimes campaign in Torrance, announced chairman appointments this week. Kickoff of the campaign, according to Mrs. Conner will be January 15, 1951.

The new chairmen are Charlton A. Mewhorn, vice chairman; George W. Post of the Torrance National Bank, treasurer; Marvin Miller of the Bank of America, operations division chairman; Bob Leech, promotions chairman; Lucille Stroh, women's division

## 2105 HOMES BEGUN HERE DURING '50

During the last year permits for 2,105 homes were issued in Torrance, totaling \$13,757,132. The single unit home building permits issued during the year of 1949 totalled 838 permits worth \$4,881,690, according to Walter C. Bradford, city hall senior clerk.

Permits issued during the year of 1950 soared to one of the all-time highs of \$16,000,673, \$8,703,768 more than last year's total of \$7,703,768.

Permits totalled \$3,744,433 during December, 1950, as compared with \$519,355 issued during December, 1949. Permits for 443 single dwelling units worth \$3,435 were issued last month. Five builders during December took out permits for a total of 423 new homes and 115 garages.

Torrance Gardens Inc. received permission to build 295 homes and 171 garages for a valuation of \$2,414,700. The new tract is located at Crenshaw and Torrance blvds.

Haven Development Co. is planning to build 45 houses and 12 garages valued at \$379,800. James N. Starbird and Associates were granted \$475,096 in permits for 19 homes and 11 garages to be built near Crenshaw and Redondo Beach blvds.

K. Sande Senness took out 19 home and 13 garage permits for a total value of \$154,000 to build on the Pacific Hills tract in South Torrance.

Alondra Gardens Inc. was granted 45 home and 8 garage permits for a valuation of \$338,900 to build in North Torrance near Redondo Beach and Crenshaw blvds.

## Piggies May Have To Go

It looks like hog ranches are on the way out in Torrance. The planning commission has urged the limiting of the operation of hog ranches to a maximum of 10 years, according to E. A. Lloyd, secretary.

The commission has asked the council to adopt an ordinance which would set an arbitrary date beyond which piggeries could not be maintained here.

The commission's recommendation was made after being informed that the county board of supervisors was planning to do away with hog ranches in unincorporated areas within the next 10 years.

Several hog ranches are maintained here, mostly in the northern portion of the city. Some have been the targets of complaints by householders as residential areas are developed in their vicinity.

## Rubber Plants Here In Full Production

With approximately 1250 now employed in the Torrance, synthetic rubber plants, spokesmen of the Shell Chemical, Dow Chemical and Minnesota Mining and Pacific Rubber Co. report this week that all three plants are now at full capacity operation.

C. P. Burnett, personnel manager of the Shell Chemical Co. said that about 350 persons are now employed at this synthetic rubber plant. Shell, which produces butadiene, one of the components of synthetic rubber, was re-opened for production September 1, 1950.

## Narbonne Ave. Now Re-Zoned For Business

Narbonne avenue between Sepulveda blvd. and the southerly city limits was approved by the City Council Dec. 26 for business use.

The change, recommended by the planning commission, brings the stretch into conformity with the use in Lomita. Several business places already are located on the frontage here. Its previous zoning was for light agriculture.

The change was the only one in consideration of the entire area bounded by Crenshaw and Sepulveda blvds. and the city limits.

## School District Receives Funds For Recreation

The Torrance Unified School District will receive \$1,258.46 from the city as their share of funds received from the Los Angeles County under the Community Recreation Agreement, according to Council action Dec. 26.

The Council also appointed Larry R. Fox and Bobby G. Franklin to service their probationary period as laborers, effective Dec. 12, 1950. Having successfully passed their Civil Service examination, their compensation will be at a rate, set as the first step for that position.

Also successfully passing the Civil Service examination, Paul W. Hughes was employed as a mechanic to serve his probationary period, effective Dec. 12, 1950. His is at a rate set as the first step for the position.

## Laughon Memorial Fund to Buy New Type Incubator

A memorial fund in the memory of Dr. William I. Laughon, well known Torrance physician who passed away last week has been started by many of his friends and patients.

A special new type incubator costing between \$800 and \$900 for the use of patients at the Torrance Memorial Hospital will be bought with the money received, according to Mrs. B. T. Whitney.

Those who wish to contribute to the fund may do so by contacting Mrs. A. E. Ewalt, 1622 W. 215th st., Torrance.

## Hall Resigns; Leaves Vacancy On Commission

At its Dec. 26 meeting the City Council received and accepted the resignation of James M. Hall as a member of the Torrance Planning Commission.

Hall was recently appointed City Attorney to fill the job left vacant by the death of City Attorney C. Douglas Smith.

The Council decided to discuss the appointment of another member to the Planning Commission at its next agenda meeting.

## SLAB SCHOOL BUILDING IS ORDERED

Torrance will be one of the first school districts of California to build a pre-cast concrete slab building, as a result of action by the Board of Education Tuesday night.

The Board awarded the architectural contract for the Madrona school, at El Dorado and Madrona avenues, to G. F. Schreiber, J. L. Peterson with instructions that the building be designed of the new slab type construction.

The building will take only about half the time required to build a conventional school plant, and it will cost about \$92,000, it was estimated. Construction will require about three months time, it was said.

The plant will be of eight classrooms and administrative offices.

Daniel, Mann and Johnson, architects for the new Riviera school and the new high school plant told the Board they estimated construction would be completed on the Riviera school in February, 1952, and for the high school, spring, 1952.

## \$1,260 Worth Of Skill Saws Missing

Nine skill saws worth \$1,260 were discovered missing 8:30 a. m. Dec. 27 from the Community Airports Housing project at 4100 block Redondo Beach blvd., according to police reports.

Charles Jess, one of the owners of the project, reported the missing skill saws worth \$140 each.

Detectives, Capt. Ernest Ashton and Percy Bennett of the Torrance Police Department reported that someone had pried the boards off the back of the tool box sometime during the night. They are investigating the matter.

## New Car for Police Dept.

The Police Department is getting a new 1951 Ford, Special Deluxe car for its use.

The City Council Dec. 26 approved the recommendation of Police Chief John Stroh for the purchase of the car. City Manager George Stevens reported that bids for the police car, opened at the agenda meeting, had been given to the Chief of Police for his recommendation.

## 3 Local Youths Win Place On All SC Band

Three Torrance youths have won a place in the All Southern California High School Band.

They are Penochio Popovich, 16 years, of 2067 Carson st., Torrance; Sherlock Holmes, 16 years, corner of Hickory and Sonoma streets, Torrance; and Ross Sclarotta, 18 years, 1630 Beech ave., Torrance.

These youths were among the many southern California students who tried out for the place on the All Southern California School Band Dec. 9 at the University of Southern California.

## Benner Move Meets Delay

Examinations for the position of fire chief of the City of Torrance, chairman, told the Press this week after City Manager George W. Stevens had recommended to the City Council that Acting Chief Jake Benner be given the full status of chief.

It was declared that there are other men qualified for the position of fire chief, and that the Civil Service Board is on record as asking an examination.

The City Council declined last week to appoint Benner as fire chief, after such appointment had been recommended by Stevens.

Benner has served on the fire department for 20 years. He had been a captain for eight years.

Following the death of Fire Chief John McMaster in January the senior captain, J. R. Winters, was appointed acting chief. Captain Winters had been injured in line of duty fighting a fire at the General Petroleum plant months prior to this, and after two days on the job, he asked to be relieved due to the injury.

Winters was restored to limited duty as a captain until his condition would permit taking the examination for fire chief, and Captain Benner was named acting chief, on January 18. Captain Winters has been on the department for more than 25 years and captain for more than

(Continued on Page Two)

## Water Tank Work Slated For Next Month

Slated to begin next month is construction of the 100,000 gallon water tank by California Water Service to serve the Hollywood Riviera area following approval of a variance by the City Council Dec. 26.

A. E. Lloyd, secretary of the Planning Commission explained to the Council that a hearing was held on the matter, at which no protests appeared. The California Water Service has agreed to beautify the area concerned.



DO THEY FIT?—wonders Pfc. Richard Gazeley of 22540 So. Vermont ave., Torrance as he tries on a pair of "G.I." trousers in the supply room of Company A, 578th Engineer Combat Battalion. The former Torrance National Guard unit is in training with the Southland's 40th Infantry Division at Camp Cooke. Supply Sergeant Raymond Paxton of Los Angeles, checks records to get Gazeley's correct size.

Section 34.66  
F.L.A.R.  
U. S. Postage  
Paid  
Torrance,  
Calif.  
Permit 17