

# ENGINEER OUSTER RUMORED

## J. Joseph Council's Fall Man

There seemed to be an easiness among members of the City Council at the regular meeting held this week. Perhaps it was the fact that four of the five municipal legislators will be faced with hiring a new city engineer after Dec. 1.

During the meeting, while the Council took a five minute recess - private caucus, Jacob Joseph, the present city engineer, told some of his friends: "I'm retiring Nov. 30 and returning to New York."

Nov. 30 is the day that Joseph's contract as engineer ends. It is rumored that Mayor Bob Haggard, Harvey Spielman, Willys Blount and Ed Karlow will not renew Joseph's contract.

One city official who requested that his name not be mentioned said: "Our elected representatives have been making too many mistakes, and they are looking for a scapegoat. Joseph hasn't been here very long. Since they are faced with an election next April, at least two of the four members must find someone, it is believed, to take the rap for the maintenance of oil sumps, gravel pits, the rat-infested city dump and other nuisances which local residents detest.

"Someone also must take the rap for preventing housing expansion such as the 129-home tract that the January Company is attempting to develop.

"Someone must give an answer as to why some parts of Torrance have no water. Certainly skilled commercial workers will be unhappy that the Council continues to back up the Planning Commission in keeping Truman Browne's commercial development bottled up in a committee." Browne had asked for a zoning change to build an area of stores near his new tract.

"Since there are no answers that the Council can give to the voters, this official reasons, a scapegoat must be found. Apparently Joseph will take the rap for these mistakes."

## Cassidy Dump Closes

Councilman Nick Draie was very much in the limelight at the regular Council meeting this week. He introduced the motion which will close the Cassidy Dump until Sandy Senness obtains a license to operate it. Draie couldn't get a second to permit the January Company to start building the 129-tract homes near Pacific Hills.

Draie also requested city manager George Stevens to give the Council a report on insurance bids. Stevens said that all bids are being reopened in December on all insurance carried by the city of Torrance. This includes comprehensive, fleet, employee bond, airport, and buses.

**SECRET MEETING**  
Evidently, the insurance bids would not have been a public record for some time if Draie had not asked this pointed question.

It seems opening of insurance bids in December was discussed in another of the Council's secret agenda meetings. These meetings are off the record, and the public has no way of finding out what happens in them. The public must wait until the Council gets ready to inform the people.

Other important business at the Council were the following items:

**HIRE ENGINEER**  
James N. Montgomery, Pasadena consulting engineer was hired to supervise the water construction if the water bond issue passes. The Council voted 4-1 to allocate \$1000 for Christmas parties sponsored by the recreation department. Bob Haggard opposed spending this money.

Fire Chief J. J. Benner, having served his probationary period was permanently appointed to the position as Chief.

City Manager Stevens was given permission to communicate with U. S. government for a special census in Torrance. The city has grown so fast that the 1950 census is inaccurate. Stevens pointed out that the census would give Torrance a more equal share of the various tax revenues which California passes out to the State's cities.

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## City Bus Operation Deficit Reduced

### Who's Wrong?

### Either Figures Lie, Or Bus Tally is Off!

One of the most perplexing reports showing the amount of money made by Torrance's Municipal bus line for September is on file at the City Hall.

Although the bus system carried 4,568 less passengers during September, as compared with July, the city's transportation cost \$1,142.81 less to operate.

This isn't the only puzzling factor. The net gain for the Los Angeles-Torrance line decreased to \$886.14 for September. During July, this run had made a net gain of \$1,751.50.

#### PUZZLING PHENOMENA

An even more puzzling phenomena are the figures on the Long Beach-El Nido run. During each month, July and September, the exact number of passengers were carried. The number was 15,905. The bus system lost \$786.64 during July on this run. Yet in September with the same number of passengers, the line lost \$1,116.32. The September loss is \$329.68 more as that compared with July.

There was a reversal on the El Camino-Kettler Knolls run. Less money was lost in September as compared with July. In July the line lost \$940.58. During September the loss was only \$673.79. The loss decrease was \$266.79.

#### RIVIERA RUN

The Waverly-Hollywood Riviera run also lost less money during September as compared with July. In July the line went in the hole to the tune of \$750.13. This amount was shaved to \$673.79 for September, making a decrease of \$76.34.

The statistical report on the municipal bus line on file at the City Hall for September showed that the bus system fell short \$734.44 from breaking even during the month. During July, the line had lost \$1,877.25. During September, four bus lines carried 65,094 passengers as compared with 69,652 in July.

(Continued on Page Eight)

### "Y" Gets Free Milk, Cream From Mayfair

The Mayfair Creamery is again donating all the milk and cream for the annual Torrance YMCA fund-raising breakfast and open house this Saturday. All fund-raisers at the breakfast are due to test the creamery slogan of "Mayfair Milk, It's Good."

In addition to supplying the many gallons of milk and cream for the breakfast from their new plant at 20301 Western avenue, the Mayfair Creamery is contributing heavy support to the local YMCA fund drive. All drivers, salesmen, as well as plant personnel who can be spared, are planning to attend the breakfast. Enthusiasm is high among all personnel.

Earl Brunner and John McVelle, executives of the Mayfair Creamery, state that the YMCA activities affect every Torrance citizen. As active supporters, they urge all their employees as well as all citizens to help raise money for the YMCA now, so that everyone can continue to enjoy YMCA activities during the next year.

### Meets Tuesday

The Board of Education meets next Tuesday at 8 p.m. Among past business which may come up, the following items are included:  
1. When will the \$3,000,000 school bond issue be announced to the public?  
2. What is the latest on the hiring of a bus supervisor?  
3. Will the Board approve the rehiring of Superintendent of Schools J. H. Hull for another contract?  
These are only a few of the items that may come up.

### Postal Annex Ready

Beginning tomorrow, Torrance's U. S. post office moves into its new 2200 square foot annex, Clara Conner, postmaster, announced today.

Mrs. Conner said that construction men have been on the job for the past ninety days.

"Even with this space," said the postmaster, "we have a great shortage of space. We're supposed to house 22 carriers in the annex. I don't know if they'll fit it.

Miss Conner pointed out that she has been looking around for a building that the post office can rent for incoming and outgoing mail during the 30-day Christmas rush.

"So far, we haven't been able to find one," she said.

Bark and Bark were the building contractors for Dr. Ingrid, optometrist, who owns the postal building.

Flooring for the annex was put in by the Smith Floor Covering Company, 1268 Sartori. The company finished the job today.

### Police Show Clears \$1500

While officers couldn't claim that the Police Show was packed to the rafters last Saturday night, they could be proud of the amount of money collected on the sale of tickets and advertising.

It is estimated that the group will clear \$1500. All of this money will go for financing taps and other youth activities in Torrance.

Captain W. H. Haslam said that the show made \$1700 last year.

For the first show the house was nearly full. The nine o'clock show had a partially full house.

"We sold a lot of tickets to industry, this year," said Haslam, "and the sale to individuals was not as heavy. Industry bought tickets, but didn't pass them out. It turned out okay in the long run."

### Dedication

The YWCA's building dedication is scheduled for Sunday at 3 p.m., it was announced today.

The ranch style structure is located on a site southeast of Plaza del Amo and Carson St. Construction was begun last Spring.

### New Arrival For Marklands

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Markland are the proud parents of a baby boy. The infant, named William George, was born Tuesday, November 13. The baby has one brother, Bobby, 4. Markland is the manager of McMahan's Torrance store.

### Army to Cook 'Y' Meal

Flapjacks will be cooked on nine U. S. Army ranges in front of the Civic Auditorium for the YMCA Breakfast this Saturday, Robert I. Plomert, chairman for the breakfast committee announced today.

Jim Lawson, radio emcee, has been selected as master of ceremonies for the occasion.

The breakfast will start at 6:30 in the morning and end at 11:30 a.m.

The kid selling the most tickets will receive a free camp trip to Camp Round Meadow in San Bernardino for one week.

Donations of \$1.00 for adults and \$0.50 for youngsters have been established for the breakfast.

Six women have been nominated as Good Neighbors will be introduced at 10:30 a.m. They are Mrs. Margaret Webb, 1003 Cota avenue; Mrs. Vera Wright, 1832 Roslin avenue; Mrs. Elizabeth Leeds, 2363 Maricopa place; Mrs. Margaret O'Toole, 1225 Madrid; Mrs. Bessie Putman, 1008 Cota avenue, and Mrs. Charles E. Ward, 1625 Beach.

### CAPT. BOWERS

Captain C. E. Bowers, Food Service Supervisor at Fort MacArthur, will be in charge of the nine Army cooking team.

Assisting Bowers will be Sgt. Forrest Brown and Corp. Ray Taylor.

The Food Service Group will be getting experience in serving food to people on the street in the same manner as they would have to during disaster.

For the cooks, the breakfast will be practice under disaster conditions. For Torrance, it will be a means of obtaining additional funds for the YMCA Building Program.

Rev. Cecil J. England of the First Christian Church, is in charge of the invocations at the breakfast. He said there will be a prayer every hour.

### REV. ENGLAND

Rev. England will conduct the invocation at 7 a.m. At eight, Rev. Arthur Bello, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, will be in charge.

At nine, the Rev. Russell J. Killman, First Baptist Church, will lead the invocation.

A ten, H. H. Miller, Central Evangelical Church, is in charge.

At eleven, Clarence Miller, of the First Baptist Church, will be in charge.

## REGISTER TODAY OR YOU CAN'T VOTE ON WATER

If you don't register today, you can't vote for the important water bond issue. The industrial life of Torrance depends on your vote, city officials pointed out. Today is the absolute deadline.

Here are the places where you may go to register, according to A. H. Bartlett, city clerk for Torrance.

- WHERE TO REGISTER**
- J. A. Beasley, 2032 Neece Ave. FR. 5-2066.
  - Willys Blount, 17036 Wilkie, ME 4-1262.
  - Lynetta Bowman, 311 Calle de Andulucia, FR 5-2919.
  - Maude Deininger, 1511 Cravens Ave., Tor 627.
  - Catherine Garner, 803 Amopola Ave., Tor 834.
  - Evelyn Glick, 3226 W. 188th street.
  - Dorothy D. Johnson, 2337 Doris Way, FR 5-1839.
  - Wm. A. Mason, 204 Via La Ciruela, FR 5-2692.
  - Henry L. Powell, 24260 Ocean Ave., FR. 5-3235.



KEEPING THEIR FIGHTING TRIM—It's easy to lose your "eye", soldiers of the South Bay's 578th Engineer Battalion have learned, so part of their training is frequent practice on the rifle range. Men of Company A, former Torrance National Guard organization (above) take their turn on the firing line at Camp Matsushima, Japan. They are (left to right) Sgt. Willard Specht, 1920 Plaza Del Amo, Torrance; Cpl. Jim Spratt, 1572 W. 215th St., Torrance; SFC Hollis Rhine, 238 Ave. "A", Redondo Beach; and Cpl. John Doran, 25342 Marigold Ave., Harbor City. Standing in rear is M/Sgt. Edmund W. Fitzgerald, 810 N. Maria Ave., Redondo Beach.

### 55 Homes Planned

More business will be booming in Torrance within the near future. This week the Berman-Garber Construction firm disclosed that they will break ground for 55 homes within three weeks at Redondo Beach Blvd. and Prairie avenue.

Harry Berman a member of the firm, located at 450 N. Beverly Dr., in Beverly Hills, said that the homes will qualify for veterans loans.

Average price will be around \$11,000, it was disclosed. Of the 55 homes, seven will be equipped with fireplaces. All of them are three bedroom structures and are 1100 square feet in area.

### Classified Ads In Press Sell Auto 10 Times

Classified ads in the Torrance Press really find buyers. Just ask William Bowman, 1226 Madrid.

Bowman placed an advertisement in the classified section to sell a Ford coupe.

"I sold the car from the ad and had 10 other calls," Bowman declared jubilantly.

The three line classified ad in the Press which did the trick, read: '59 FORD Coupe in good running condition, \$95 cash. Tor. 1197-W. 1126 Madrid Ave.

(SEE PHOTO, PAGE 9)

### Police Ponder-- Where Do You Draw the Line?

The world has really become small as far as Torrance is concerned. An auto accident occurred at Redondo Beach boulevard and Arlington boulevard. Technically it was in Gardena's jurisdiction, according to Torrance police.

A check with Gardena showed that the accident was in that city's jurisdiction by only a hair.

Here is what happened: Andrew Russo, 32, 13616 Kornblum, Hawthorne, was traveling south on Van Ness. He made a stop, according to Gardena police records. Then he proceeded to cross the street. He collided with a car driven by Wm. Farr Marx, 33, 5135 Pierce, Long Beach, who was going east on Redondo Beach boulevard.

If Russo had been traveling north on Van Ness and made a stop on the south side, the accident would have been in Torrance jurisdiction.

### Chief Stroh Disappears

Where's Police Chief John Stroh? He wasn't in his office on Tuesday. No one seemed to know exactly where he had gone.

"He deserves a couple of days off," said City Manager George Stevens. "I really don't know where he went. There's a rumor he's spending it on the desert."

Stevens said the Police Chief just disappeared, but he'll probably show up soon.

### Train Kills Man from Waveria

A resident from Waveria, John R. Cooper, was killed in a crash of two streamliners near Evanston, Wyoming, according to word received today.

Cooper, 31 years of age, lived at 3216 Winlock drive, Pacific Hills.

He left Los Angeles Sunday aboard the Union Pacific's City of Los Angeles to begin a recruitment tour of eastern cities for the North American Aviation Company.

He had been an engineer for the firm since 1938.

Cooper is survived by his widow, Luella Sue; sons, Dennis, 3, and John, 4 1/2.

The family moved here from South Gate last year. Cooper's body is to be returned here for burial, it was indicated.

Also reported to be on the train is Dorothy Mora, whose father works for Columbia Steel. She is in the Armed Forces and lives in Pueblo. No word has been received whether she survived the wreck.

### Police Recover Misplaced Auto

If you've ever misplaced your auto in a populated area, this item ought to have a warm place in your heart. Charles D. Fowers, 3228 W. 188th St., recovered his car last week in Long Beach due to alert police officers.

## STARS AND STRIPES FOREVER? FLAG DISAPPEARS; PLANNERS START STORMY MEETING WITHOUT SALUTING!

An embarrassed Planning Commission had to open its meeting last Wednesday without saluting the flag.

"We will now rise to salute the flag," declared Chairman Beverly Smith.

He looked around and couldn't find it.

From then on the Commission took up matters of a rather stormy nature.

Truman Browne, subdivider, who is at odds with the city over water for his 150-home tract on Sepulveda, west of Hawthorne, had another reason to gripe. His petition for a change of zone from A-1 (light agricultural) to C-1 (retail commercial) on Lot 49, Tract 17371, the southeast

corner of Sepulveda and Reynolds, was referred to committee.

**PLANNERS DISAPPROVE**  
The Planning Commission as a whole did not approve of the large area Browne wanted for commercial purposes. However, a committee of H. B. Bolas, R. J. Deininger, and Earl Lloyd will make a further check of the area.

Browne wanted to build a supermarket, but his plans will now be held up. He must present a new sketch before the Commission will even consider a variance.

The Commission also held up the development of 129 homes to be built by the January Company at Pacific Coast Highway,

west of Crenshaw on part of the old Weston ranch. Bill Tolson, Board of Education member, is salesman for this project. The Commission referred this development to a committee of R. S. Whitcomb, A. K. Hill and W. A. Felker.

Projects approved included the petition of a Roman Catholic church for a variance and conditional permit for construction of an elementary parochial school in connection with St. Catherine Labouré Parish, 3846 Redondo Beach boulevard, on the east six acres, Lot 24, McDonald Tract. The front 150 feet are zoned C-2, the remainder R-1.

The petition was presented by Rev. Tepe. Also approved was W. Ver-

burg's request for a variance and conditional permit to add a sales room on the front of existing buildings, for continuing sale of certain foods.

The property, 15158 Crenshaw boulevard, is zoned R-2 and A-1. Bolas, broker for Richard Miller, took a seat in the Council Chamber audience when Miller presented the Commission a sketch of proposed apartment buildings on Dominguez and Madrid. He said it may be necessary to file a request for a setback variance. The information was merely for the information of the Commission, according to Miller.

The apartments are a Bolas-Hart-Miller venture, it was revealed.