

CITY TAX RATE UP 1/2¢

Rumor Closing of IDECO Plant Here

REPORT BIDS ACCEPTED ON BIG FACTORY

The International Derrick and Equipment Company plant located at 2410 Carson St., is rumored to be for sale this week.

According to unofficial reports from sources close to the local firm, bids on the facility have been accepted from such firms as National Supply Co. and other Torrance industries.

Reports indicate that IDECO is selling the plant because it is no longer large enough to house their expanded equipment and production.

J. J. Rosecky, head of the plant, declined to comment on the possible closing of the factory. He did not, however, deny that the plant was for sale, and stated that an official announcement would be made shortly.

It is unknown yet whether the company will seek larger facilities in Torrance or move the entire operation into a new locality. The company has headquarters in the east and branch plants throughout the nation.

10 PRECINCTS SET UP FOR ANNEXATION

Final reports and endorsement of the annexation to the Metropolitan Water District were given by the Water Fact Finding Committee of the Keystone, Carson and Dominguez area at a dinner meeting held last night at the Lone Pine Inn.

Chairman of the committee James G. Caldwell, Robert Austin, representative of the West Basin Water District on the MWD Board, Warren Butler, vice-president of the MWD, and Carl Fossett, executive secretary of the West Basin District, were on hand to answer questions and present facts, according to Lloyd Desmond, an official of the sponsoring Carson Chamber of Commerce.

Balloting on the annexation is slated for Sept. 23. Ten consolidated precincts have been set up. Polling places for the ten precincts are as follows: 20708 Shearer Ave., North Keystone; 22013 Embassy, Lincoln Village; 2506 Madison Ave., Dominguez; 311 W. 65th St., Gardena; 1026 W. 7th St., San Pedro; 23-31 Ronan Ave., Avalon Village; 23109 Catskill Ave., Avalon Village; 20416 Normandie, Keystone; 21730 S. Figueroa Ave., Keystone; and the Women's Clubhouse at 127 E. 220th St., in the Carson area.

ECC Schedule

Schedule of classes for the fall semester at El Camino College are now available according to college officials.

Registration at the tuition-free college will begin September 15. Schedules may be obtained by calling MEEno 4-6631 or Plymouth 8-1421.



ON THE AIR—Guesting on Jim Lawson's (right) radio show, "Thinking Out Loud," last week was Paul Loranger (left), who outlined to the radio audience the achievements and objectives of the Ballot Battalion.

L. A. Police Find Stolen Torrance Car

Los Angeles Police this week recovered an automobile stolen from downtown Torrance in broad daylight on Monday, Aug. 18.

The auto, owned by Bob L. Haggard, was parked across from Haggard's office at the time that it was taken.

On the same day that it was stolen, the car, a gray Chevrolet, was seen fleeing the scene of a hit-and-run collision, at the corner of Slauson and Western Avenues in Los Angeles. Witnesses to the accident recorded the license number of the vehicle, and Haggard appeared in a Los Angeles court to explain that the car had been stolen prior to the collision.

The car was found Sunday abandoned in a parking lot on 68th St., Haggard disclosed.

Local Angler Wins Annual Fish Derby

Albert Coast, grocery store manager, of 2223 Andree, this week was named winner of the San Diego Yellowtail Derby with a 24-pound 9-ounce fish and will receive as first prize a 1952 automobile.

James F. Curtis, Iowa University professor who won the derby qualifying competition, failed to land a yellowtail in the two-day fishoff. But he gets an all-expense trip to Acapulco, Mex., for winning the qualifying.

Top woman angler among the contestants in the fishoff was Ann Andrews of San Diego, who finished 20th with a 14-pound 8-ounce catch.

Coast caught his fish Saturday as did all of the top five winners. Second prize went to Walt Johnson of National City with a 24-pound 8-ounce fish.

It was the 10th annual derby to be sponsored by the San Diego Junior Chamber of Commerce.



The Largest Circulation Newspaper in Torrance and Lomita

VOLUME IV

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Member of the controlled circulation newspapers of America.
60,000 READERS
Phone Torrance 1185

It Hasn't Happened Yet, But ... ?

Aid 1000 Bomb Disaster Victims

(Editor's Note: American cities have never yet been seriously menaced by enemy fire—but it could happen. It could happen, and perhaps it will. Realizing this, the local unit of the Red Cross and the Torrance Civil Defense Sector are now holding emergency disaster relief trial runs to test the efficiency of our relief facilities. The article that follows has happened only on paper, but it may someday be necessary for these activities to become a reality.)

7:45 P.M., Monday, August 25th. Call from Los Angeles Red Cross Headquarters to George Stevens, Torrance Civil Defense Director, that an atom bomb had been dropped in central Los Angeles. Dispersal of 200,000 persons necessary.

One thousand disaster victims who could be moved were sent to Torrance by bus to be sheltered, fed and cared for for 24 hours. Some in need of clothing.

Geo. Powell, assistant Director of Civil defense, and Ralph Jones, Disaster chairman of Civil defense and Red Cross, reported that two shelters had been opened by Shelter chairman Albert Posner; one at Civic Auditorium and the other at Torrance High school. These shelters easily accommodated the 1000 persons.

One thousand coats were procured from Ft. McArthur through the Los Angeles Red Cross; also 700 blankets. Mr. Chamberlain of transportation sent trucks for part of them and balance was sent by army trucks. Sam Levy furnished necessary clothing.

Police chief John Stroh notified all policemen to stand by for emergency. Willard Haslem in charge of Auxiliary police sent squad to meet busses conveying

Stores Close For Labor Day Holiday

The Torrance Press will join almost all retail stores and local factories in closing next Monday, Sept. 1st, to observe Labor Day.

Celebrated the first Monday in September each year, this holiday traditionally warns youngsters that summer is rapidly drawing to a close, and school is just around the next corner.

Police Chief John Stroh issued a statement warning that accidents are high over a three-day holiday, and asking all citizens to be extra careful, both when driving and walking.

He stated that his force will be out in full in an effort to keep the city's accident death rate from going up.

Democrats to Meet Sunday

Torrance Democrats, Inc., will hold an organizational meeting this Sunday at 2 p.m., at the bandshell in Torrance Park, according to Nick Draie, president of the Democratic group.

Plans will be made for support of Democratic candidates in both local and national elections, Draie stated.

All Democrats are invited to attend the meeting, he said.

Council Vetoes Chamber Plea For More \$\$

Request of the Retail Merchants Division of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce for \$2,500 for Christmas decorations was turned down by the City Council Tuesday night.

In past years, the merchants have financed the decorations, and the city has contributed labor to erect the trimmings and electric power to illuminate them.

In denying the request, the Council stated that the budget would not allow this expenditure. However, it was agreed that the city would, as in the past, contribute the labor and electricity.

The Chamber's request for an additional \$2,500 for city advertising was also turned down by the city fathers. The Chamber gets an annual appropriation of \$5,000 to promote the city. This year they asked additional money to put on a high-powered campaign to entice more industry and business into this city, according to a statement by Dale Isenberg, executive secretary of the Chamber.

Chamber Begins Business Survey In Carson Area

KEYSTONE—A staff of volunteer canvassers last week began work in the Keystone and Carson area on a Carson Chamber of Commerce industry and business survey.

Alex Wysocki, president of the Chamber, disclosed that the workers will make a door-to-door check to gather information to be used in the Chamber's proposed directory of the area.

He said the directory would be mailed out to prospective business and industries in an effort to bring them into that fast-growing area.

The business directory is one of several civic projects that the Chamber will undertake this year, Wysocki stated.



NICK DRAIE will preside over meeting of Torrance Democrats, Inc., next Sunday at 2 p.m. in Torrance Park.

Hint Douglas Will Enlarge Payroll Here

Rumors are abroad this week that Douglas Aircraft is planning to move the bulk of their El Segundo operation into their new plant at 190th St. and Normandie Ave., sometime before the first of the year.

Reports indicate that by January of 1953 there will be nearly 15,000 persons employed in the local plant.

Currently this facility is operating as a sub-assembly plant, producing parts for planes manufactured at the El Segundo installation.

Douglas acquired the 1,000,000 square foot plant early this year when the U. S. Navy condemned it. Previously Columbia-Geneva Steel Corp. owned the factory.

At the time of acquisition, the plant had stood idle for some time and was run-down. In two-and-a-half months, Douglas rehabilitated the plant, and moved the sub-assembly operation into it.

Unofficial reports disclose that if war contracts stopped now, the Torrance plant would be maintained, and the El Segundo plant would either be closed or reduced to low production.

Attention, Shirt Thief

One subscriber to the Torrance Press is firmly convinced that EVERYBODY reads the Press Classifieds.

This week, she was the victim of an apparent theft when six men's shirts disappeared from her car. Even before notifying the police she called the Press and placed the following ad, convinced that this was as likely a way to retrieve the missing goods as any.

Lost, strayed or stolen, 6 men's white shirts. If they don't fit, please return to 1848 Marinette or call 2627-J.

We don't guarantee that this will bring about the return of the shirts, but we do guarantee that in Torrance nearly EVERYBODY reads the Press Classifieds.

To place your ad, call Torrance 1185 and a courteous classified writer will help you in writing an ad that will get real results.

Council Refutes High Tax Hike

The City Council Tuesday night set the municipal tax rate for the 1952-53 year at \$1.12½ per \$100 assessed valuation, knocking .02½¢ off the .03¢ tax hike asked by City Manager George Stevens.

The Council concurred in refuting this high jump, and fixed the more reasonable tax rate, adding the ½¢ to the library fund.

T.U.T. Says Thanks for Low Tax Rate

Al Gianni, chairman of the tax and budget study committee of Torrance Unified Taxpayers, yesterday expressed the gratification of the organization for the fact that the City Council held the 1952-53 municipal tax rate to \$1.12½ per \$100 assessed valuation, an increase of only one-half cent over last year.

"Torrance Unified Taxpayers has been very much interested in the tax rate and city budget," Gianni declared. "In fact, this group was the only organization to come forward and protest the proposed increase in the tax rate on behalf of the smaller taxpayers."

"We have felt right along that no increase whatever is necessary to finance our city budget of \$1,013,973, especially since the assessed valuation of Torrance

(Continued on Page 9)

Sugar 'n Spice Bakery to Open Doors Today

Sugar 'n Spice 'n everything nice will be available this morning when the new Sugar 'n Spice Bakery opens its doors.

Carl Lucas, general manager of the baking company, announced that the new store, located on the Miracle Corner of Torrance and Crenshaw Blvds., will feature a complete line of bakery and confectionary goods.

The bakery, decorated in beautiful pink and blue, is adjacent to the new Jim Dandy Market.

Other Taxes

County tax rate will be set this week, according to the office of the County Assessor. General county tax last year was \$1.6391.

School taxes will also be set this week. Last year school taxes in Torrance totalled \$2,8732. School officials indicate that some increase can be expected here because of the \$2,400,000 bond issue voted here in June.

Wallace Photo

Handicrafts—Finishing up a full summer program of crafts instruction for youngsters at Torrance recreation parks are the four teachers shown above.

Left to right: Mrs. Lynn Shidder prepares frame for hand-tooled copper picture; Erma Carstens puts finishing touches on basket; Marian McDonald adds a touch of color to ceramic figurine, and Crafts Director Miss Cell Sampier oversees the whole procedure.

14 DAYS BEFORE REGISTRATION DEADLINE

BE SURE YOU REGISTER TODAY!

Two Models Shown

Schultz and Peckham Display British Fords

Schultz and Peckham Ford Agency announced this week that two 1952 British Fords, the Zephyr "Six" and the Consul "Four," will be on display in their showrooms.

The Consul, called the modern Model A, is a four cylinder vehicle which delivers up to 40 miles per gallon. The smart new Zephyr Six gets up to 35 miles per gallon.

Both cars feature luxury styling both inside and out. Sleek body lines trimmed with chrome make these imported automobiles truly distinctive.

Luxurious upholstery, wide deep-sprung seats with comfortable arm-rests, and spaciousness mark the interior.

Today's driving is increasingly short haul . . . to school, postoffice, and market. The Consul was designed for these shorter trips, stripped of all useless weight and unnecessary overhang, according to Bob Peckham, sales manager for the local Ford agency.

Both cars are equipped with new-type overhead valve engine. Large bore and short stroke means reduced wear, greater smoothness and longer engine life. Peckham points out.

Built-in fresh-air changing system allows "Spring-air freshness" the year round. Extra roomy trunk offers all the luggage space necessary for weekend or holiday trips.

Eye-appealing dashboard adds to the beauty of the interior of these luxury cars.

Peckham announced that they have only a limited supply of both the Consul and the Zephyr. Both cars are on display at their showrooms at 1420 Cabrillo Ave.

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Wallace Photo

BUSINESS SURVEY—Mrs. Jack Henry (right) kicks off the Carson Chamber of Commerce sponsored business and industry survey of the Keystone and Carson areas. Mrs. Lois Clift, owner of the Lone Pine Inn at Sepulveda Blvd. and Main St., was the first business person contacted as the survey got under way.