

City Planning Court Action on Oil Site

Complaints Will Be Issued Against Owner of Property

A feature story, concerning an oil storage area and unceasing well in a Torrance residential district, which appeared in last Sunday's Press, has encouraged city officials to take some action to see that the rubble strewn area is cleaned up.

City Prosecutor Monty Catterlin Monday reported that he would issue a complaint against the Virmark Oil Co., Pasadena, for failing to comply with city ordinances.

Issue of cleaning up the property had been fought for more than five years by a group of homeowners in the neighborhood led by Mrs. Thomas Meehan, 19916 Saltee Ave.

Mrs. Meehan had contacted city and county officials in an effort aimed at removing the weeds and trash from the site. Property, when it was allowed to deteriorate, became a breeding ground for rats and gophers that infest the neighborhood.

County rodent inspectors came out to inspect the site for the health department, commented learnedly that "something should be done" and then went away again.

City records show that on November 18, 1960, a notice was sent to the oil company asking compliance with city ordinances and, on February 17, when no action was taken by the owner, the issue was referred to the city attorney.

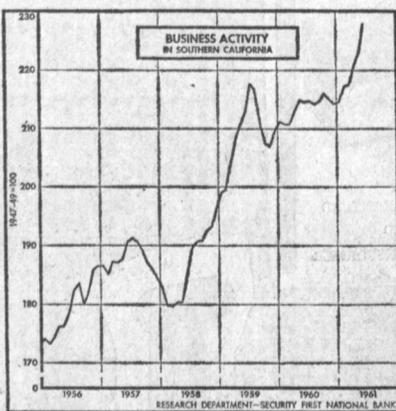
ASK FOR ACTION

On February 22, the city attorney's office turned the case over to the city prosecutor for action and on March 29 the County Health Department belatedly issued a request asking for immediate action.

On May 8, planning department of officials, noting that the owner of the property had ignored all notices suggested that some court action be taken.

City Councilman George Vico, who had surveyed the area even before Mrs. Meehan brought the issue before the council last Tuesday, stated, "This area certainly should be cleaned up. It's a disgrace to the entire neighborhood."

"We recently went through a program of weed abatement and cleanups throughout the city. I certainly can't see how this one was missed, situated as it is in the middle of a residential area."



Business Index Indicates Recovery From Recession

Southern California's business activity for the first six months of 1961 has been marked by a continuous recovery from the recent recession, J. J. Weigel, manager of Security First National Bank's Torrance branch reported today.

In reviewing the year's first half, Weigel pointed out that signs of the business revival in the Southland were apparent as early as January, while recovery in the nation as a whole did not get under way until March.

Forecasts made at 1960's end were that the recession would tend to bottom out during the early months of 1961, with business activity taking a decided upturn at mid-year. Thus far these expectations have been fulfilled, Weigel said.

Security's business index stood at 227.9 (preliminary) in June to establish a new all time high in business activity. This was 13.6 points or 6.3% above the December, 1960 low of 214.3.

Moderately declining trends in employment, motion picture production and distribution, and in petroleum production have been more than offset by solid gains shown by bank debits, manufacturing employment, man-hours

worked in manufacturing, and railroad freight cars handled.

Department store sales have moved erratically, month to month, Security Bank said, but the over-all trend has been upward.

Following a sluggish first quarter, total employment during the second quarter increased steadily in all Southern California areas. Seasonal factors considered, gains in employment were greater than expected in the Los Angeles-Long Beach Metropolitan area, as well as in San Diego and Fresno counties.

Unemployment has been a persistent problem in most Southland areas during 1961, despite improved business conditions generally. Total labor force expanded by 2.5% between last year's end and June, 1961. Since the local economy has been unable to absorb workers at a commensurate rate, higher levels of unemployment have resulted.

Other economic trends, as reported by Security Bank, include the rise of personal income to a record level during the first quarter of 1961. Seasonal factors considered, income estimated to have been at an annual rate of \$28,365,000,000, up nearly one per cent over the fourth quarter of last year.

Contrasts of Berlin Told By Press Correspondent

By ROSS SCIARRATTA
Press Correspondent

A DAY IN BERLIN

Berlin is bursting with enthusiasm. The West Berliners are welcoming 1500 East German refugees per day. July 18 broke the record of the number escaping into West Berlin. On this day 1740 came across. This is an all-time high.

A significant factor in this hustle and bustle is that it is "Kirchen-Tag," which means Lutheran Church Day. This is the tenth such celebration held in Berlin. The bells rang for 10 minutes without any stops. Thousands of people are pouring into West Berlin from all parts of the world. It gives one the impression—because of the hordes of people—that one is standing on Broadway at midnight.

The Communist East German police are doing all possible to stop this influx of East German people into the Western zone, however, the control over this great number is beyond their capabilities.

At one check point 200 Lutherans, coming by train to a village in Eastern Germany, were stopped and their return train tickets were taken away from them. The Red Cross is now making arrangements for their return through the East German police.

SERMON

Bishop Debelius said in his sermon, at which thousands were turned away and which many heard in the little church and on the street through loud speakers, "The Christian owes only one allegiance and that allegiance is to Almighty God and not to Communism."

He also stated that, even though a powerful force seems to have outer control over the human beings, the human beings still retain their inner freedom to worship God.

At Marienfelde, a suburb of West Berlin, all refugees who cross the Iron Curtain are assembled. Here they are



Ross Sciarrotta

examined and are required to spend an orientation period of six days, before they are flown into West Germany by the West German government and the American, English and French authorities. These refugees appear to be reasonably well fed and give, as their primary reason for fleeing East Germany, a basic fear that the Soviet Union will sign a unilateral peace treaty with East Germany—and thus seal off their escape hatch to the free world.

BASIC HUNGER

These people are not hungry for food—they are hungry for freedom!

The contrast between East and West Berlin is tremendous. West Berlin, for the past 15 years, has had vast building programs in the housing field. These already provide adequately for West German residents. East Berlin has only had one significant building program, and this is Stalin Alee, which includes several thousand apartment dwellings. But when one walks behind Stalin Alee one sees vast amounts of rubble and debris that is reminiscent of the end of World War II.

It is fair to point out that the East Berliners who have made up their minds to remain in East Berlin are indoctrinated with a concept of socialism. This is a remnant of the old Socialist Party in Germany. They are really not indoctrinated in Communism. The West Berliners feel and depend to a great extent on the backing of the U.S. on the Berlin issue. They maintain that it is extremely important that President Kennedy be not outmaneuvered by Mr. K to make any concessions. They feel that the future and destiny of the German people should be resolved by the German people.

Dividend Paid

The board of directors of Union Carbide Corporation this week declared a quarterly dividend of ninety cents (90c) per share on the outstanding capital stock of the Corporation payable September 1, 1961, to stockholders of record August 4, 1961.

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NOW anyone can buy DIRECT from U.S. GOVERNMENT SURPLUS DEPOSITS, by mail for yourself or for resale. Cameras, binoculars, cars, jeeps, trucks, boats, hardware, office machines and equipment, tents, tools and tens-of-thousands of other items at a fraction of their original cost. Many items brand new. For list of hundreds of U.S. Government Surplus Deposits, located in every state and overseas with pamphlet "How Government Can Ship Direct To You," plus procedures, HOW TO BUY and how to get FREE SURPLUS, mail \$2.00 to SURPLUS SALES INFORMATION SERVICES, P.O. Box No. 1819, Washington 5, D.C.

Cash and Carry

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PALOS VERDES VIEW DAIRY
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FR 5-8615
Torrance's Drive-In Dairy

'One in Four' in County Owners of US Savings Bonds

Los Angeles County this week received the good news that the capital debt included in its first six months building permits which totaled \$772,010,070 are set off against "hidden assets" of \$1,509,693,000.

The "hidden assets" are the estimated total of United States Savings Bonds held in this county according to the national average of about \$1,000 for every fourth person.

Rarely totaled in economic surveys, never-the-less the large Savings Bonds holdings which have accumulated during the past 20 years are economic cushions in every community. They are stored purchasing power available for business adjustments, the furnishing of tools for new jobs, a basis for better individual economic health, money for retirement, vacation and travel—and capital available to help in the liquidation of mortgage indebtedness implied in all new construction as represented in building permit valuations.

'HIDDEN ASSETS'

Current advertisements created by the Advertising Council and carried by news papers free as a public service call attention to the vast accumulation of "hidden assets" or stored purchasing power through sales of United States Savings Bonds.

'Simplified' Tax Return Forms Will Be Issued in '62

R. A. Riddell, District Director of Internal Revenue announced that, as an initial step in improving the individual income tax return, the better features of both Forms 1040 and 1040W will be utilized in developing a new Form 1040 for 1961.

Form 1040 W will be discontinued as a separate form. No major changes are contemplated for the punch card Form 1040A.

Form 1040 is the general purpose individual income tax return, whereas the two-page Form 1040W was introduced in 1959 for use by individual taxpayers whose incomes consist primarily of wages.

Details of the revision of Form 1040 for 1961 will be announced well before the filing period.

District Director Riddell also advised that existing stocks of the Withholding Tax Statement, Form W-2 for 1951, are still usable notwithstanding the reference on such form to Form 1040W.

Safety Council Says Seat Belts Are a 'Must'

The installation and use of safety belts in every automobile in Southern California is being strongly urged by the Greater Los Angeles Chapter of the National Safety Council in a mass program of public education through the press, radio and television.

Council President J. T. Blacklock says that "a reliable study showed that serious and fatal injuries in traffic accidents were reduced by more than one-third by the use of seat belt."

"The rising toll of human life exacted by preventable traffic accidents in Southern California makes the use of every available safety device a must," he continued. "In this regard, we want to make it known that the automotive seat belt is the most effective single item of protective equipment presently available to reduce the carnage on our highways."

LEGAL NOTICE

CERTIFICATE OF DISCONTINUANCE OF USE AND/OR ABANDONMENT OF FICTITIOUS NAME
THE UNDERSIGNED does hereby certify that, effective June 1, 1961, he ceased to do business under the fictitious firm name of MIDDLETON READY MIXED CONCRETE at 22208 S. Vermont, Torrance, California, which business was formerly composed of the following person, whose name in full and place of residence is as follows, to-wit: John L. Middleton, 8645 W. 182nd Street, Torrance, Calif.
Certificate for transaction of business under the above fictitious name, and affidavit of publication thereof, are on file in the office of the County Clerk of Los Angeles County, under the provisions of Section 2466 of the Civil Code.
WITNESS my hand this 8th day of June, 1961.
JOHN L. MIDDLETON
Torrance Press, Wednesday, July 19, 1961, August 2, 1961.

Social Security Benefits Change

"There are people in the area who now might qualify for Federal Retirement Insurance under the amended Social Security Act if we knew how to reach them," advised J. G. Bretherton, manager District Office of the Social Security Administration.

To illustrate his point, Mr. Bretherton related the following story with the name changed.

Sam Beasley passed retirement age several years back. For the past 20 years, very little of his work had been under social security. Sam had little schooling and the only kind of work he could do was hard labor, when that could be found.

It seemed harder and harder to get by, especially during the past few years. Sam depended mostly on relatives and the little help he got from the welfare office. He had been to the social security office several times. He first went there when he was 65.

They told him that he could not get benefits because he had not worked enough on jobs that were under social security.

CHANGES IN LAW

Each time there were changes in the law, Sam went back to find out if they would help him. Every time he had to be told—no. That is, until the law was changed again last fall. Beginning with October, though, his checks started, and he will get them from now on. This was the change he had waited for.

There's a lesson in Sam's experience for a lot of other people who are past retirement age. It's simply this: If you've been turned down before because you didn't have enough social security credits, visit your social security office again.

The visit may mean money to you as it did for Sam. Less work is needed now because of 1960 changes in the law. If you wait too long to make a claim, you may lose some of the payments to which you are entitled. So, visit your nearest social security office now.

Use Press classified ads to buy, rent or sell. Phone DA 5-1515.

Two kinds of rug dirt need two kinds of rug cleaning! Only SPENCER'S exclusive DOUBLE DEPTH CLEANING removes both kinds!

1. Removes surface dirt that dulls rug beauty!
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Call for DOUBLE DEPTH CLEANING now! Free pick-up and delivery.

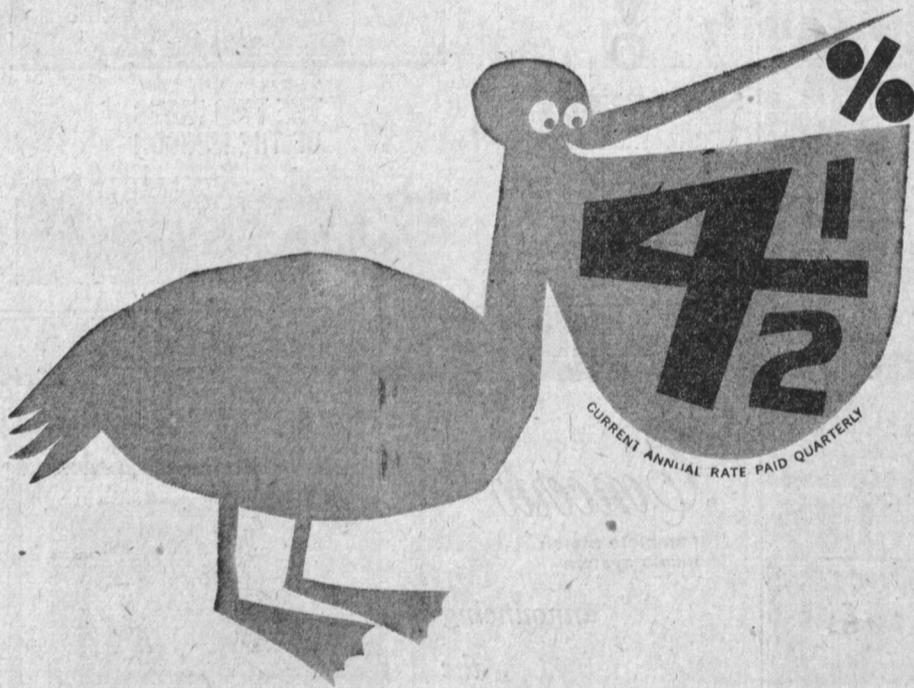
Walk-to-walk DOUBLE DEPTH CLEANED in your home.

Spencer's RUG CLEANERS
Frontier 1-4671
20625 Hawthorne Blvd., Torrance

Note Nine Percent Hike

Total personal income from all sources was up 9.8 per cent in 1959, when Los Angeles County reached a record \$17,255,368,000 in 1959 and topped the previous year's total of \$15,825,040,000 by 9 per cent, according to a study published today by the California State Chamber of Commerce.

Statewide personal income Use classified. Call DA 5-1515



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INGLEWOOD: 2700 W. Manchester (at 6th Ave.) PL 3-2164
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