

**SHOP TALK**  
By RAY BROOKS

**HARVEL HELPS HOPEFULS**  
Harvel Guttenfelder landed a scoop this week when he obtained from the Goodrich factory a limited number of Goodrich tires, wheels, axles, etc. that will make a Soap Box Derby heart palpitating.

You know, the kids of this and surrounding communities are holding a Soap Box Marathon on October 2 on the steep hill down on Sepulveda. Prelims are scheduled for September 25 at the same spot. Already several Torrance boys have entered.

Much interest was generated this summer at Akron when the Chevrolet Motor Car Co. sponsored an international Derby. Goodrich tires and wheels were on the winner's car. Harvel's tires and wheels are identical. To help the boys, who are allowed to spend a maximum of ten bucks on their creations, Harvel is selling the outfit at \$7.16, which is cost plus tax.

To make it even more interesting Harvel is going to donate a complete set of wheels to be "sold" at the Dividend Dough auction September 18. The boys are smart they'll get their parents to make some hefty purchases in Torrance the next two weeks, save the "Share-Sheikhs" they are given.

Did you ever notice the red light atop a flagpole down in the triangle at Marcelina and Sartori? Wonder what that's up there for?

**PECKHAM'S POWDER**  
To the Mojave desert over Labor Day journeyed George Peckham and son. Poking around the battered remains of a deserted shack the pair came upon a small glass bottle in which was some mysterious shiny powder, much resembling gold dust. The bottle was heavy, top, and George and Son speculated no end to the contents. With gold around \$35 per ounce there was due cause for speculation.

Unswayed today is the true identity of the powder. Richard Brunswick, jeweler at Howard's, declined to hazard a guess, advised George to take it to a goldsmith in Los Angeles.

If and when FINDER George determines what's in the bottle, Shop Talk will report it.

**SCHOOL SCURRY**  
Unhappy and long-faced many Torrance youngsters will check an ear next Monday A. M. when a yoode old school bell tolls its mournful reminder that classes and teachers and exams and demerits are again the thing of the day, that school time is here once more.

Inquiries made to several boys reveal that some anticipate returning while others dread the thought. Common belief is that all K's late school and everything connected with it. True this is of some but not of all. There appears to be periods in a kid's life when school is not so bad, other times when he could gladly burn the blasted schoolhouse to the ground.

With the odd sort of play-as-you-learn system now used in the public schools it is rather peculiar that any kid would really defend being a student. The majority float through their several years of elementary and high school in a bubble of good times, irresponsibility, disregard for learning. Much blame for this can be put on the school system, which, based on society's present attitude, coddles the weak, bends over backwards to make it "easy" on the students. They say school must be made enjoyable. Was there ever a case of honest-to-gosh learning being accomplished without hardship and drudgery? For all its modern methods the school today cannot "enjoyably instill" into the student the DESIRE to learn. And that's the thing that counts.

Back to fundamentals, I say! Back to a simplified curriculum! Education today is reverted to the students in such a complexity of courses, in such large and varied fields that he chooses the easiest, hits a few high spots, graduates having remembered that he studied a dozen or more "enjoyable" courses, but can't remember a single fact presented.

A large Eastern university, realizing this sad departure from the classical and fundamental fields, has reverted this year to the old school methods and will teach only Latin, Greek, sound mathematics, basic grammar. Reading, they say, has too much "Gone With the Wind" away from classics. In their prospectus they list a hundred

(Continued on Page 3-B)

**Torrance Herald**

**SECTION B**  
Society-Sports  
Theatres

TWENTY-THIRD YEAR—No. 35. TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1937. \$2.00 PER YEAR—SINGLE COPY 5c

**GAS TAX 'YARDSTICK' BOON TO CITY**

**Art Exhibit on View at Palos Verdes**

One of the outstanding exhibits to be placed on public view at the Palos Verdes Estates under the auspices of the Community Arts association will be the work of the summer art classes under Miss Elsa Warner. This exhibit is now open to the public to Oct. 1 and it is the sixth annual demonstration by the art classes.

The 1937 summer class had 35 members who met in the beautiful patio garden in the Palos Verdes library. Students were permitted to select their medium—oil, water-color or pastels—but each was required to complete one piece in clay modelling.

**Limited To Studies**

All pictures of this exhibition are studies and not finished work. The clay work is creative expression. The subjects were chosen by the students and developed with guidance for form and design. The oil works are purely sketches as the medium was entirely new to the group.

Miss Warner, who has taught the classes for the past two summers as well as the winter classes of 1937, is an honor award graduate of Otis Art Institute, and has also taken post-graduate work in mural under Edward Vysekal. She has received favorable recognition of her large fresco mural "Genesis." She is a member of the Laguna Arts club and conducts art classes in Los Angeles and Leimert Park.

**Delay Hearing On M.W.D. Suit For Injunction**

General Counsel James H. Howard of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California late last week made the following announcement: "At the request of the striking union on the San Jacinto Tunnel, the defendants in the case, Superior Judge O. K. Morton of Riverside county postponed until Oct. 5 the hearing on a permanent injunction against the union. In the meantime, the temporary restraining order remains in effect.

**Equitable Division of Funds Found**

Out of a maze of papers bearing City Engineer Frank R. Leonard's almost indecipherable script and a multitude of figures was born the "yardstick" plan of motor vehicle revenue distribution that was adopted during the past week by the County Board of Supervisors following approval by a special committee of the Los Angeles County League of Municipalities.

This plan, which will be followed in allocating to the 44 cities of the county their just proportion of the estimated \$1,240,000 to be dispensed by the county, was perfected by Leonard and the committee after a tremendous amount of research, calculation and investigation that began late last May.

By the "yardstick" basis of 85 percent on population figures and 15 percent on primary road mileage within each of the county municipalities, Torrance should receive an apportionment of at least \$7,967 during the present fiscal year. Last year this city's incomes from motor vehicle (gas tax and license fees) revenue was but \$4,050.

Prime problem before Engineer Leonard and A. T. Stewart, chairman of the "yardstick" committee who is vice-chairman of the city of Pasadena's board of directors (city council) was to find a method whereby all cities of the county would share the motor vehicle revenue on an equitable basis. In past years, loud and long has been the cry of 43 cities that Los Angeles was "grabbing" the lion's share of this money.

That this cry was founded on fact was revealed this week in a statement by Roger W. Jessup, chairman of the Board of Supervisors. He said, in part: "The records of the Los Angeles County Road department for the last ten years show that the county has given 64 percent of all the gasoline tax funds which it has received from the state to the various municipalities in the county. In view of the further fact that 66-2-3 percent of the amounts allocated to all of the municipalities has been given to the city of Los Angeles, during the same 10-year period, it cannot seriously be contended that the county has been lacking in liberality to Los Angeles city."

Best Possible Solution Before the adoption of the 85-15 plan, Leonard has worked out voluminous tables on other basic standards—a 75-25 "yardstick", by which it was adopted, Torrance stood to get about \$16,013 using a total revenue of \$1,980,000 as the "melon", or using population figures entirely. Meeting after meeting was held by the "yardstick" committee—Leonard, Stewart, City Attorney M. Tellefson of Culver City, Los Angeles City Councilman Stephen W. Cunningham, City Manager Randall M. Dorton of Long Beach, Mayor Joseph F. Boudino of Glendale, and City Engineer M. R. Bowen of Whittier.

Each time Leonard furnished a complete set of statistical data, compiled during nights of extra work, and each time he was ready to "go to bat" for a fairer distribution of motor vehicle revenue for the smaller cities. Then the original "mel-

(Continued on Page 8-B)

**Soap Box Derby Plans Advance for Local Boys**

Three new features of interest to Torrance boys developed during the past week as the Harbor District Soap Box Derby elimination races for Lomita, Harbor City, Waltham and local youngsters came closer to the race date of Sept. 25. In the meantime, scores of boys are busy building their speeders according to the specifications laid down by the Harbor District committee, Judge Robert Lessing, chairman, in charge of the big event that will be held on Sepulveda boulevard west of Hawthorne avenue.

The new developments were: Robert Lewellen, well-known Boy Scout worker and plant superintendent at The Herald, being appointed chairman in charge of the Torrance American Legion post's interest in the Soap Box Derby. The Legion voted to sponsor the event locally and Lewellen will work with Judge Lessing in arranging all details of the elimination races—including the prize list. Charles Jones and "Slim" Sil-ligo, owners of the Torrance Lumber company at 1752 Border avenue have offered to set aside a large pile of scrap lumber for

(Continued on Page 8-B)

**TABLE SHOWS CITIES' GAIN**

The following representative table was prepared this week by City Engineer Frank R. Leonard to show how cities of the county stand to gain increased revenue from \$1,240,000 of motor vehicle funds under the 85-15 "yardstick" basis explained in the adjoining article. The table shows the difference in municipal income between using city populations as a basis and using a combination of 85 percent of population and 15 percent of road mileage within cities:

| City       | Pop.     | 85-15 Basis | Gain     |
|------------|----------|-------------|----------|
| Arcadia    | \$ 3,425 | \$ 7,553    | \$ 4,128 |
| Burbank    | 10,939   | 15,821      | 4,882    |
| Cul. City  | 3,721    | 6,497       | 2,776    |
| El. Seg.   | 2,300    | 4,037       | 1,737    |
| Gardenia   | 2,495    | 3,674       | 1,179    |
| Lynw'd     | 4,807    | 6,374       | 1,567    |
| Man. Beach | 1,241    | 2,278       | 1,037    |
| Montebello | 3,610    | 4,941       | 1,331    |
| S. Marino  | 2,449    | 3,784       | 1,335    |
| So. Gate   | 12,889   | 14,267      | 1,378    |
| Torrance   | 4,773    | 7,967       | 3,194    |
| Vernon     | 833      | 3,629       | 2,793    |

**Legion Arranges Year Calendar**

Members of Bert S. Crossland post, American Legion, assembled at the Carson street clubhouse Tuesday night for a regular business session with Commander Barkdull presiding. Discussion centered around the Harbor District Soap Box Derby here on Oct. 2 for which elimination races in Wilmington, San Pedro, Gardena and Torrance (to include boys from Lomita, Harbor City and Waltham) will be held Sept. 25. The Legion voted to sponsor the event locally and named Robert Lewellen chairman.

It was decided that the post would devote the first meeting of each current month to a business session and consider the last meeting of each month as a social gathering when diners will be served, Commander Barkdull reported.

**Challenge Is Answered**

A letter from the American Legion Auxiliary accepting the challenge of the Post in a membership drive to end the evening of October 25 was read. Should the Auxiliary be defeated by the Post the ladies will serve a full course dinner to the men folks and will stand all the expense. Should the men lose they will do likewise.

Charles Myers, membership chairman for the Legion is confident that the Post will win, while Alice Thompson, in charge of the Auxiliary membership in accepting the challenge says, "If the Bert S. Crossland Post defeats the Auxiliary it will be the first time in the history of the organization, and we will be happy to serve dinner."

**Band to Lead Torrance Special to Pomona Fair**



**Low Rate Offered by P. E. for Transit and Fair Entry**

Headed by the Torrance Municipal Band a whole trainload of local residents are expected to attend the county fair at Pomona on Sunday, Sept. 19, which has been officially designated "Torrance Day" by the management.

A special excursion rate of \$1.55 per person, including admission to the fair grounds, is

**Torrance Band has choice "spot" on fair program.**

livened by the playing of the Torrance Municipal Band which has been assigned an entire car at the head of the train," Gilmeister stated. Members of the band are being outfitted with new uniforms which will be worn for the first time at the fair concert, which will be given in the auditorium between 2 and 3:30 p. m. Sunday, Sept. 19, according to City Clerk Bartlett.

"An exceptionally fine program of new numbers is being prepared by George Watson, director of the band, and this splendid musical organization is certain to bring much favorable publicity to Torrance. We hope that as many residents of this city as possible will join the merry crowd to Pomona on "Torrance Day," commented Bartlett. Tickets for the Torrance Day excursion are now on sale at the Pacific Electric depot in Torrance, and W. H. Bratton, local agent, requests that tickets be purchased as soon as possible in order that ample cars may be provided.

Phone 444 For Ad Service

**SOUTHLAND YOUTH TO VIE FOR JUNIOR FAIR HONORS**



Again this year one of the most unique as well as one of the most interesting features at Los Angeles County Fair in Pomona, Sept. 17 to Oct. 3, will be the junior fair, inaugurating a fine new steel and concrete junior fair building, the work of thousands of Future Farmers, members of 4-H clubs, Boy and Girl Scouts and other youth organizations, will be represented in the 2000 or more exhibits. Shirley Temple, 20th Century Fox film star, is shown above in company with youthful entrants. She is getting a big thrill out of holding one of the prize pigs.

**Parts that do not move CANNOT WEAR!**

• ELECTROLUX . . . The Modern Gas Refrigerator has NO MOVING PARTS which is the reason for—

- It's Longer Life.
- Permanent Silence.
- Low Operating Cost.
- Fullest Food Protection.
- Savings that Pay for it

NOW, as low as **\$159** Small Monthly Payments

**Torrance Plumbing Co.**  
F. L. PARKS, Proprietor. Opposite Post Office  
1418 Marcelina Avenue Phone 60

NEW Air-Cooled ELECTROLUX THE SEVEL Gas REFRIGERATOR

**GO Back TO SCHOOL!**

With A **GOOD FOUNTAIN PEN and PENCIL**

**Special!**

• Arrived just in time for school! A grand assortment of better quality pens and pencils to match that are designed to stand the tough treatment of school use. Every student needs both, so here's a chance to buy at a saving!

**89c**

**FOUNTAIN PEN . . . . . Only 50c**

Many Others to Choose From **PARKER PEN and PENCIL SETS** Up to \$11.00

**DOLLEY DRUG COMPANY**  
Sartori and El Prado Phone 10

**Whites Will Soon Be Gone . . .**

**IT'S TIME TO GET YOUR FALL THINGS CLEANED!**

★ YES SIR! Summer is almost a thing of the past; fall is here. And fall means a complete change to sober browns and blacks.

Of course, they'll need cleaning and pressing before wearing. And we're prepared to handle every cleaning problem.

**PIPER'S CLEANERS**  
1344 POST AVENUE PHONE 370-J