

# Powell, Murray and Babcock Oust Bartlett as City's Purchasing Agent

(Continued from Page 1-A) corrected in the heat of discussion, will doubtless be rectified at the next council session. The resolution was seconded by Babcock, Councilman Hitchcock protested:

**At Council's Discretion**  
"I don't think it's at all necessary to remove the clerk from his job as purchasing agent. He has held that position for years and has given good satisfaction. I can't see the reason for depriving him of that \$50 on any ground whatever. I ask the city attorney if the civil service ordinance demands he be separated from that job."

While the ordinance was being obtained from the files, Harvel Guttenfelder asked to speak but Mayor McGuire told him to wait until the stenographer returned "so we can have notes of everything said at this meeting."

After studying the civil service ordinance, Attorney McCall held that the purchasing agent's job was entirely at the discretion of the council, which can give the job to anyone.

"But this job would be classified as a civil service job," Powell insisted.

**Agent Held An Employee**  
"Well, if it is so classified then no elective officer can hold it," McCall replied. "But it would depend on whether you say Mr. Bartlett was an officer or an employee of the city. As purchasing agent, Bartlett is not an officer of the city—he is an employee."

"All employees are now under civil service," Powell said. "I believe the two jobs are already separate and any one the council desires can hold the purchasing agent position," McCall insisted.

"Well, we can't delegate one of the council to take the job," Powell commented.

Hitchcock declared that he had no objection to Jain's appointment as city engineer—he had been acting city engineer since August 1940.

**Bartlett Makes Statement**  
"But Mr. Jain hasn't the time now to handle the two jobs—he is understaffed and has enough to do with his engineering projects. I don't think this is right. If that clause was inserted into the civil service ordinance just to get rid of Bartlett it's a pretty serious thing."

"That's a far-fetched statement," Mr. Hitchcock, Murray blustered. "You don't think that we put that in—"

"At this point the man around whom all the controversy raged read a statement. City Clerk Bartlett pointed out that as purchasing agent he had given much time and attention to the details of the work.

"Do you know that since becoming purchasing agent I have saved the tax-payers thousands of dollars?" the clerk questioned the council. "That the merchants and business men of Torrance have profited more from the city's business than ever before?"

"That in many instances when merchants cannot handle the business, arrangements are made whereby the merchant acts as agent for the company from whom the purchase is made and receives a commission? That merchants are given an opportunity to submit estimates before purchase is made? That this city has received many compliments from other cities and business executives on the efficiency and economy of this office?"

**Reads Legal Opinion**  
"Do you feel this civil service ordinance was written to get rid of you?" Murray questioned. "That ordinance has nothing to do with me and I have a qualified legal opinion on that. It says: 'There seems to be no bar to prevent the council from assigning that task to any employee of the city of Torrance, whether qualified or not, and certainly such an important work should be done by one with the necessary experience to protect the city's interests.' This opinion, Bartlett said, was an excerpt from a portion of a letter he received from the office of the secretary of the Peace Officers' Civil Service Association. A. Blenden Gilbert. Then Babcock entered the discussion for the only time with his query about whether or not the opinion was signed.

**Business Men Speak**  
Guttenfelder commended Bartlett as purchasing agent and said that Jain's work as engineer would necessarily keep him away from his office and thus he would not be readily available for business interviews with dealers and supply men. "From a business standpoint it would be difficult for dealers to sell thru Mr. Jain's office. If a separate office were created

that would be better but that would be more costly than the present plan. I appeal to you to see the value of keeping Mr. Bartlett on the job," Guttenfelder said.

"The office of purchasing agent should be handled by a man with a knowledge of the city funds," Fay Parks told the council. "Bartlett has that knowledge and he's trained to do the work. I am glad to see Mr. Jain appointed city engineer but don't put the work of purchasing agent on his shoulders. He has enough to do."

The council then began voting with Powell, Murray and Babcock standing together and Hitchcock against the motion.

**Mayor Opposes Move**  
"Before I give my vote I've got a statement to make," Mayor McGuire said. "I hold the same opinion as Mr. Guttenfelder and Mr. Parks. I believe we should appoint Mr. Jain as engineer but I'm not in favor of making his job a double one at the present time. If he was appointed purchasing agent it would mean the hiring of another man—an engineer—in his office. I vote 'no.' I don't want to include the two jobs in one."

"I'm glad that Jain's appointment as engineer is generally admitted by all men of the council," Powell said. "Jain needs more assistance and I hope to set up such assistance in the new budget. Additional work is being put on every employee these days."

"I disagree with Mr. What's-his-name-Parks and Mr. Guttenfelder," Powell continued, apparently unfamiliar with the veteran business men's names, "and some other members of the council on the matter of the purchasing agent. Mr. Jain is experienced and well trained and he will acquire knowledge. I think time will justify the action we have taken here tonight."

**Job Is Unsolicited**  
Jain said he "wanted everyone to know that the move was entirely unsolicited on my part. I did not know anything about this until yesterday. I don't want any hard feelings. I am naturally glad to get the extra pay."

"I assure Mr. Jain that I have no animosity against him," Bartlett declared and then, turning to the council bench, "I thank Mr. Powell, Mr. Murray and Mr. Babcock for their kindness in taking away part of my living from me."

Powell informed the council that "two should be assigned to the civil service commission to act under the new ordinance." Five are to be named, one by each councilman, with a clerk to be named by the city workers' themselves.

**Must Amend Ordinance**  
He suggested that the appointments be made at the next council session July 8. However, City Attorney McCall holds that the provision regarding appointment of a personnel board cannot become effective until an amendment is adopted to the civil service ordinance.

When the city attorney's secretary typed the copy of that ordinance for publication the terms were left blank, neither the months nor years being mentioned. This omission was called to the attention of city officials by a Herald representative and he was instructed to have the ordinance published "as is." The explanation was given that this detail would be fixed by rules and regulations adopted by the personnel board.

However, the city attorney holds that this provision of the ordinance cannot become effective—and hence no appointments can be made—until an amendment is adopted and published. Such procedure require approximately one month to adopt and another 30 days before the provision can become effective. Consequently no appointment to the personnel board can be made by the council for approximately 60 days.

**FRIENDS DIE TOGETHER**  
PHILADELPHIA (U. P.)—Edward Steel, 72, and Frank James, 68, life-long friends and related by marriage, died on the same day within three hours of each other. They took ill on the same day.

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# Keeping Russ Signals Straight



If Japan should decide to attack Russia, in event Germany's blitzkrieg makes progress against the Soviets, the Red Navy in Pacific will be faced with grave task, that could involve U. S. Russia's Pacific defense depends on men like Signalman P. Koltyshev, shown signaling from a Red Navy vessel. (Sovfoto.)

# George Harbour Has Home-Grown Pineapple Ripening in His Garden

Now comes another man just contrary enough to do what experts tell him can't be done.

He is George Harbour of 1724 260th st. an employee of the Bethlehem Shipbuilding Plant.

About two years ago, told it couldn't be done in California, he decided to raise a pineapple plant. He bought a pineapple and planted the top. He had seen pineapples growing in Hawaii when he was in the navy but did not know anything about their culture except that you planted the top. With the aid of Mrs. Harbour he figured out the rest.

Result—he has a pineapple about four or five inches long which shows every promise of ripening into a delicious fruit. Others have raised plants in California but the plants did not produce fruit.

Harbour's experiment has taught him that: the leaves "burn" easily if not protected from heavy winds or frost, not to give the plant excessive water, every six months use a chemical food and a half-pound of just ordinary sugar. Incidentally, by placing a little sugar in the soil about his wife's ailing house plants, he has found they perk up in a very short time.

Lomita was the first place where the feijoa was raised in commercial quantities in the state and the experiment was noted with interest by the U. S. Experiment Station at Riverside. Lomitanis have successfully grown several varieties of bananas, Jujubes, chermoyas, sapotes, and every variety of avocado, and a number of other tropical fruits.

If the pineapple can be grown and matured here perhaps we had better get rid of our not-so-successful oil wells and go in for fruit raising on a big scale. Or better still, move the government experiment station here where we don't have frost and never have to smudge orchards.

The soil in the south end of Lomita is black, sandy loam, and in places there are no traces of hardpan or adobe. The soil is also free of alkali. With a rate of 35 cents a thousand feet for water experiments in fruits and flowers could be carried on with little expense.

Harbour's experiment will be watched with interest—and longing eyes.

Mono lake is called "The Dead Sea of America."

# Contract Parley Brings Typical Murray Comment

Five municipal contracts for services were renewed by the city council at an adjourned session last Thursday afternoon—three of them without change but the other two came in for considerable discussion before they were approved.

Councilman John V. Murray, noted for "putting his foot in his mouth" because of careless phraseology, did it again during the discussion of the awarding of the city gasoline and oil contract to Glenn Maupin. Fred Harder, who had served the city for five years with General Petroleum motor fuel, protested about losing the business and Murray said:

"I told you yesterday on the street—it's alright to talk to me of the street—I can't see anything wrong in that—I told you to drop about 15 minutes before the meeting today and talk it over with the boys in the back room."

Harder pointed out that his work prevented him from thus participating in the "informal" discussion. Mayor Tom McGuire, ending the discussion, informed Harder that if the council reconsiders the contract "we'll notify you."

The garbage contract with George Green was renewed for three years with three new provisions: (1) that he will be paid 50 cents per month for each new home served after July 1; (2) that he has the sole right of salvage to all trash and garbage, and (3) that the contract can be cancelled by either party on 60 days notice, at the end of any fiscal year.

Other contracts renewed were: With the Two Maeks Electric for electric globes; Luippold Engineering Sales Co. for liquid chlorine and ammonia for the water department and the Southern California Edison Co. for electric power.

# Pensioners Call Meeting at Local Cafe Saturday

The Old Age Pensioners of California, a state registered benevolent organization, will sponsor an open meeting Saturday night, July 12, at Daniels Cafe, to which all old age pensioners and their friends are urged to be present at 7:30 o'clock.

J. H. Walsh, state president of the organization will be one of the speakers who will report on the state legislature where he has been working in the interest of the elderly citizens who receive state pensions. He will also discuss the federal Social Security Act and its effect upon the state pensioners.

The United States produced about 68 per cent of the world's oil in 1940.

# Red Cross Appeals for Loan of Sewing Machines at Torrance Workshop

Have you a sewing machine you can loan to the Torrance chapter of the American Red Cross? Members of the volunteer sewing unit, which meets daily from 10 a. m. to 4 p. m. in the Sam Levy hall, 1526 Cravens ave. is badly in need of additional machines and will appreciate the loan of such equipment, according to Mrs. L. G. Barkdull, who is in charge of the sewing unit.

All women are invited to assist in this work, whether they can devote an hour or the entire day, Mrs. Barkdull states. The Standard First Aid Class meets each Monday evening at 7 o'clock in the city court room, with Mrs. Elsa Stone as instructor. The advance class meets at the same hour and place each Tuesday. For further information, call Mrs. J. O. Bishop, 472-W.

# Youth Rams Sand Truck with Car at High Speed

Excessive speed in a car he was driving for the first time is given by police as the reason why Raymond F. Spehger, 23, of 1307 Portola ave., crashed Mrs. Clifford E. Easley's Buick sedan into a truck loaded with 10 tons of sand last Thursday a collision which virtually demolished the passenger car. Investigating officers said Spehger admitted driving 65 miles an hour and he was given a traffic citation for that speed.

He and the driver of the truck, Isidro Contas of Long Beach, escaped uninjured but a passenger with Spehger, Leroy Otis, 23, Hawthorne, was knocked unconscious and suffered bruises.

Spehger was driving south on Hawthorne blvd., en route to the Easley home in Holly-

# County Begins New Fiscal Year July 1

Tuesday, July 1, marked the opening of a new fiscal year for Los Angeles county, as for most of the cities of the county. Today, the county is operating under a new budget, curtailed in some respects, but making provision for new capital outlay in other instances.

The number of cities between 50,000 and 100,000, as shown by the 1940 census, was 107, an increase from 98 in 1930. Combined population of these places was 7,343,917, compared with 6,491,418 ten years earlier.

Wood Rivera where he was to have delivered the car after it had been serviced at a local service station. He swerved to go around another car going in the same direction and lost control of the Easley machine. The car then crashed almost head-on into the loaded sand truck whose engine was knocked loose from the chassis by the terrific impact.

**SAFEGWAY**

**HERE COMES the 4th**

**Stock up early for the holiday. Buy your supplies at Safeway's money-saving prices.**

**FANCY TUNA**  
Light meat tuna, solid packed in pure oil. Tasty, sandwich filler. No. 3 can 17¢

**MARSHMALLOWS**  
Puff-heat brand. Try them roasted over the picnic fire. 1-lb. box 12¢

**LET'S HAVE A PICNIC!**

It's perfect picnic weather. Plan an outing to your favorite picnic spot over the holiday.

**SNO-COLA**  
Try this sensational new beverage. If you don't agree that Sno-Cola is just as smooth and delicious as the other you've ever tasted, we will cheerfully refund the purchase price.

**6 12-ounce bottles 23¢**

**COCA-COLA**  
Nationally popular beverage. Drink Coca-Cola for the pause that refreshes.

**6 6-ounce bottles 25¢**

**ROOT BEER**  
Cragmont Root Beer, Zitz, Freckles Strawberry, Golden Bubble Orange.

**3 32-ounce bottles 23¢**

(7-ounce bottles, 6 for 19¢)  
Bottles are extra on above prices.

**TYPICAL SAFEGWAY VALUES**

Julia Lee Wright's Bread 1/2-lb. loaf 9¢  
Enriched White or Wheat. (1-lb. loaf 7¢)

Guthrie's Soda Crackers 1-lb. box 10¢

Canterbury Tea 1/2-lb. box 13¢  
Serve iced—a cooling drink.

Real Roast Peanut Butter 2-lb. jar 23¢

Pabst-ott Pimiento or Standard For Sandwiches 6 1/2-oz. pkgs. 13¢

Cheezham For Sandwiches 4-oz. pkgs. 10¢

Mayflower Potato Chips 6-oz. bag 16¢  
For picnic lunches. (12-oz. bag, 25¢)

French's Salad Mustard 6-oz. jar 7¢

Dole Pineapple Juice No. 2 can 41¢

Libby Tomato Juice No. 2 can 7¢

Town House Grapefruit Juice No. 2 can 13¢

Chicken & Noodles Lynden 16-oz. jar 25¢

Van Camp Pork & Beans 16-oz. jar 7¢  
(22 1/2-oz. cans, 3 for 25¢; No. 2 1/2 can, 12¢)

**WATERMELONS**

Red-ripe, with exceptional flavor. Every melon is guaranteed. Take along a watermelon on your picnic.

**lb. 2 1/2¢**

**TOMATOES** LARGE SIZE  
Large size, vine-ripened, firm, full-flavored tomatoes for salads.

**lb. 7 1/2¢**

**NEW POTATOES**  
Good size new potatoes. White Rose variety, freshly dug—excellent to boil or fry.

**lb. 2¢**

**JUICY LEMONS**  
High quality lemons, heavy with juice. Banish summer thirst with cold lemonade.

**lb. 5¢**

**CRISP CELERY**  
Utah type, locally grown celery with thick blades. Use for relish on your outing.

**lb. 5¢**

**CHICKENS!**

Fancy milk-fed, dry-picked chickens to fry or roast. Average sizes 2 1/2 to 4 pounds lb. each. A favorite picnic food.

**27¢**

**CUDAHY'S HAM** lb. 29¢  
Cudahy's Puritan Tender Ham. Whole or full half at this price.

**SWIFT'S HAM** lb. 38¢  
Swift's Premium, QUICK SERVE HAM... all ready to eat. Whole or full half.

**WILSON'S HAM** lb. 38¢  
Wilson's Tendermade, the ham you cut with a fork. Whole or full half.

**PRIME RIB** Beef oven roast. 1 1/2 lb. 33¢  
Center cut. Excellent fully trimmed.

**BEef ROAST** Center cut. Excellent fully trimmed.

**BOILING BEEF** Meaty plate rib of Guaranteed beef.

**SHORT RIBS** Serve short ribs baked or braised.

**ROUND STEAK** Best cuts (inside cut). lb. 37¢

**WIENERS** Fancy skinless. Also Frankfurters.

**LUNCH MEATS** Baked Loaf, Dutch Loaf, Smoked Liver Sausage, or French Head Cheese.

**SLICED BACON** Un-x-l'd. In Cello. (1/2-lb. pkg., 15¢) lb. 31¢

**PIK-NIK**  
Shoe string potatoes. Take along a couple of cans.

**4-ounce can 10¢**

**TREET**  
Armour's new meat loaf. Makes tasty sandwiches.

**12-ounce can 27¢**

**DUCHESS**  
Salad dressing. Improves your favorite salads. (Quart Jar, 25¢)

**pint jar 17¢**

Prices Effective Wednesday and Thursday, July 2 and 3.

**SAFEGWAY**

1301 Sartori Ave. — 2169 Redondo Wilmington Rd. — 2173 Lomita Blvd.

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100% distilled from grain Qts. \$1.59 Pts. 83¢

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5th . . . 85¢

**KENMORE BONDED BOURBON**  
(4-years old) Full Pint . . . 79¢  
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(Plus Deposit)

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PARTI ROLLS..... 19¢

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**SPECIAL FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, JULY 3, 4, 5**