



CHARLES G. WHITTINGTON—Hospital Apprentice Second Class, of 1430 West 221st street, Torrance, is a U. S. Navy corpsman attached to a Marine Corps organization on this South Pacific Island. He is shown bandaging the sprained ankle of an injured Marine. Navy Corpsmen are always alongside Marines in battle as well as in field maneuvers such as this in which this picture was taken.

Church Destroyed In Earthquake Ready for Dedication on Sunday

Dedication services will be held at 7:30 Sunday evening, Aug. 22 at the Foursquare church, 1207 El Prado, marking the conclusion of months of effort on the part of the congregation to restore their place of worship to normal. The building which is located on a prominent corner at the entrance to Torrance, was wrecked in the earthquake of Nov. 14, 1941.

Rev. Ben Griffith and his wife, Rev. Joan Griffith, co-pastors, invite the public to attend the services. Rev. Earl Dorrance, state supervisor of Foursquare churches, will deliver the message and a special musical program has been arranged by Mrs. Griffith.

The Foursquare church was first established in Torrance in 1928, meetings then being held in a store building on Torrance blvd. As the congregation increased, larger quarters were needed and the property at 1207 El Prado, formerly the location of the State Exchange Bank, was purchased in August, 1940.

Considerable progress had been made in meeting the obligations of the purchase until the disastrous quake destroyed the building, entailing additional outlay of about \$5000 to repair the damage. In making the repairs, the building was demolished and now contains eight rooms for Sunday school classes, a chapel for young people seating 100, and a main auditorium seating 200 persons.

The lawn has been reseeded, and grounds landscaped with the addition of six coccas palms and attractive shrubbery.

The Revs. Griffith came to the Torrance pastorate in February, 1940, and have succeeded in building a strong church and active congregation, in spite of the tremendous obstacles they encountered in the following year.

Dr. Laughon's Son Dies In Plane Crash

Dr. W. I. Laughon, 1452 El Prado, has received news of the death of his son Robert, 22, who was lost in the crash of a bomber plane Aug. 9. The plane fell in the Gulf of Mexico, about 75 miles off the Florida coast. There were no survivors. Young Laughon resided in Chicago, and had been in the Army Air Corps for some months. He received his wings as a co-pilot last January.

Boy Scouts In Field Day at City Playground

Boy Scout troops of Torrance, Lomita and Gardena will meet Thursday, Aug. 29, for a field day at the children's playground section of Torrance city park. J. R. Winter, assistant district commissioner, will have charge, aided by Scoutmasters of the various troops.

The program will open with singing of the "Star Spangled Banner," pledge of allegiance and Scout oath and law, followed by athletic events. These include 100-yard dash, sack race, three-legged race, knot-tying contest, relay races, matched and open, potato race, signalling, standing broad jump, obstacle race, open tug of war featuring ten boys from each troop, and a matched tug of war, six boys from each troop.

Parents and friends of the Scouts are invited to the meet which starts at 1 o'clock. Commissioner Winter suggests that the grown-ups bring a picnic luncheon to be served after the program.

Miss Oetken Dies In Eastern Home

Friends here have received word of the death of Miss Hermine Oetken, 78, who passed away Thursday, Aug. 12 at New Albany, Ind., where she had been living with her sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Brod and the latter's daughter, Mrs. Lorraine Wornth. Miss Oetken resided in Torrance for a number of years, leaving for the east about two years ago. She was for some time proprietor of a neighborhood grocery store at 1001 Sartori ave. She was a member of Torrance Chapter, O.E.S., for seven years holding the office of secretary, and a member of the Christian Science church here.

Council Authorizes Re-Zoning Lancaster Home for Apartments

By a four-to-one vote, the Torrance city council Tuesday overruled the recommendation of the city planning commission and authorized re-zoning of the property of Mrs. Mildred Lancaster, 1503 Post ave., to permit the conversion of this large ten-room home into four apartments.

At the same time the city council also suggested to the planning commission that it consider rezoning of four entire blocks adjacent to the Lancaster property from the R-1 (single family) classification to R-3 (multiple family). The area recommended for re-zoning comprises blocks 13, 14, 25 and 26, Torrance tract, and includes the district bounded by El Prado, Cravens, Engracia and Manuel aves.

The motion authorizing zoning variance of the Lancaster property as well as the recommendation for re-classifying the adjacent area was made by Councilman George Powell and was concurred in by Councilmen Hitchcock, Babcock and Cucci. Mayor Tom F. McGuire, who is also chairman of the planning commission, voted against the re-zoning. Under provisions of the city zoning ordinance, a fourth vote of the city council is required to override the decision of the planning commission.

Re-classification of the Lancaster property has been the subject of considerable controversy. Two public hearings were held by the city planning commission and one hearing was conducted by the city council on the appeal from the decision of the planning commission.

Letter Is Read
Prior to the council's action Tuesday, City Clerk A. H. Bartlett read the following letter addressed to the council by Pat MacDonnell, director of the War Housing Center here:

"The nation's vast war production program required the building of new plants and the conversion and expansion of existing factories in hundreds of communities—scores of which lacked a sufficient local labor supply.

"This forced a huge migration of labor to places where housing did not exist. Plant production and expansion continues and so does the migration of labor, but the growing shortage of critical materials makes it impossible to provide enough new housing for the migrating war workers and their families.

"The result; thousands of war industry workers are desperate for lack of living quarters. Unable to obtain housing, they will give up their essential war jobs. Thousands more must be recruited—but they will not go where they are needed unless assured of proper housing for their families. War production cannot reach full capacity while this

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Smokes for Overseas Servicemen Sent by Steelworkers' Union

Servicemen will enjoy free smokes soon, as a gesture of good will from the Milky Willys lodge No. 1414, C.I.O. Steelworkers Union in Torrance, which at its meeting last Thursday night ordered 2500 packs sent from factories to a group overseas. The order will be repeated every three months, a different group being selected each time.

In this, the steelworkers are joining with their own National C.I.O. organization which sends each month \$500 worth of their favorite smokes to men overseas, an order which is matched by the factory filling the order. Many other groups are joining in this movement.

Each pack of cigarettes is stamped with the name of the organization responsible for its sending, and a postcard is enclosed in the carton to be mailed back, so that those who order the gift may know it has been received.

Redondo Plunge To be Wrecked

Redondo Beach plunge, popular for many years with local swimmers, is to be wrecked, according to E. L. Young of the Pacific Electric railway. Young said the company did not contemplate dismantling the former Mandarin ballroom building or any of the other properties of the P.E. at Redondo Beach.

High School Gym Will be Open For Evening Use

The Torrance Youth Commission met Monday evening to outline plans for the fall months. The board also agreed to furnish a trained director of recreation to map the program and supervise. Under the terms of the agreement, the Youth Commission will provide adult sponsors, publicity, and arrange for churches, civic clubs and lodges to sponsor boys and girls teams.

As an aid to meeting the recreation problems, the commission voted to give representation in this body to young people. Each church will be asked to appoint a member. Presidents of the Student Body and the Girls League of the Torrance high school will be asked to serve.

The Commission will meet with the principals of the two elementary schools, and ask their support in a request to the board of education for trained personnel to direct after school activities on the playgrounds at Torrance Elementary and Fern Avenue schools. This arrangement will be made, if agreeable to the board, to provide supervision for children whose parents are working until 5 p.m.

The next meeting of the Commission will be held at 8 o'clock Monday, Aug. 30 when plans for evening recreation at the high school gym will be completed.

Oak Leaf Cluster Awarded to Bender

Announcement by the War Department of the award of decorations for "courage, coolness and skill" to 19 residents of Southern California now on duty in England, includes the name of First Lieut. Carroll Joe Bender, 21502 South Berendo ave. who received an oak leaf cluster to add to his air medal. The oak leaf cluster is given for five combat bomber missions.

Lieut. Bender recently took part in the bombing raid over Le Bourget, France, and has been on many other bombing flights since he was sent overseas. He is the son of Mrs. William Hiatt.

Souvenirs of South Sea Islands On Display at Torrance Library

New Guinea souvenirs gathered by Frank Hewlett, war correspondent, are on display at the Torrance Branch of the Los Angeles County Public Library. News dispatches from Buna and Port Moresby have made the second largest island in the world familiar to us.

The exhibit features grass skirts, a model outrigger canoe, a basket and some shell beads. Trader's tobacco, samples of which are shown is used as money. Walking canes, poison darts and a native adze, such as the natives use to hollow out huge tree trunks to make their great canoes, are among the articles of native handwork.

First Bombing Story
Frank Hewlett of the United Press who sent the souvenirs to his sister Mrs. Norma Coster of Los Angeles, was the first to get the story of the Manila bombing through to America. He was with MacArthur in Bataan and Corregidor. It was at Buna on the Milne bay that he gathered this unusual exhibit. He has since been sent to Guadalcanal.

The jungles and high mountains of New Guinea have discouraged exploration. This island governed in the east by Australia and in the west by the Netherlands lies as a bulwark just north of Australia.

Tax Rates and Valuations Compared

Below is a comparison of the Torrance municipal tax rates and valuations for the present fiscal year, 1943-44, with those of 1942-43:

Tax Rates Per \$100 Assessed Valuation		
	1943-44	1942-43
General Budget	\$.99	\$.99
Parks, Music and Advertising	.10	.10
General Promotion	.01	.01
Public Library	.05	.03
City Hall and Jail Bonds	.02	None
Library, Auditorium, Adm. bldg. bonds	.01	None
Total Municipal Rate	\$1.18	\$1.13
Municipal Water Dist. No. 1, levied on land only in dist.	\$.35	\$.35
Assessed Valuations		
	1943-44	1942-43
Taxation District No. 1 (Original city)	\$ 7,951,785	\$ 9,976,780
Taxation District No. 2 (Annexed territory)	10,016,375	10,498,670
TOTAL	\$17,968,160	\$20,475,450

Post-War Planning Needs the Support Of All Citizens

A meeting of the steering committee of the Post War Planning Commission will be held in the council chambers at the city hall tomorrow night, Aug. 20. Recent meetings of this group have been hampered by lack of interest on the part of Torrance citizens and this time the officers of the steering committee urge anyone who has an idea to offer to be present at the meeting.

Success of the Planning Commission will depend on the number and worth of ideas submitted for test. The project, say members of the committee, is intended to be broad enough to cover the welfare of the entire community, and is not limited to service to one or more small groups. No real progress can be made until the Torrance citizens show some concern for the type of program that will be adopted.

Central Church Pays Off Entire Earthquake Debt

Announcing the complete payment of the earthquake indebtedness of Central Evangelical Community church, Rev. H. Wesley Rolleff, pastor, Sunday told his congregation of plans for a note-burning service to be held Sunday morning, Aug. 29.

Former pastors of the church will be present and cooperate in the service. Rev. E. L. Weatherwax, now pastor of the Burbank Evangelical church, will bring the morning message. Rev. E. W. Matz, district superintendent, will preside at the service of note-burning.

The local church was highly commended for the liquidation of the debt of repair and improvement, of more than \$5200, which was paid by the church during the past 15 months.

Gasoline Coupon Switch Ordered By OPA Office

Widespread black market dealings in old style B and C gasoline ration coupons neared an end today with an Office of Price Administration ruling that all such coupons become invalid Sept. 1.

Motorists who still hold old B and C ration books will exchange them for new mileage ration stamp sheets between Aug. 23 and Sept. 1, O.P.A. said. Local boards will exchange coupons on a coupon-for-coupon basis.

After Sept. 1 gasoline dealers will not be allowed to accept the old stamps. In addition 100 coupons which have not been issued since Jan. 15, will become void the first of the month.

One reason for discontinuance of the old gas stamps, O.P.A. said, was to lighten the gasoline rationing program "by rendering useless stolen, illegally held and counterfeit coupons of the old type now circulating in the black market."

Old type B and C coupons are identified by the words "permits delivery of one unit of gasoline." New type B's and C's carry only the words "mileage ration" plus a large B or C, depending on the class of ration.

Frank Daniels, head of the ration board for this area, greeted the announcement with some perturbation. Upwards of 3000 individual cases will have to be added upon, new coupons issued. Mr. Daniels appeals to women of the community who have spare time to volunteer their services in helping to take care of the flood of exchanges. At present work in the office is hampered by lack of help.

City Employees Union Accepts Pay Increase

While claiming that a more substantial increase should have been made, officers of the State, County and Municipal Workers of America, Local 360, have accepted the \$10 per month per employee increase authorized recently by the Torrance city council for all municipal workers.

In a letter dated Aug. 14, addressed to the city council, and signed by A. E. Treloar, president, and A. E. Thomas, secretary, the Municipal Workers Union states:

"At the regular membership meeting of our union held Aug. 12, a report was heard on the action of your council in providing a \$10 monthly general pay increase.

"After some discussion, a motion was passed to accept the increase with the statement that a more substantial increase should have been forthcoming, particularly with reference to the lower-paid workers; \$155 per month is not a living wage with which a man must maintain himself and his family during these times."

It is expected that the letter will be read at the next regular meeting of the city council on Aug. 21.

COMES TO TORRANCE

Mrs. William Valen of Van Nuys and formerly of this city, has been visiting in Torrance during the past week.

Five Cent Raise In City Tax Rate Voted By Council

A five-cent increase in the municipal tax rate over last year's levy was voted by the Torrance city council at an adjourned meeting Tuesday afternoon. The municipal tax for the fiscal year 1943-44 will be \$1.18 per \$100 assessed valuation, as compared with \$1.13 last year, according to the tax ordinance adopted at its first reading this week. The vote on the increase was unanimous.

County Reduction Will Offset Tax Advance by City

While property owners in Torrance face a 5-cent increase in their municipal tax rate for the coming year, this advance will be more than offset by reductions in other items of the total property tax bill.

Chairman Gordon L. McDonough of the county board of supervisors predicts a reduction of 12 cents per \$100 assessed valuation in the new county tax rate. The board will adopt a final budget Aug. 24, and a week later will fix the tax rate, which McDonough forecasts will be about \$1.22 compared with \$1.3489 in 1942-43.

Most of the expected reduction in the county levy is made possible by the elimination of much of the relief fund, and because during 1942-43 the county charities department collected the record amount of \$1,519,295 reimbursement for aid advanced to indigents.

The Metropolitan Water District tax for 1943-44 will remain at 48 cents, it has been decided by the board of directors. Of the 48 cents tax rate, 43 cents will be required to meet interest on bonds issued to finance the construction of the Colorado river aqueduct. Only 5 cents of the tax rate is to be used to meet operation and maintenance expenses of the district's aqueduct system.

Likewise, the Torrance Municipal Water District tax rate will remain unchanged at 35 cents per \$100 assessed valuation. The assessment, however, applies to land values only.

Possibility of the same school district tax rate as last year, \$1.59 per \$100 assessed valuation—was indicated this week by the L. A. School Budget Director Harry M. Howell in a special report to the Board of Education. The actual school district tax rate will be set around Sept. 1.

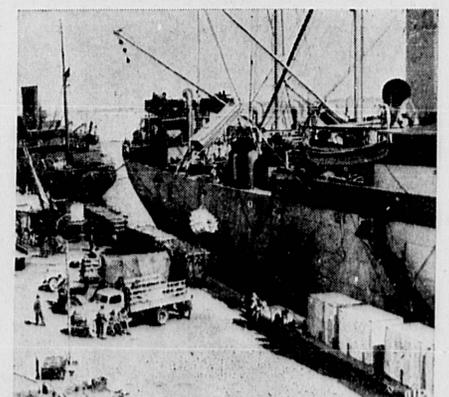
Other items in the total tax rate, not yet announced, are the County Sanitary Sewer District and the Flood Control levy. No material changes are anticipated over last year's rates, however.

Torrance Motorists Heed Safety Rule

Eight more motorists in Torrance faced Judge Otto B. Willett in the municipal court last Saturday morning, and were given fines according to their rate of excess over the new speed limit of 30 miles per hour by day, 25 miles at night. Another batch is due to appear in court next Saturday morning.

Arrests in Torrance have been few in comparison with those made in other sections of the county. People are taking the new regulations with due respect for safety provisions, says Judge Willett, and give little trouble here.

Food Unloaded at Cypirus



Food and equipment are unloaded from ships at Famagusta, Cyprus. Allies hold this strategic Mediterranean island, a British crown colony since 1914.

It's One Way to Get There



American air-borne troops commandeered every available type of transportation to carry them forward in pursuit of enemy forces in Sicily. Even donkey carts saw wear and tear on Sicily.