

# TOLSON, POWELL, GILBERT WIN

## TORRANCE HERALD

30th Year—No. 15

ESTABLISHED 1914 TWO SECTIONS — 14 PAGES  
TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 1944

PER COPY 5.

### Strike Paralyzes Construction on Torrance Refinery

Construction work on the second unit of the huge 100-octane gasoline refinery being built here for the General Petroleum Corporation remained at a standstill today as 1,150 A. F. of L. union men who struck yesterday because some half dozen non-union electricians employed by the Southern California Edison Company came on the job to set up transformers and make connections with the Edison power lines, remained idle.

Fifteen unions are involved. No employees of the General Petroleum Corporation are concerned.

### Red Cross War Chest Requires Only \$250 More

Collections During the Past Week  
Total \$240; Two Residence Districts Yet Unreported

With just two residential districts still to be canvassed for contributions to the 1944 War Chest of the American Red Cross, Torrance still lacks more than \$250 of fulfilling its individual's quota of \$8,000, it was announced today on the basis of tabulations up to Tuesday night.

Since the last list of contributors was compiled a week ago, an additional \$240.51 has been received. Mrs. L. O. Hoover, chairman of the residential and individual campaign division announced today.

"We are still hopeful that the two sections yet to be solicited and voluntary donations at headquarters will make up the deficiency and put Torrance over the top," Mrs. Hoover said.

### Latest Donor List

- This week's contributions, as listed by the Red Cross, are:
- Theatre collections \$68.51
  - American Legion 25
  - Mrs. Jack McQuaid 25
  - Rotary Club 25
  - Mr. and Mrs. Sykes and mother 10
  - Mrs. E. A. Miles 10
  - Mrs. Flainga 10
  - Mrs. Addie Parks 10
  - Mrs. Bernhard Bunje 10
  - Thos. Fridmore 5
  - Mrs. Ella Harris 5
  - T. H. Higgins 5
  - Mr. and Mrs. Sprunt 5
  - F. E. Cooper 5
  - Mrs. Quinby 5
  - Mrs. Emma Evans 5
  - Theima Whitacre 1.50
  - 3 subscriptions @ \$2 6
  - 6 subscriptions @ \$1 6
  - 1 subscription @ 50c .50
- TOTAL \$240.51

### Rotarians Will Attend Meet

A large delegation of Torrance Rotarians is planning to attend the annual district conference of Rotary International to be held at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles, April 19 and 20, it was announced today in a joint statement by Jim Lynch, local conference chairman, and President Fay Parks.

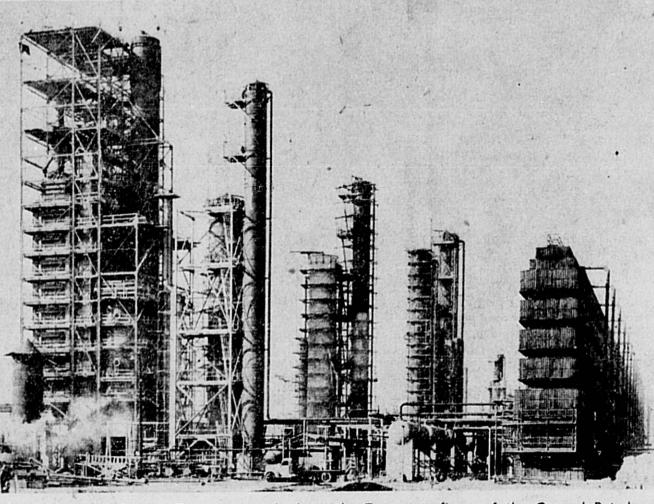
Replete with a large number of features this year, the conference is hailed by District Governor Kenneth Payne as one of the most important yet held. The service club's part in the war will be the central theme.

The two-day session is expected to bring forth a number of prominent speakers as well as many entertainment features. Highlighting the latter will be a visit to the home of Shirley Temple by Rotarians' wives. District officers for the coming year will be named.

President Parks said that all members of the local club have been urged to attend and that more than 1,000 official delegates are expected from the districts' 50 clubs in Southern California and Nevada.

To date, the following local Rotarians have signified their intention to attend: Thomas J. Adams, Ralph M. Alexander, Bernhard D. Bunje, Frank W. Daniels, Donald J. Johnson, Hillman Lee, Harry B. Lewis, James L. Lynch, Robert T. McCallum, Fay L. Parks, Philip Van Dyke, Paul M. Wheeler and Otto B. Willett.

(Continued on Page 6-A)



SINEWS OF WAR... This photograph shows the Torrance refinery of the General Petroleum Company under construction now, which was tied up yesterday when more than 1,000 A. F. of L. union members walked off the job in protest at the employment of non-union electricians. The plant, when completed, will produce 100-octane gasoline, desperately needed by American and Allied war planes.

### Soule Steel Co. Wins Army and Navy 'E' Award

"The high accomplishment of you men and women of the Los Angeles plant of the Soule Steel Company is inspiring. Your record will be difficult to surpass, yet the Army and Navy have every confidence that it was made only to be broken."

That was the message sent by James Forrestal, undersecretary of the Navy, upon the award this week of the Army-Navy E pennant to the Soule company, which operates a large fabricating plant on Border ave. in Torrance. A. M. Dowell is the local plant manager.

Earl Dawson, vice president of Soule Steel, in Los Angeles, said everyone connected with the company, workers and executives alike, feels a sense of personal pride in this recognition of excellence in performance on war contracts.

Mrs. Mary Considerations The company issued the following statement:

"In making selection of a company to receive the E award the Army and Navy consider the full utilization of available equipment, avoidance of stoppages, maintenance of fair labor standards, cooperation with the war program, effective management and engineering, record on accident, health, sanitation and plant protection, utilization of sub-contracting facilities and training of additional labor forces."

"Instituted in 1906 by the Navy as an award for excellence in gunnery, it is now awarded jointly by the Army and Navy to industry for excellence in war production."

### Gray V. Jones To Attend U.S. Naval Station

Following his enlistment recently in the U. S. Navy, Gray V. Jones, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ver Jones, 1552 Post ave., left Monday for Great Lakes, Ill., where he will take a course in electronics at the Naval Training Station. Due to his six years experience in radio and electronics, Jones was given an initial rating of seaman first class.

Prior to his enlistment, Jones was employed as a civilian worker in electronics at the U. S. Navy Yard at Terminal Island. He also spent nine months in Nicaragua and Honduras, where he was employed as radio technician on the Pan-American highway. Prior to leaving for Central America, Jones was employed as radio engineer by the Columbia Construction Company—a Henry Kaiser subsidiary—in the construction of the Long Beach breakwater.

(Continued on Page 6)

### City Court Nets \$995 for Month; Drunks Pay Most

One Intoxicated Driver Is Fined \$175; Nine Civil, Two Juvenile Cases are Heard

No ceiling has as yet been placed on the cost of drinking (to excess) in Torrance as shown by the report for March of City Judge Otto E. Willett to the city council.

Fourteen drunks paid \$295 fines, while one convinced the court he was not guilty and escaped a penalty. One motorist charged with drunk driving laid down a fine of \$175 and another, charged with the same offense, "beat the rap."

The total paid in fines and fees during the month was \$995. In all, 179 cases came before Willett. Two youthful defendants were certified to the juvenile court.

### Nine Civil Cases

Judge Willett's report said, in part: "From March 1 to and including March 31, the city court received \$995 net from fines and fees. Of this sum \$694 are general fund monies, while \$286 come from vehicle violations and bus and road fund monies."

"Nine civil cases were filed during this month, seven of which were small claims cases, making a total of \$15. "General fund monies were collected from the following cases: Drunkenness, \$295; parking, \$153; boulevard stop, \$126; and miscellaneous criminal violations, \$120."

"Vehicle code funds were derived from the following cases: Drunk driving, \$175; speeding, \$72 and miscellaneous traffic violations, \$39."

### Council 'Lame Duck' Session Is All Routine

The "lame duck session" of the city council last night was confined to strictly routine business with one member, George V. Powell, absent.

They made it short and snappy and adjourned until Monday night, at 7:45 o'clock, when the ballots cast at Tuesday's election will be canvassed officially, including the six of absentee voters.

The newly organized Torrance Industrial Softball League, of which William B. Schneider is secretary, obtained permission, upon recommendation of City Recreation Superintendent Dale Riley, to use the diamond at the Municipal Park for games three nights a week, starting May 1. The council voted to spend \$50 for overhauling of the field lights. The baseball league will pay for current use.

Recommendations of the civil service board that city employees who desire to work instead of taking their annual vacations, be paid for such time worked in addition to their regular salaries. The council approved pay in the cases of Fred Blake, park superintendent, and Henry Deever, employee of that department. City Clerk A. H. Bartlett presided.

(Continued on Page 6-A)

### M'Guire, Babcock Lose Out; Vote is 48 Pct.; 1 Near-Tie

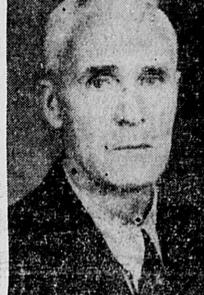
Voters of Torrance went to the polls Tuesday as the climax of a somewhat listless campaign which experienced a last-minute spurt of interest and chose three members of the city council, one of them an incumbent, from among ten candidates.

The three elected, in the order of number of votes received, are: William H. Tolson, former councilman and mayor, prior to 1940. George V. Powell, incumbent. Merton Gilbert, a newcomer to city political life.

### THE WINNERS



WM. H. TOLSON



GEORGE V. POWELL



MERTON GILBERT

McGuire, Babcock and Tolson. Going down to defeat were Mayor Tom F. McGuire and Councilman L. Vern Babcock.

Tolson, showing consistent strength as the ballots were reported from the 17 precincts, polled a total of 709; Powell had 734 and Gilbert 642.

Six absentee voters' ballots remain to be called. Between Gilbert's 642 total and Babcock's 639 is a narrow margin that possibly but improbably could be altered so as to result in a tie or victory for Babcock.

### Canvass Monday

The votes will be canvassed by the council Monday and at that meeting the three new members will take over their duties for the next four years.

The votes cast for the other defeated candidates were as follows: Paul Findley, 627; McGuire, 595; Paul Slonecker, 429; George P. Thatchler, 280; Durward D. Palmer, 115; Joel Hagberg, 108.

City Clerk A. H. Bartlett announced 1,777 ballots were cast, or 48 percent of the registration of 3,675.

The count of votes was fairly fast and the complete official figures were announced at Bartlett's office before 11 o'clock. Several hundred interested citizens gathered at Bartlett's office to get the returns as they came in. Three trunk telephone lines in his office were in service.

### Herald Gives Service

As rapidly as the precincts reported, the returns were flashed to the Herald office. Hundreds of telephone calls were received during the canvass at the newspaper office.

Retiring Mayor Tom McGuire has one consolation: Torrance voters only once in the history of the city have re-elected a mayor—the late John Dennis. The same fact may be considered in the re-election after a lapse of four years.

### Klusman's Silk Hat Fits Latest Ex-Mayor M'Guire

A couple of ex-mayors of Torrance got together Tuesday night in the office of City Clerk A. H. Bartlett where a goodly crowd of citizens had gathered to hear the election results as the ballot boxes were brought in.

They were retiring Mayor Tom McGuire, whose only comment after the final tabulation of votes was: "Well, I took a hell of a beating," and one-time Mayor William Klusman.

Klusman was wearing his silk top hat for the occasion, a brown flannel shirt and had his faithful pipe in his mouth. The hat attracted McGuire's attention. "Nothing would satisfy him but that Klusman let him try it on," it fitted.

### High School's Carnival Will Be April 21st

As the date, Friday, April 21, draws nearer, excitement and anticipation in high school circles are increasing. For that is the date of the school carnival to be staged by the student body and to which the public is invited.

Right now interest centers in who will be queen of the carnival. Six girls are in the race and the winner will be determined by the number of tickets she and her "campaign" workers sell for the event. The queen's coronation will be a highlight of the program, which will get under way at the high school at 3:30 p.m. and continue until 11, with dancing in the evening.

Contestants in the race for queen are Jean Clark, Phyllis Hargett, Naida Mitchell, Carolyn Mitchell, Winona Ely and Norma Hammond.

Prizes to be awarded to ticket holders include a \$25 war bond, \$10 in war savings stamps and \$5 in war stamps.

### Bids Due May 1st On Boulevard Work

Bids will be received May 1 for the construction of a 50-foot pavement on Crenshaw Blvd. from Rosecrans to Redondo Beach Blvd., it was made known yesterday by County Supervisor Oscar Hauge. The pavement now is but 20 feet in width.

"The county has previously improved the section of Crenshaw Blvd. north of Rosecrans and will begin May 1 on improvement of the section south of Rosecrans," the supervisor declared.

### DECENTRALIZING OF COUNTY OFFICES SOUGHT BY HAUGE

Because "Los Angeles County inevitably will become one of the greatest population centers in the United States," County Supervisor Oscar Hauge Tuesday asked his colleagues to go on record favoring a decentralization of the functions of the county machine of government.

In a formal resolution, introduced by Hauge, he asked that the Regional Planning Commission and the county manager make a survey looking toward such decentralization as a post-war measure.

He referred to the fact that the county as of last Jan. 1 had 3,225,000 residents, an increase of 440,000 since the 1940 federal census.

### Sees Big Growth

"Los Angeles county covers 4,115 square miles, which is three times larger than the state of Rhode Island," he said. "It is inevitable that Los Angeles County will become one of the greatest population centers in the United States. We can look forward in the post-war period to un-

(Continued on Page 6)

### City Court Nets \$995 for Month; Drunks Pay Most

One Intoxicated Driver Is Fined \$175; Nine Civil, Two Juvenile Cases are Heard

No ceiling has as yet been placed on the cost of drinking (to excess) in Torrance as shown by the report for March of City Judge Otto E. Willett to the city council.

Fourteen drunks paid \$295 fines, while one convinced the court he was not guilty and escaped a penalty. One motorist charged with drunk driving laid down a fine of \$175 and another, charged with the same offense, "beat the rap."

The total paid in fines and fees during the month was \$995. In all, 179 cases came before Willett. Two youthful defendants were certified to the juvenile court.

### Nine Civil Cases

Judge Willett's report said, in part: "From March 1 to and including March 31, the city court received \$995 net from fines and fees. Of this sum \$694 are general fund monies, while \$286 come from vehicle violations and bus and road fund monies."

"Nine civil cases were filed during this month, seven of which were small claims cases, making a total of \$15. "General fund monies were collected from the following cases: Drunkenness, \$295; parking, \$153; boulevard stop, \$126; and miscellaneous criminal violations, \$120."

"Vehicle code funds were derived from the following cases: Drunk driving, \$175; speeding, \$72 and miscellaneous traffic violations, \$39."

### Council 'Lame Duck' Session Is All Routine

The "lame duck session" of the city council last night was confined to strictly routine business with one member, George V. Powell, absent.

They made it short and snappy and adjourned until Monday night, at 7:45 o'clock, when the ballots cast at Tuesday's election will be canvassed officially, including the six of absentee voters.

The newly organized Torrance Industrial Softball League, of which William B. Schneider is secretary, obtained permission, upon recommendation of City Recreation Superintendent Dale Riley, to use the diamond at the Municipal Park for games three nights a week, starting May 1. The council voted to spend \$50 for overhauling of the field lights. The baseball league will pay for current use.

Recommendations of the civil service board that city employees who desire to work instead of taking their annual vacations, be paid for such time worked in addition to their regular salaries. The council approved pay in the cases of Fred Blake, park superintendent, and Henry Deever, employee of that department. City Clerk A. H. Bartlett presided.

(Continued on Page 6-A)

### THE VOTE BY PRECINCTS

Precinct	18002 Prairie	2576 El Dorado	716 Border	1743 Andro	1322 Englecia	2205 Torrance apt. A	1415 Anapola	1734 Allington	2030 Allington	23010 Naabonne	2717 W. Carson	22504 Ocean (Walteria)	917 Cola	1417 Cola	1913 Caballo	24439 Park (Walteria)	1307 Portola	Totals	
TOLSON	18	66	37	33	53	48	75	61	52	33	46	26	13	34	69	41	25	51	766
POWELL	38	35	30	55	25	30	42	102	51	27	45	59	41	42	52	53	27		754
GILBERT	12	61	26	32	35	23	53	52	47	37	43	40	29	60	32	18	47		642
BABCOCK	17	58	37	27	32	34	47	67	49	24	37	20	25	61	39	20	45		639
FINDLEY	29	40	32	31	23	33	42	44	55	16	35	39	49	39	47	39	34		627
McGUIRE	16	46	35	34	32	32	45	77	52	13	39	19	27	48	27	20	33		595
SLONECKER	20	12	20	21	14	15	23	31	22	14	16	73	24	18	33	61	12		429
THATCHER	5	17	9	12	12	9	12	14	22	13	27	61	5	8	2	43	9		280
PALMER	0	4	7	9	4	6	7	13	14	6	8	4	4	9	3	6	11		115
HAGBERG	1	9	0	3	4	4	5	7	13	3	12	18	6	2	0	13	8		108
Precinct Totals	54	122	83	89	83	83	125	164	132	70	110	126	86	131	112	104	103		
Registered	203	262	171	192	154	222	228	269	267	181	235	223	200	246	202	214	201		
Total Registration	3,675																		
Total Vote	1,777, or 48%																		
Absentee Ballots to be Counted	6																		