

City Building Boom Loud As Permit Receipts Soar

Torrance's apparently never-ending building boom may reach a crescendo this month with almost half a million dollars worth of construction permit applications at the city hall.

City Building Inspector John Patrick indicated that the boom continues at the same tempo it has the last few months. Torrance may parallel its 1948 record of \$7,979,825. Thus far, 1949 building permits issued total \$3,550,195.

Receipts for the first eight months of this year were down somewhat from last year when they came to \$4,758,523. However, Patrick pointed out that construction last month swelled the building permit total by

\$410,761—far greater than 1948's August total of \$256,375.

Meanwhile, at least two planned developments in the north part of the city will probably hike the September total.

Construction will get under way soon on a \$240,000 development of Truman Browne Enterprises Inc. The builders plan to build 48 one-bedroom dwellings at 178th street and Hawthorne boulevard.

When the City Council approved Browne's tentative tract at its meeting two weeks ago, the subdivider agreed to set aside one acre of the tract for development as a recreational area.

Permits totaling \$230,800 for

the construction of 44 homes have been applied for by the Mac-Low-Men Corp. of Los Angeles. The four and five-room stucco residences will be located on Arlington avenue, between 182nd and 164th streets.

John Ketter, developer of nearly 500 dwellings in Ketter Knolls, has asked for consideration of a new tract map. The local builder will add 70 houses to the 44 already under construction within the tract bounded by 288th street and Lincoln avenue and between Border and Western avenues.

Finishing touches are now being put on the first of 40 houses to be added to the Seaside Ranches development of builder Ben Haggott. Another 60 to 70 homes are contemplated for that area, said Haggott.

Completion is due soon on 17 houses being built by Property Management Corp. just north of the present Crenshaw Manor development. The corporation plans to start construction of 76 homes at 166th street and Arlington avenue, according to George Schackfield, agent.

In South Torrance, K. Sande Semness, pioneer Southern California developer, has planned an additional 208 houses to be built near the 59 which he has just completed in Pacific Hills. The two and three bedroom homes will be constructed on a tract near Newton and Madison streets, formerly part of the historic Weston ranch property.

Probably the largest tract under construction at the present time is that of C. F. Steiner, Downey contractor. The development, which consists of 128 houses, is located at 182nd street and Hawthorne boulevard.

Patrick commented that although permit receipts are being swelled by developments of professional builders, many private homes constructed throughout the city have added to the building total.

TOASTMASTERS SECOND ELECTION SET MONDAY

Torrance Toastmasters Monday evening will hold their second annual election of officers.

Out of its toddling clothes, the talkmakers' club will choose five new officers to replace those who have guided the club since its arrival on the local scene early in February of this year.

Nominated at the club's last meeting were Harry Burkholder, president; Harry Watkins, vice-president; John Hanks, secretary; Willard Garland, treasurer; and M. P. Hunt, sergeant-at-arms.

This week created the office of treasurer because of the overburden of duties on the secretary-treasurer.

The election will be held at the club's regular dinner meeting at Daniels Cafe. Time and place of the installation have not been revealed.

Outgoing officers include Tweed Jolly, president; Walter Schaefer, vice president; Harry Watkins, secretary-treasurer; and Ray Staver, sergeant-at-arms.

The positions of the education chairman and deputy governor, now held by Lester Foster and Delbert Vaughn respectively, are both appointive. Club members

WAC Officer Assigned Duty At Camp Lee

First Lieutenant Lillian V. Jones, of Torrance, has been assigned as a Platoon Officer of Company A, First Battalion, at the Women's Army Corps Training Center, Camp Lee, Virginia.

She enlisted in the service on April 4th, 1945. From June to December, 1946, she was stationed in Heidelberg, Germany, with the WAC Detachment, 3rd Army Headquarters. She received the rank of Second Lieutenant while at Heidelberg. In January, 1947, she was assigned to Berlin, Germany. After arriving at Camp Lee in July, 1949, she was promoted to the rank of First Lieutenant.

She attended Torrance High School, and received the B.A. degree from the University of California.

Before entering the Army, Lieutenant Jones was employed as a clerical assistant in the library of the University of California.

Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Jones, reside at 2113 218th street.

New Manager Takes Over At Firestone

Appointment of Al J. Wright as new manager of Torrance's Firestone store was announced yesterday by A. F. McCue, supervisor.

Wright replaces B. C. Stewart who has been transferred to San Diego.

Educated in the East, the new manager has been with Firestone for more than six years. He has managed stores in both Buffalo, N. Y., and Columbus, Ohio.

Wright commented on what he had seen of Torrance, he was very well pleased with the appointment. "However, I think I would like it better if I could find a house," he added.

The new manager and his wife have an 11-year-old daughter. He comes to the Torrance store in the midst of the store's annual Fall Harvest Sale.

Solution to Help Nuisance Sought by County Board

Kelp, which has created a nuisance for users of Torrance Beach and other beaches in the vicinity, drew attention of the County Board of Supervisors last week.

County Counsel Harold W. Kennedy was instructed by the County Board of Supervisors to cooperate with Redondo Beach authorities in a joint attempt to halt the littering of county maintained beaches with the clinging stuff.

C. E. Arnold, county engineer and surveyor, told the board that the collection and disposal of loose kelp on beaches maintained by the county is costing the county "considerable time and money." He said that the affected beaches are located within the corporate limits of Torrance, Redondo Beach, and Palos Verdes Estates.

The kelp floats ashore after cutting operations in the kelp beds, according to Arnold. He recommended that an agreement be negotiated with Philip R. Park, Inc., kelp cutters, to confine their cutting operations on beds offshore from the beaches to the fall and winter months when loose kelp on the beaches would create less of a nuisance.

The Torrance-Lomita board will foster an adult education class in real estate at El Camino Junior College commencing Mon. Sept. 19th. Cooperating are the Hawthorne, South Bay and Inglewood boards. 35 members of the local board have signed up for the 16 weeks course. It is believed to be the first junior college course of its kind in the United States.

Realty Board Cites Gain In Membership

Report was made at a special meeting of the Torrance-Lomita realty board Tuesday of the results of three objectives, set at the time of the induction into office of Pres. W. E. Bowen. They were membership, multiple listing and education.

The report showed membership of 16 as of January 1, 1948; 76 as of Sept. 6, 1949—an increase of 388%. This is believed to be the highest increase for any board in the state of California.

The Torrance-Lomita board led the state for the first quarter of 1949 in increase in new memberships in the California Real Estate association.

Treasurer Perry Connett reported that for the first year the multiple listing service of the board sold \$727,000 worth of real estate.

This is regarded as an outstanding record for a new board and is much greater than some of the older boards.

KEYSTONE LIGHTING DISTRICT PLANS KILLED BY PROTESTS

The County Board of Supervisors last week dropped plans for the formation of a Keystone Lighting District.

Residents in the area attending the public hearing on the matter declared that it would be impractical for them to undertake further obligations for a lighting district when the assessment for proposed sewers had not yet been set.

The board canceled the plans on a motion of Supervisor Raymond V. Darby. The hearing was held in the board room at the Hall of Records, Los Angeles.

ATTENTION BOY SCOUT LEADERS

Cubmasters! Den Mothers! Scoutmasters! Senior Leaders! For your convenience—Mr. "Andy" Sais—Field Executive, Harbor District, L. A. Council will be at our Boy Scout Trading Post every Wednesday from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. to aid you with your selection of Cub & Boy Scout literature, insignia, uniform & general scouting information.

Mr. Sais will also be available for appointments every Wed. from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Torrance Welfare Center, 1339 Post Ave., Torrance, Calif.

Phone Mr. Sais at TORR. 1356 Wed. or TE. 4-1193 every day or ME. 4-1496 evenings.

Almond's

1261 Sartori Ave.—Torrance

9 to 9 Saturday—9 to 6 Week Days

Sailor's Ship Wins Navy Battle Flag

William M. Fitzpatrick, engineer, first class, USN, of 22235 South Main Street, is attached to the submarine USS Runner which has recently been awarded the Battle Efficiency Pennant and "E" for her general excellence throughout the fiscal year July 1, 1948 to June 30, 1949.

The award is a competitive one, based on overall battle efficiency. Each department of the ship is graded to determine the vessel's final mark in the competition.

AT MOUNTAIN RESORT

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bever and Joyce entertained at their Crestline cabin during the weekend holiday and the previous week, for Messrs. and Mrs. F. L. Parks, J. P. Montague, J. E. Miller, and Mrs. Olive Wittenbeez, and Lillian Shriner.

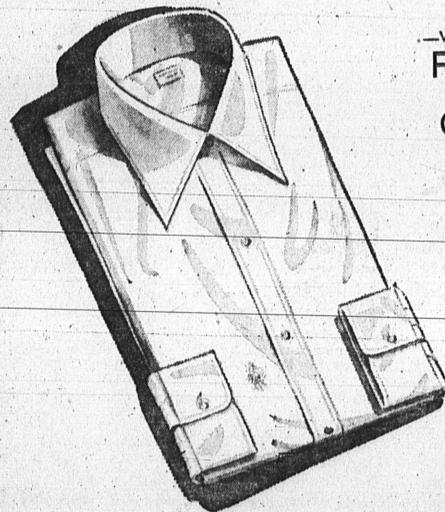
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