

Dale Harter Named Principal of New High School

Bank Acquires Theater Building

TORRANCE HERALD

OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE

Published Monday and Thursday—Entered as second class matter Jan. 30, 1914, at postoffice, Torrance, California, under Act of March 3, 1879.

41st Year—No. 10

12

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1955

PHONE FAIRfax 8-4000

32 PAGES

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10¢ per copy
30¢ per month by Carrier

Remodeling Due In Near Future

To provide larger and more modern quarters for its Torrance office, California Bank will remodel extensively the Torrance Theater Building, at Sartori and Marcelina with work to begin in May, Arthur O. Otsea, vice president in charge of the office, announced yesterday.

The bank recently purchased the theater building as well as a 60 by 140 foot lot on Gramercy adjacent to the HERALD building to be used as an additional parking area for customers.

The new office will have a frontage of 60 feet on Sartori and 140 on Marcelina. Plans call for complete modern banking facilities with larger quarters for each department, Otsea said.

California Bank opened the Torrance office for business in its present location in May, 1954, following acquisition of Torrance National Bank.

"In announcing our building plans at this time," Otsea stated, "it is also appropriate to extend our thanks and appreciation to the people of Torrance for their generous patronage and support."

W. H. Tolson, Torrance realtor, represented the purchaser in the transaction. Former owners of the theater property were Mrs. Helen Mellinkoff and Harry and Sarah Milstein.

Winds Whip City But Only Light Damage Noted

Strong winds whipped through the city Tuesday night and Wednesday morning, but caused relatively little damage, reports indicate.

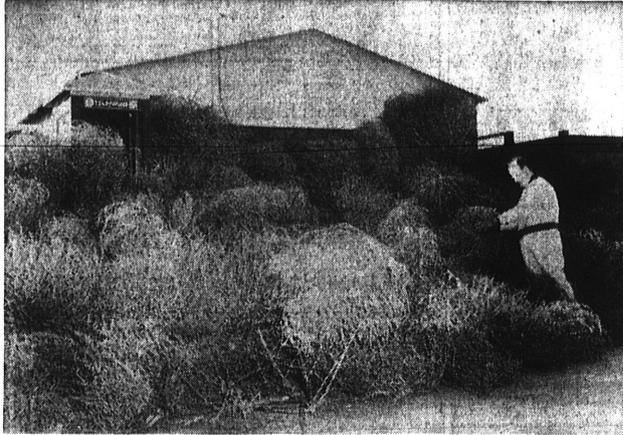
Trees were shattered across the road at three locations, and hundreds of tumbling tumbleweeds blocked garages and filled yards in other sections.

Street Department crews were summoned to Carson St. and Amapola Ave., 1200 Cota Ave., and Sepulveda Blvd. near Arlington Ave., to remove fallen trees from the highways.

Houses fronting on vacant lots were nearly buried in tumbleweeds, as the light bushy plants rolled through streets and back yards collecting against fences and house walls.

Power crews also were kept busy as falling branches snapped power lines in several locations. Power in the 190th St. and Hawthorne Ave. area was off for a period yesterday, because of heavy wind.

Gusts to 50 miles per hour were recorded at International Airport.



TUMBLEWEED TROUBLE . . . The nostalgic song, "Tumbling Tumbleweeds" may have a place in some people's heart, but not for Jack Musick. He's got a hundred or two kicking around the back yard and another hundred piled in front of his garage door. They blew from vacant fields near Torrance Blvd. and Maple Ave. Musick, of 1204 Maple Ave., called the street department to give him a hand so he could free his entrapped auto.

Carl R. Ahee Vice Principal At New School

Dale McColm Harter, now vice-principal at Torrance High School, will become the first principal of North Torrance High School when it opens in September, the Torrance School Board decided Tuesday night.

Assisting him as vice-principal will be Carl R. Ahee, a former principal of American schools in Germany. Named to fill Harter's old job was John T. Shea, a former teacher, counselor and public relations man for Los Angeles schools.

Harter will begin immediately on plans for the new school.

A native of Iowa, the 35-year-old Harter has been vice-principal at THIS for two years, and before that, taught at North Torrance Elementary School. He is a graduate of Morningside College in Iowa, and received a master's degree from the University of Southern California.



REMODELING PLANS STUDIED . . . Plans to convert the Torrance Theater Building into new, modern quarters for the Torrance office of California Bank are discussed by Arthur O. Otsea, vice-president, and George Post, assistant cashier. The extensive remodeling program is expected to begin in May, Otsea announced.

Isenberg Quits Chamber Post As of March 1

Dale Isenberg, executive secretary of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce for the past three years, submitted his resignation to the board of directors this week, effective March 1, 1955, because of "pressing personal business."

Isenberg succeeded Blaine Walker in the post here in February, 1952, after serving as manager of the Business Exchange Corp. in Los Angeles. He had also served as a deputy real estate commissioner with the State Division of Real Estate, and as business manager of the Los Angeles Realty Board (Southwest branch).

In offering his resignation, Isenberg said he intended to remain a citizen and resident of Torrance and had no plans other than his personal business. He offered to remain in the job until a successor is chosen.

Chamber President Paul Lorange is in the East this week and was not available for comment on Isenberg's resignation. There was no information on a possible successor for the post.

Mrs. Torrance To Compete in District Affair

Paul Diamond, chairman of the Mrs. America Contest sponsored by the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, yesterday outlined the future for the Mrs. Torrance candidate, who is to be selected from the entrants in the Torrance area. Entry blanks are now being distributed locally.

"Our Mrs. Torrance," Diamond said, "will be sent to Inglewood where she will compete with the winners from Inglewood, Hawthorne, Westchester, El Segundo, Manhattan, Hermosa, and Redondo Beach. The winner of this contest will receive a Whirlpool automatic gas clothes dryer and will be selected the official candidate to represent this area at the three-day state finals that are to be held at the world-famed Los Angeles Ambassador Hotel. Accommodations for herself and husband will be furnished free."

Mrs. California is to be selected here. She will not only receive a completely new wardrobe, but a two-week all-expense paid vacation for herself and her husband at Ellinger Village, Fla., site of the national finals.

Herald-Merchant Coupon Book Profitable for All

The Torrance Merchants whose coupons are included in The HERALD's subscription campaign coupon book are reporting enthusiastic use of the coupons by persons to whom the books have been given, with a high percentage of the coupon users staying to become better acquainted with the retail and service facilities of the stores they visit.

The merchants who are participating in The HERALD's "Everybody Wins" \$5000 free gift distribution subscription campaign are listed in today's HERALD. The fine gifts of merchandise, service and discounts which await you at these establishments are shown on the page.

The value of this book is \$95, and it is yours simply by becoming a subscriber or renewing your subscription to The TORRANCE HERALD through one of the campaign workers. If you would like one of these books, telephone FA 8-4005 and one of the campaign workers will be instructed to contact you. Do it today.

Names of campaign workers will appear Thursday, Feb. 10. Watch for this list, pick your favorite worker. Soon one of these most deserving local men and women who have enrolled in The HERALD's campaign will call upon you to invite you to subscribe or to renew your subscription for one year. You pay \$3.60, receive your HERALD for one year, and your Torrance merchants coupon book. Forty coupons are in that book, forty merchants graciously inviting you to visit them and accept a nice gift of merchandise, service, or a most worthwhile discount. The value of those coupons to you is \$95. The first four alone give you \$4.29 in gifts and service—more than you actually spend for your subscription.

Keen Interest Shown

The local men and women who have enrolled and are taking an active part in the campaign reported in to the campaign department in a manner that clearly shows the enthusiastic interest of the reading public in the campaign and in the HERALD - Merchants coupon book. These local people are piling up several thousand points on every new and renewal subscription they obtain toward the earning of a beautiful new 1955 4-Door Sedan, the Grand Capital Prize. The winner will have his choice of a brand new Ford, Chevrolet, or Plymouth, \$2500 in cash prizes and guaranteed earnings make up the awards for those workers placing in the next five positions on March 26, the closing date of the drive, with all workers below position six earning good-sized commission checks.

Not one worker loses, whether he secures one or fifty subscriptions, he is paid. Work and determination pays off. The loyal support of friends, neighbors, and acquaintances boosting their favorite workers by paying their new or renewal subscriptions to The HERALD through those workers can mean winning points!

Cars on Display

Visit the showrooms of Oscar Maples, authorized Ford Dealer.

Tomorrow Is 'Tab Day' for Area Motorists

Got that auto license tab yet? Man, you had better get a hustle on. Final chance to get the tabs without paying an outrageous penalty is 5 p.m. tomorrow, Friday, Feb. 4, 1955.

After that, the cost of the little chunks of metal sky-rocket at a dizzying pace. License fees double and registration fees go up 50 per cent.

The Torrance office of the Department of Motor Vehicles is at 1817 Craven Ave. And Manager Leavitt Tudor is looking for a hand-office business tomorrow.

Former Principal - Cushing (Ja.) High School, and has taught at Morningside College. He served three years in the Army, with service in Korea. A resident of Torrance, he is married and has two children.

Ahee, 39, will take over the NTHS vice principalship in August. A Naval aviator for four years, with 2300 flying hours, he is a former football player and boxer. He is married and has three children.

A native of Turlock, he received his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Southern California, and is currently working on his doctor's degree there. He served as principal of American high schools in Wiesbaden and Heidelberg, Germany, after the last war, and has also taught at Tucklock High School.

SC Graduate

Shea, who is 37, also received bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Southern California, and is also working on his doctorate. He has been a teacher, counselor, and public relations man with Los Angeles Schools.

He served in the Navy for three years as a gunnery officer. A native of Connecticut, he is married and has three children.

In other action, the board approved the hiring of Freela Simons and Carl R. Wallner as elementary teachers, and Ok'd the use of Thelma Loretta Delameter, Patricia Ann Kerr, Patricia J. Mishens, Ruth C. Martin, and Rosie Marie Scarfo as substitute teachers.

The board granted a leave of absence to Mary Irish Custer, and accepted the resignation of Lawrence C. Badger Jr.

January Permits Top 4.3 Million

Building activity in Torrance got off to a fast start in January, with \$4,314,275 in permits issued.

According to Walter Bradford, senior clerk in the City Engineer's office, permits for 383 homes, valued at \$3,443,282, were issued during the month. Of the total, 363 were in four large tracts.

Also included in the totals were permits for Halverson-Leavell Mortuary, Seaside Community Evangelical and Reformed Church, the Pride of Torrance Hotel, a new fire station, an auditorium and office at the First Christian Church, and 12 new school buildings.

Monthly totals included permits for 113 fences, 20 garages, 11 signs, and six patios.

At the same time, figures released by Dun and Bradstreet indicated that Torrance's 1954 building totals placed it in 29th place nationally. The total, \$45,086,552, was only slightly behind the \$45,258,150 reported by Long Beach.

Cities below Torrance included Columbus O.; Wichita, Kansas; Jacksonville and Tampa Fla.; Spokane, Wash., and Indianapolis, Ind.

Smog Studied By Educators

Smog reared its ugly head at the Torrance Board of Education meeting Tuesday night, as board members learned that the present incinerators used at city schools may be illegal after July 1.

Installation of smog-free incinerators would cost the district about \$18,000, while purchase of a dump truck to collect the trash would cost about \$9000, Assistant Superintendent Emmett W. Ingram said.

CSEA Meeting Tonight

The California School Employees Assn. will hold its regular monthly meeting tonight at 8 p.m. in the Fern School Cafeteria. All non-certified school employees may attend.

LOCAL MEN HIT URANIUM IN MOJAVE DESERT AREA

Two local men have hit what they believe to be a "good" strike of uranium oxide ore in the Mojave Desert, and have petitioned the Atomic Energy Commission for permits to start mining operations.

Sim Bramlette, of 2026 W. 236th St., and Roy Johnson, of Harbor City, made the find after weeks of prospecting in the desert sections. Their Geiger counters finally buzzed out a deposit in the Simi area of the desert, it was revealed yesterday.

The pair then interested Les Michaelis, a business partner of Bramlette, and Russell Hatton, Michaelis' brother-in-law, in the proposition, and formed the Big Four Mining and Milling Corporation.

Bramlette reported that the ore samples showed a .38 recovery value, considerably above the .20 minimum established in California. It is listed as of "commercial quality."

The Big Four plans to remove the ore by the placer mining technique, where ore is washed out of the surrounding soil and recovered.

A shipment of mining equipment was sent last night by the men to their 19 square miles of desert property. They have filed 608 claims with the state.

Bramlette is a butcher at the Central Market in Lomita, and works for Michaelis.

BOARD ASKS If PV Annexed, What Would it Do to Schools?

There were a lot of "ifs" used in a discussion of the proposed annexation of Palos Verdes territory at the Board of Education meeting Tuesday night.

Board members considered the possibility that the district might be forced to enter the state aid to schools program if the territory were annexed.

In the past, board members have shied away from this program because they felt it was more expensive, involved more red tape, and took control of the schools from a local level.

If the territory were annexed, board members also wanted to know:

1. Whether the override tax election to be held in May would be binding on residents of the annexed territory.
2. Whether the annexed territory would assume any of the bonded indebtedness of the present school district.
3. Whether the city could annex the area without taking it in for school purposes.
4. Whether the city legally could annex the territory and leave islands of county territory.

A letter was directed to the County Counsel, seeking clarification of these points.

The situation is confused by the fact that Palos Verdes, Los Angeles, and the Los Angeles Junior College District all have jurisdiction over part of the territory in question.

The Board officially passed a resolution opposing the annexation several weeks ago.

Annexation Hearings Wednesday

Public hearings into the proposal to annex nearly 10 square miles of Palos Verdes hills area to Torrance will open before the city's Planning Commission next Wednesday evening at 7 o'clock in the City Council chambers of the City Hall.

The first of two such hearings before the Planning Commission the Wednesday session will be held at a special meeting of the Commission called for that purpose. The Feb. 16 session will be held at a regular meeting of the planners.

Planning Secretary George Powell asked yesterday that groups having matters to bring before the group at the hearing appoint a spokesman and notify him at the City Hall that the spokesman wishes to be heard. Powell said this would aid him in planning the meeting.



NEW SCHOOL, NEW OFFICIALS . . . John T. Shea, new Torrance High School vice-principal, and Carl R. Ahee, new North Torrance High School vice-principal, look on as Dale M. Harter, new NTHS principal, points out the location of his school on a population map of Torrance. Harter and Shea will assume their new jobs immediately, while Ahee will take over in August.