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VOLUME VI 1 2 3 THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 1955 - TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA No. 50

## TWIN GIRLS BORN TO 15-YEAR-OLD LOMITA TEENAGER

### State's Youngest Mother of Twins

Mrs. Doris Jean Ridge jr. of 2436 W. 255th st., Lomita, an attractive 15-year-old brunette appears to have set a California record Saturday when she gave birth to twins. She is said to be the youngest mother in the State to have had twins.

The young mother, who returned home from the hospital Tuesday, was "just thrilled" about her daughters.

The babies were born one month prematurely and were called A and B at first. They are now Darlene Lee, 4 pounds, 11 ounces, and Debra Jean, 5 pounds. Delivering the babies was Dr. J. W. Beeman.

The young husband, James, 23, was unaware that his wife had gone to the hospital. He was learning to milk a cow owned by his father-in-law when his mother-in-law

came out and told him that he was the father of twins.

Mr. and Mrs. Ridge met at Torrance high school where he was trying to complete a last year of school in order to obtain his diploma.

The Ridges were married six months later in Mexico. They have been married one year and ten months, Ridge stated.

**Unemployed**  
Despite the fact that Mr. and Mrs. Ridge are extremely happy with the twins, things are a bit tough for them right now.

Ridge has also done spray painting on cars and house painting, has no job at present and is anxious to get some work.

The company Ridge worked for was sold recently, he stated. In addition, the couple needs clothing and other necessities to take care of the twins.

The incubator babies are expected to be released from the hospital toward the end of this week. In the meantime, the

(Turn to Page 13)



SETTING A RECORD . . . Mrs. Doris Jean Ridge, jr. who is 15 years old, gave birth to twins in Torrance Memorial hospital Saturday. She is said to be the youngest person in California to have had twins. Her husband, James, is 23 years old. The Ridges live at 2436 W. 255th st., Lomita.

## Annexation Halted; Forces Regrouping

The final annexation hearing slated for April 5 was called off by the City Council Tuesday night upon recommendation of City Attorney James Hall who called the present petition void for all practical purposes.

This climax to the annexation issue involving 6513 acres in the Rolling Hills area followed upon unexpected revelation a few weeks ago of a legal flaw in the present petition.

### BABY BOY IN CRASH ON WAY TO HOSPITAL

A nine-months old boy, suffering from spinal meningitis, was rushed to Children's hospital in Los Angeles by ambulance after his parents' car was involved in a collision.

Larry Bailey, son of Mr. and Mrs. B. R. Bailey of 5127 Milne drive, was reported in fairly good condition at the hospital. He suffered the attack Friday.

A neighbor, Robert J. Vrana, of 5115 Milne drive, was driving the Baileys and Larry to the hospital around 3 p.m. Friday. The car collided with one driven by Mrs. Marilyn Bennett, 17, of Wilmington.

The crash occurred on Hawthorne avenue near Halson street.

Only fenders were damaged in the accident.

### COUNCIL BRIEFS

**FEES, SALES TAX:** The Council went on record opposing a bill being studied by the California Assembly which would prohibit levying license fees or sales tax against firms or individuals who have no fixed place of business within the city.

**OIL WELLS:** Request for the adoption of legal measures to enforce the fencing of oil wells was submitted by the Retail Clerks International association, AFL Local 905. The matter was turned over to the city attorney.

**PROTEST GOLF COURSE:** A petition signed by 103 residents protesting the proposed installation of a pitch-and-putt golf course adjacent to Seaside school was submitted to the Council.

**MINIMUM LOT SIZES:** An amendment changing minimum lot sizes from 5000 to 6500

**PARKING TICKETS:** Council (Turn to Page 9)

**Find Flaw**  
It was pointed out that there were 19 registered voters living in the area proposed for annexation. The annexation procedure used permits only 12 voters or less to reside in the area. Otherwise the question of annexation would have to be placed before those voters instead of being left up to the landholders and the city involved.

In the meantime, a number of individuals in Rolling Hills have tried to block the annexation move to Torrance by trying to get Palos Verdes to annex a buffer zone which would separate Torrance from the 6513 acres.

Three legal hearings on this petition, following one right (Turn to Page 9)

### Teenagers Start Drive For Center

Torrance teenagers, anxious to have a teenage center of their own, have started an all-out drive to raise \$10,000 by July in order to build such a youth center.

Youngsters plan to raise this money through a series of fund-raising events including dances for teenagers, adults, and a May festival.

The drive is being spearheaded by the youth group of the Torrance Coordinating Council. Lending their support to the effort are Harry Van Bellehem, director of recreation; Tony Gallo, Torrance high school teacher; and Mrs. John Hinds, president of the Torrance high school P.T.A.

The next fund-raising event is a dance for adults to be held in the Civic Auditorium, El Prado and Cravens, Friday night, April 1, from 8 p.m. to 12 p.m., according to Larry Lippincott, president of the youth group.

### HAMS TO ORGANIZE FOR CD

An urgent appeal was made today to licensed radio amateurs to join the Torrance civil defense program.

George Powell, assistant civil defense chief, asked that radio hams attend a meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 29, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council chamber of the city hall, El Prado and Cravens.

The meeting was called to formally organize a communication program for disaster purposes.

Those interested but unable to attend are asked to call R. J. Baldwin, radio service chief, at FA. 8-0632 (evenings).

### SIX HURT IN 2-CAR COLLISION

Six persons were injured, two of them seriously, in a two-car collision at 174th st. and Normandie ave. shortly before midnight Friday.

Drivers of the two autos were Ralph E. Sarrazen, 45, of 1115 Eriel ave. and Mary Jo Frizzell, 16, of 16925 Halldale ave.

Sarrazen was taken to Harbor General hospital with a possible broken leg and bruises. Receiving head and possible back injuries was Celeste Magdeleno, 15, of Gardena.

Taken to the hospital with minor injuries were Coretha Morrell, 16, of 1342 W. 161st st., and Jane McElyea, 15, of 16964 Brighton way, passengers in Miss Frizzell's car; and Lawrence Sommers, 56, of 2108 Arlington ave., a passenger in Sarrazen's car.

### \$500 Stolen In Valuables

Jewelry and coins valued at \$500 were stolen from the home of John L. Silver, 52, 1057 W. Fiat st., Keystone, last week, according to Lennox sheriffs.

Silver's home was thoroughly ransacked. Taken were about 100 Indian head pennies, four gold pieces valued at \$2.50, a necklace, chain, and two Masonic rings.

### Harbor City-Lomita Lions Club Hosts Speech Contest

Speeches by seven high school students representing seven Lions clubs highlighted the dinner meeting sponsored by the Harbor City-Lomita Lions club Monday night in the Masonic Hall, Lomita.

Zone winner of the 18th annual student speaker contest was Harold Ezell (Banning High school), representing the Wilmington Lions club.

Theme of this year's speech contest is "Safety Through Safe Living."

Ezell will next compete in the regional contest April 7, \$1500 scholarship will be offered as first prize, to be presented the national winner.

Other student speakers, their schools, and their sponsoring Lions club included:

Gregg Hornaday (Narbonne), Harbor City-Lomita club; Amy Akashi (Torrance), Torrance club; Mary Goe (Avalon), Avalon club; Sue Maple (Redondo Union high), Redondo club; Dick Burroughs (Mira Costa), Manhattan club; Stephanie Akerson (San Pedro), San Pedro club.

Zone chairman and master of ceremonies for the Monday night event was Bob Hopper of the San Pedro Lions club. More than 100 Lions club members, wives, and guests attended.

### In Japan

Pfc. James Greg, 23, son of Mrs. Martha J. Walker, 24208 Ocean ave., Torrance, recently was graduated from the Armed Forces Far East baseball coaches clinic at Yokohama, Japan.

### PARKING DISTRICT APPROVED

Formation of an assessment district among downtown Torrance property owners for the purchase of off-street parking sites was approved Tuesday by the City Council.

City Attorney James Hall was ordered to take the necessary legal steps to effect the formation of such a district.

Hall stated that it would take approximately four months before the sites would be available for parking purposes.

Tentative approval was also given of the report submitted (Turn to Page 13)

### Bathinette, Baby Buggy Disappear

Want to sell a car, rent your home, buy a refrigerator, or hire a maid?

It's the easiest thing in the world. A classified ad in the Torrance Press will do the trick.

Ask Mrs. George Baskins of 3213 W. 190th st., for instance. Mrs. Baskins had a bathinette and baby buggy for sale.

She placed the following ad in the Torrance Press:

"FOR SALE—Brand new bathinette \$8 and collapsible baby buggy \$15. 3213 W. 190th st. DA. 4-8164."

"I sold everything within three hours," Mrs. Baskins beamed. "I was very pleased and continued to get calls all day Thursday."

So pick up the phone right now, dial FA. 8-2345, ask for "classified" and have a friendly classified salesgirl help you word your inexpensive ad just right. The cost is so little . . . the results—amazing!

### Army Course

Maj. Martin J. Williams, 34, son of John A. Williams Sr., Lomita, recently was graduated from the Army's Transportation School at Fort Eustis, Va.

### LATE NEWS

**NEAR THE TOP:** Only \$3000 more are needed to reach the local Red Cross goal. Chairman Albert Isen reported Tuesday. Total funds collected so far amount to \$10,900, representing 82 per cent of the \$13,900 goal.

**DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY:** Stanley E. Remelmeyer, Harvard law school graduate, has been hired to serve as deputy city attorney for the city of Torrance. Remelmeyer will assist City Attorney James Hall.

**DOPE:** Thomas Rankin, retired police lieutenant, and Ebba Ervin, former police telephone operator, will go to trial April 5 in Los Angeles Superior Court on narcotics charges. A total of 27 pounds of opium valued at \$10,000 were found in the Ervin home beside a bed on which Rankin was reclining, last month.

### County Survey Started For Branch Civic Center

(See picture page 16)

An immediate survey to determine the best location of a branch county civic center to serve Lomita, Carson, Dominguez, Lomita Pines, Miraleste, Rolling Hills and Palos Verdes was begun this week.

The request was made of Arthur Will, chief administrative officer, by Supervisor Burton W. Chace.

The survey is to be completed in about a month in the hope that appropriations for the new center may be included in the '55-'56 budget.

Chace pointed out that in conversation with Peter Pitchess, undersheriff of Los Angeles county, that the sheriff's office is extremely interested in establishing a substation in this area.

Numerous requests have also been received for a major health center and for a permanent site for a branch office of the County Building and Safety department, according to Chace.

The Lomita Chamber of Commerce has been trying to interest the county in locating such a center on a 5-acre Lomita site. Judges included Dr. Albert Allen, Carroll Johnson, and Milton Myers, members of Toastmasters.

## INNES SHOES OPENS 8th STORE TOMORROW

With a goal of 25 stores in the greater Los Angeles by 1960, the Innes Shoe company opens its Gardena store at 14804 Crenshaw blvd. in Alondra Park Friday, March 25. The million dollar expansion program for 1955-

56, includes three stores to be opened within the next six months, this one being the first, to be followed by the Innes stores in Lakewood and in Westchester.

Like most all the other Innes stores, the Gardena establishment will cater to the entire family, and will feature the finest nationally advertised footwear in men's, women's and children's footwear.

Present at the opening ceremonies will be Paul M. Siegel, president of Innes Shoes, Mayor Bolton of Gardena, Sam Gordon, builder, H. Carlo Fontaine, designer and planner, and Ernest Hahn and Stewart St. John, contractors.

"The exterior of the building is expressed in well disciplined architectural outlines. An angular canopy of wide aluminum horizontal louvers, carries out over the sidewalk. A lofty, wide

concrete framed parapet, creates an imposing facade.

"The walls of the foyer are imbedded with large segmented rocks, volcanic stone, and panels (Turn to Page 9)



PHILLIP CENTINEO . . . manager



PAUL M. SIEGEL . . . president

### Maneuvers

Cpl. Jesus Mendez Jr., whose parents live at 1521 W. 223d st., Torrance, is scheduled to participate in Exercise Surf Board along the western coast of the U. S. March 21-26.

### GOLF COURSE OPPOSED BY RESIDENTS

Temper flared at a meeting of the Recreation Commission last week when a group of Seaside residents protested the location of a proposed pitch-and-putt golf course in the area.

Backing up their protests was a petition signed by 106 residents.

The individuals maintained that the proposed park should be developed for the use of children and not grown-ups. They (Turn to Page 9)

### Identification Cards Issued Press Boys

Torrance newsboys have been issued identification cards which they will carry with them when making their monthly collections.

Boys should not be paid unless they show their identification card which is intended to protect them as well as our readers.

The wallet-size white card carries a picture of the boy, a serial number, and the carrier's name.

The card displays the name of the Torrance Press and the inscription that the carrier is "one of our Merchant Newsboys with authority to make collections on a voluntary basis only. . . . You are not required to pay any amount. Torrance Press newsboys keep all the money they collect. Please request a receipt."

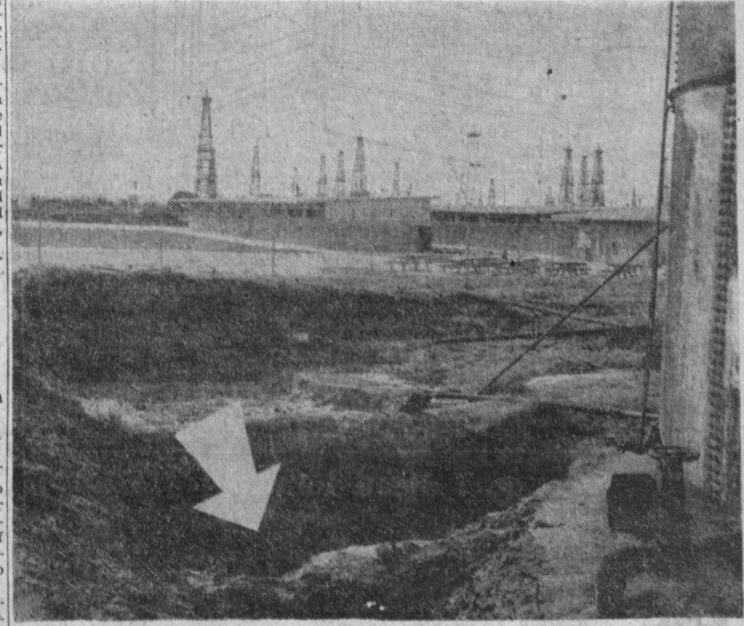
### Lomita Firm Damaged By \$25,000 Fire

An accidental explosion of hot kerosene caused a \$25,000 fire last Thursday at the Contractors Supply co., 1820 Lomita blvd., according to Lennox sheriffs.

Damage was done to the machine shop area and building equipment storage area. Loss was estimated at \$10,000 to the building and \$15,000 worth of supplies.

County fire companies 6, 51, and 36 responded to the call.

### Potential Death Trap . . .



HERE'S ONE OF THE REASONS why an oil well ordinance with teeth in it is urgently needed. This illegal, unenclosed sump is located a stone's throw away from Wood elementary school, Arlington and 235th st. The P. H. & B.

well is an easy and accessible temptation to countless youngsters. The City Council has ordered that a law be drafted to eliminate these hazards.