



HELLO, GIRLIE . . . Little Karen Fenn, a student at the Child Care Center of the Torrance Elementary school looks in amazement at a talking crow that wandered into the yard of the school last Thursday morning. The crow flitted around from tree to tree, cawing a lusty "hello" every now and then. When last seen, Mr. Crow was leaving the area despite the efforts of the Humane society officer who was attempting to take him in and hold him for his owner, if any. (Torrance Herald Photo).

WILLETT IS NAMED JUDGE OF CITY COURT; ATTORNEY AND ENGINEER JOBS VACANT

City Attorney Otto B. Willett, who acted as City Judge during the absence of John A. Shidler, in the military service, during the war, was named Judge of the City Court of Torrance by the City Council last night.

Judge Shidler recently was appointed Justice of the Peace of the local township, succeeding the late Judge Frank Carroll, and his resignation has been accepted by the City Council.

Judge Willett's appointment carried no effective date, and while the City Charter provides that two distinct offices be maintained, one as prosecutor and legal advisor to the City Council and the other as magistrate in the City Court, the Council found itself in the position of having one man occupy the two offices.

However, Willett said that in case of necessity Justice of the Peace Shidler will occupy the City Court bench, thus eliminating the need for the prosecutor to appear before himself as City Judge. Under the Charter a Justice of the Peace may also sit as judge of a city court.

The appointment of a City Attorney will be delayed until certain Civil Service requirements are met in connection with the job, it was said. Judge Willett will have to take the Civil Service test for the judgeship in order to hold the job permanently.

The resignation of Glenn M. Jain as City Engineer and Director of Public Works was received "with regrets" by the City Council last night, and no successor was named.

Jain's resignation is effective Nov. 15.

The retiring engineer will assume his duties as City Engineer of Redwood City, north of Palo Alto, Calif., on Nov. 17. He had been with the City of Torrance for more than nine years.

The Council postponed final action on the formation of the Vista Highlands Improvement District until the next regular meeting, Nov. 25.

An order to vacate certain streets and alleys in the area immediately south of Dominguez ave. and east of Crenshaw Blvd. for the multiple-housing project of J. H. Pine was approved when no one appeared to protest the action.

The sum of \$1,173.33 for fire insurance on buildings at Torrance Municipal airport was appropriated. Mayor Sherkey explained that adjustment between the city and E. Y. Tarkington, operator of the airport, would be made at a later date with the city paying the present premium in order to keep the insurance in effect.

Harbor district chambers of commerce will hold their November general meeting at 5:30 o'clock tonight in the student body dining room at Pepperdine college, 1129 W. 79th place, Los Angeles, according to President D. Clifford Higgins.

Dr. A. N. Cheliden will talk on "America on the Brink of a New Era."

A dinner will be served at 7:15 p.m. Members have been urged to bring college and high school students as guests, Higgins announced.

A group of city employees contending that the cost of the State Employees Retirement Fund is too much, may face a decision of quitting municipal service altogether or influencing the people to vote to abandon the pension system in Torrance, it appeared last night.

Several higher bracket employees think that they are paying too much for the pension plan which is in operation in many government subdivisions in California, and to which the political subdivision contributes nearly 50 percent.

Under the schedule adopted by ordinance of the City Council effective July 1, 1947, city employees are to pay from \$7.22 per \$100 salary, for a 20-year-old employee, to \$10.46 per \$100 salary for a 60-year-old employee. The taxpayers of Torrance, in addition, pay to the retire-

ment fund 9.183 percent of the payroll.

No deductions have been made as yet from the city workers' pay checks, but when they start they will have withheld from their checks deductions for two salary paying periods until the contributions are complete back to July 1.

Several conferences have been held with the City Council, but the objecting employees have been told they can only quit their jobs, or bring about repeal of the pension ordinance, to beat the present withdrawal schedules.

Members of the Torrance City Board of Education last Thursday visited new school buildings in Hermosa Beach and Inglewood to get a background of building problems which will be faced in Torrance soon with the rapid expansion of the residential district.

Board President Howard A. Wood, M.D., Vice President Grace W. Wright and members Evelyn L. Carr and George P. Thatcher viewed types of construction at Grandview and North schools in Hermosa Beach; Warren Lane and Crosier schools in Inglewood.

Accompanying the Board members were Superintendent of Schools J. H. Hull and Dr. Irving R. Melbo, consultant to the Torrance schools.

A series of four lectures on phases of married life will begin this week under the sponsorship of the Y.W.C.A. in the courtroom of the Torrance City Hall. At 8 p.m. Thursday Mrs. Eugene L. Cook will speak on "The Mental Aspect of Marriage."

Other speakers in the series will be Mrs. Frances Scott, and John A. Shidler, newly appointed Justice of the Peace for the local township.

The course will cover social, mental, physical and spiritual aspects of marriage, will present solutions to everyday problems and should be beneficial to persons of the community planning marriage and to those already married, according to Miss Helen Lockwood, YWCA director.

Monrovia Moves Toward City Manager Plan

Another Southern California city has started a movement to install the city manager form of government, the latest being Monrovia. The inland city is following the pattern taken in Torrance, with the Chamber of Commerce there sponsoring the movement.

Asserting that the manager plan will result in more efficient and more economical operation, the Board of Directors of the Monrovia chamber decided to take the matter to the City Council and the electorate.

A Monrovia fact-finding committee, operating much as the Torrance Citizens Committee, pointed out "that the City Council at present has to attend to too many administrative details which could be handled more efficiently by a city manager."

The committee contacted 50 clerks, 46 by questionnaire, and 10 in person, and found unanimous approval of that type of government, the report stated.

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L.A. Riders Want Torrance Buses To Serve Them

Torrance Municipal Bus Lines now are figuring in Los Angeles City transportation problems.

Street car riders who formerly used the South Hoover and "F" car line, now discontinued, suggested to the Los Angeles City Council Committee on Industry and Transportation Tuesday that the Torrance Municipal Bus Line be authorized to pick up passengers on South Hoover st. and cart them to downtown Los Angeles and back.

David Joseph Reagan, of 5933 Hoover st., declared that he was not at all in favor of municipal ownership or operation of the transportation system, but did feel that the transit company and the board of public utilities had made a mistake when the "F" line was abandoned and should take steps at once to remedy the mistake.

Chairman George Moore of the committee declared that as the Council had no jurisdiction over the routing of the street cars, the matter would be held under advisement for the time being.

COUNCIL OK'S \$375 FOR FIRE STATION IMPROVEMENTS

The sum of \$375 was appropriated by the City Council last night for improvements in Fire Department buildings.

Authorization was made for \$150 to be used for painting the main floor, stairway and hall of the main fire station. The remaining \$225 will be used for paint and material for a small recreation building now located in WALTERIA park which was transferred to the WALTERIA fire station.

SEWER PETITIONS ARE AUTHORIZED

Circulation of petitions for the formation of a sanitary sewer district in the county unincorporated area east of Torrance at 220th st. was approved yesterday by the Board of Supervisors.

The petitions must be in by Feb. 1, 1948, and 60 percent of the property owners must sign them, according to Supervisor Raymond V. Darby, board chairman.

CITY WORKERS CLAIM PENSION TOO COSTLY

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CONGRESSMAN CONFERS HERE . . . Rep. Cecil King, representing the 17th Congressional District in Washington, D.C., was a luncheon guest of Postmaster C. Earl Conner Friday, and he conferred on various district matters with local city leaders before returning yesterday to Washington for the special Congressional session. Shown above is a photo of Grover C. Whyte, publisher of the Torrance Herald; Representative King and Postmaster Conner during the Congressman's visit in Torrance. (Torrance Herald photo).

100 Attend Farewell Party For G. M. Jain

A "going-away" party for Glenn M. Jain, retiring City Engineer, was held Monday evening at the CIO hall with more than 100 City employees present.

Jain has announced his resignation from the post to take a similar position in Redwood City. He reports to the northern city Monday.

Mayor J. Hugh Sherkey Jr. presented Jain with a gold watch on behalf of the City employees in recognition of his services here since 1938.

Other gifts presented to Jain included a fountain pen and pencil set presented by two local contractors, Harold C. Callahan and C. Merton Gilbert, cigarettes by the Torrance Fire department and some venison steaks.

Present at the party were the members of the City Council, Police Chief John H. Stroh, Fire Chief John E. McMaster, City Clerk A. H. Bartlett, members of the Planning Commission and almost all other City officials and employees.

School Board Members View New Buildings

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20-30 CLUB REVIVES HOPE FOR ROSE PARADE FLOAT

Reviving hope for a Torrance float in the New Year's day Tournament of Roses parade in Pasadena, the 20-30 club will invite representatives of all local service groups to meet with them Wednesday to discuss plans for the entry, according to Dick Miller, 20-30 president.

Miller also extended an invitation to all persons interested in entering a float to attend the meeting. The regular 20-30 meeting will be held at Daniels Cafe at 7:30 p.m. with colored movies of the last Rose parade to be shown at 8:15 p.m. by Sid Edey, representative of the Tournament of Roses association.

To Discuss Marriage

A series of four lectures on phases of married life will begin this week under the sponsorship of the Y.W.C.A. in the courtroom of the Torrance City Hall. At 8 p.m. Thursday Mrs. Eugene L. Cook will speak on "The Mental Aspect of Marriage."

Other speakers in the series will be Mrs. Frances Scott, and John A. Shidler, newly appointed Justice of the Peace for the local township.

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ROTARY CLUB TO HEAR SPEECH ON BOYS' PROBLEMS

Oscar Kantner, public relations director for Warner Brothers theaters, will speak on "Boys Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow" at a Rotary Club meeting tonight at 6:30 o'clock in the Women's clubhouse, according to James L. Lynch, president.

Kantner is an authority on juvenile delinquency and has spent much of his time working on youth projects.

District Governor L. Thurston Harshman will make his second official visit to Torrance Rotary at the Thursday, Nov. 20 meeting.

\$2,500,000 SOLVENT UNIT PLACED IN OPERATION BY G.P. AT TORRANCE REFINERY

Another unit in the development and expansion of General Petroleum Corporation's Torrance refinery was put into commission late in September when a nominal 5,000 B/D Edelmann plant went into operation. Total cost of the unit and its appurtenances approximated \$2,500,000 with construction and basic design features handled and supplied by E. B. Badger and Sons Co.

Concerning the new unit, Gale L. Adams, assistant manager of manufacturing of General Petroleum, said:

"Within practical limits every effort has been made to incorporate flexibility in so far as concerns types of charge stocks which may be successfully processed and, also, the range of solvent treatment to which each stock may be subjected. It might be added that the start-up of this unit was the most uneventful and smoothest from the standpoint of all phases of operation of any other similar event with the exception of the commencement of the Tormor Catalytic Cracking units."

"In operations it is expected that the solvent to oil ratio may vary between limits of from 1/2 to as high as 2 to 1 with, of course, certain variations in the oil charge rate. Products which may be produced as occasion arises will range from solvents (both paraffinic and aromatic), kerosene, agricultural spray oils and diesel fuels. Diesel fuel of 50 octane number or higher as occasion requires will be produced.

"Among the basic design features supplied by the Badger company which might be mentioned are that on the raffinate three stages of SO2 removal are provided whereas in the case of the extract four stages are incorporated. Such technical features of processing insure maximum recovery of the solvent on the one hand and, as a corollary, minimum retention of SO2 in the product requiring added steps for removal. Needless to say, completion and operation of this modern solvent refining plant will keep General Petroleum in the forefront of the petroleum industry in the diversification and quality of its entire product output."

Stores To Open Nights During Yuletide Season

Christmas shoppers will be able to buy their gifts at night after Friday, Dec. 12, according to the decision made Tuesday by Retail Merchants division of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce to keep stores open every week night of the holiday season.

Friday evening shopping will be continued in the meantime, merchants reported.

Unless more contributions are received, few Christmas decorations will be on Torrance streets, the committee in charge announced. Some drapings and silver strands have been bought, but additional money is needed immediately, according to Bernard Lee.

2 Injured In Accident

Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Valenzuela, 438 N. Harbor st., Terminal Island, were injured Saturday when the car in which they were riding was struck from the rear by a truck driven by Charles B. Crye, 207 E. 238th pl., Wilmington.

The accident occurred on Pacific Coast highway about one half mile west of Hawthorne Blvd. Both Mr. and Mrs. Valenzuela were taken to Harbor General hospital for treatment, with Valenzuela being released Tuesday and Mrs. Valenzuela still undergoing treatment.

Crye was arrested following the accident on a charge of driving while intoxicated, a felony in this case since persons were injured. He will have a hearing Monday.

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RUMMAGE SALE

Torrance High School P.T.A. will sponsor a rummage sale from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and Friday evening in the Whelan drug store building.

IMMEDIATE ACTION ON DEED TO TORRANCE MUNICIPAL AIRPORT PROMISED BY KING

Rep. Cecil R. King, in Torrance on a flying trip checking up on problems of the 17th Congressional District before returning to Washington, D. C., Wednesday for the special session of the Congress called by President Truman, expressed amazement when told that the City of Torrance had not yet received its promised deed to the Army-developed 480-acre airport on Pacific Coast highway now occupied and in use as Torrance Municipal airport.

Representative King, a guest at the home of Postmaster and Mrs. C. Earl Conner for Friday luncheon and an afternoon of appointments with constituents, said that he would contact his Washington office immediately to hasten the issuance of full occupancy rights to the airport. The city now occupies the airport on a right-of-entry and interim basis, and the deed has been promised for months. It would grant full ownership of the airport to the city, except in national emergency when the military forces would take it over for the duration of the emergency.

King said that full title to the airport should have passed to the city weeks ago, in accordance with stipulations previously made by government agencies. He recognized that no permanent development could be made there until such title is passed.

Representative King met earlier in the afternoon with Postmaster Conner, James D. MacDonald, chairman of the 17th Congressional District Democratic Central Committee, Grover C. Whyte, publisher of the Torrance Herald and Frank S. Selover, managing editor of the Herald, and later, in a series of appointments, J. Henrich Hull, superintendent of schools, Sam Levy, Tom F. McGuire, chairman of the City Planning Commission and the Airport Planning Commission, A. H. Bartlett, City Clerk, James W. Post, president and R. J. Deiningner, vice president, Torrance National Bank, Blaine Walker, secretary of Torrance Chamber of Commerce, Dean Sears, manager, and George Johnson, assistant manager, Torrance branch of the Bank of America, and others.

Speaking of redistricting plans, he said that no change would take place until at least 1952, and that at that time the 17th District would require at least two representatives. Figures show that where 370,000 constituents is considered a large district, the 17th now has nearly 700,000 persons within its limits. "And you will find," Representative King declared, "that the biggest growth in this part of the county is toward the southwest area comprising the 17th Congressional District."

Sunday, Representative King talked to a breakfast of the 46th Assembly District Democratic Breakfast Club in Manhattan Beach, and Monday to the meeting of Customs and Federal employees in San Pedro.

King Visualizes Pay Boost For Postal Workers

Post office employees from Torrance, Lomita, Redondo Beach, Manhattan Beach and San Pedro heard Rep. Cecil R. King say their chances for larger benefits and pay increases are "very favorable," at a meeting Monday of the National Federation of Postoffice Clerks, Local 326, in the San Pedro YMCA.

C. Earl Conner, postmaster; George A. Hannan, superintendent of mails and Coy H. White from the Torrance post office attended.

Eighty-eight persons heard the congressman speak at an "appreciation dinner" given in his honor. He urged postmen to maintain their pressure for favorable legislation and to keep close touch with government officials and their union leaders.

King said a retirement bill submitted this year by postal employees was held up by lack of interest on the part of a Delaware congressman charged with initiating it.

Guests included A. L. Woodruff, U. S. shipping administrator and Warren Towne, president of the California chapter of post office clerks.

Dominguez Area Asks Relief In Pollution Crisis

Investigation of assertedly dangerous unsanitary conditions in the flooded Laguna Dominguez slough area was resumed at a meeting held at Carson St. School Nov. 7, according to R. M. Johnson, 20958 Jamison Ave., Keystone.

Johnson, and W. D. Reynolds, director of the Dominguez Area Chamber of Commerce, and citizens are asking better drainage and sewage disposal in the polluted area. This area is bounded by 213th St., Main St., East Road and Jamison Ave.

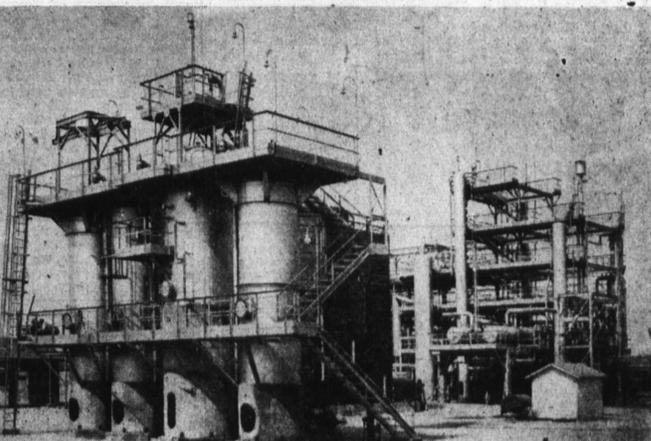
Johnson said that 132 new homes and 30 others, housing more than 6000 people are in the area which is expected to become even more dangerous to public health when winter floods fill up the cesspools.

Reynolds said that the Dominguez Area Chamber of Commerce will aid the Laguna Dominguez slough residents in obtaining relief from the pollution of the water and unsanitary sewage disposal methods.

Elected vice chairman of the group headed by Johnson was Frank H. Stevenson. Mrs. Annie M. Eagar was named secretary and J. T. Hubbard, treasurer.

Weather Report

Nov.	TEMPERATURE	
	Maximum	Minimum
5	74	49
6	75	48
7	76	48
8	76	46
9	75	46
10	75	46
11	73	39



NEW \$2,500,000 REFINERY ADDITION . . . Pictured here is a part of the new solvent refining addition to General Petroleum Corp.'s huge Torrance refinery. Built at a cost of \$2,500,000 during the past year, the addition was placed in operation recently.