TORRANCE HERALD

ESTABLISHED 1914 . . . TWO SECTIONS — 16 PAGES

33rd YEAR—No. 48 TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1947 PER COPY 10c

SEES GREAT FUTURE . . . George W. Stevens, newly appointed administrator-city engineer in Torrance, believes that Torrance has a great future, and this opportunity prompted him to accept the position here after he had twice refused the office. He is shown seated at his desk in Culver City where he is chief administrator and engineer. (Torrance Herald photo).

STEVENS SEES FINE FUTURE FOR TORRANCE

George W. Stevens, named by the City Council as administrator-engineer of the City of Torrance, declared yesterday that he believes Torrance has one of the greatest futures of any Southern California city.

"We have a rich little town in Culver City," Stevens told a representative of the Torrance Herald, "but Torrance, with its widespread undeveloped area, plus its present wealth among cities, offers a great opportunity."

Stevens for years has been chief administrator-engineer for the City of Culver City, and had been city engineer of the City of Santa Barbara, his birthplace. He served four years in the Army during the war, a lieutenant colonel, in command of a battalion in France and Germany.

In a prepared statement, he said:

"It is with deep satisfaction that I have accepted the position of Engineer-Administrator with the City of Torrance. I am especially impressed by the tremendous possibilities of this thriving community.

"I believe that my many years of municipal engineering and administrative experience will serve well in helping to solve the many complex problems which confront city administrations today.

"The designation of one man to coordinate the functions of all City Departments and to act somewhat as a liaison officer between them and the legislative body, which is the City Council, has become recognized as the most modern and efficient method of administering a Municipal government.

"It is my sincere desire and purpose to aid in bringing about increased efficiency and economy in our local government.

"Through cooperation of the press, Chamber of Commerce and other civic-minded organizations with the City Administration, much can be accomplished to the mutual benefit of all.

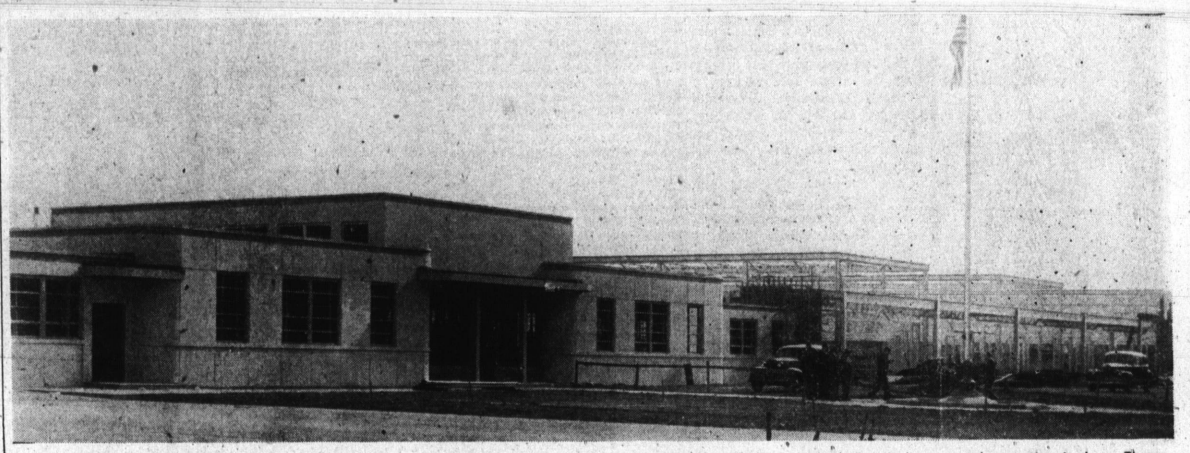
"I am looking forward to moving my family to Torrance and establishing ourselves as members of the community."

Stevens appointment is effective January 1, 1948.

Stevens' salary was fixed at $750 per month. He will assume the duties of purchasing agent for the city formerly held by the city clerk.

While he is a registered engineer, the details requiring handling by such an engineer for the City of Torrance will be signed by Harold A. Barnett consultant, until Jan. 1. Glenn M. Jain, Torrance city engineer for years, took over his task in Redwood City Nov. 17.

Also, Tuesday night, William H. Monds was appointed building inspector at a salary of $280 monthly.



CONSTRUCTION RECORD IN THE MAKING . . . The photo above shows the new $1,500,000 Torrance pottery of American Radiator and Standard Sanitary Corp., being constructed on Crenshaw Blvd. below 203rd street, construction on which is proceeding faster than that scheduled. It is due for completion in January and operation in June. The view is from 203rd street, showing the office and walls of concrete which will cover the structural steel construction. (Torrance Herald photo).

ROUTE ANNOUNCED FOR NEW LONG BEACH, HAWTHORNE, NORTH TORRANCE BUS LINE

Tentative route of the new Long Beach-North Torrance-Hawthorne service of Torrance Municipal Bus Lines, which will start on Monday, December 1, has been announced by William Murphey, manager of the Torrance lines, after conferences with Long Beach officials.

The buses will travel to Long Beach on Carson street to Main street; south on Main street to Sepulveda boulevard; east on Sepulveda to Alameda boulevard; south on Alameda to 101 highway; east on 101 highway to Pacific avenue; south on Pacific to 3rd street, Long Beach, looping west (right) one block to Cedar avenue, north, one block to 4th street, east one block to Pacific, and left on Pacific following the same route returning to Torrance.

The same bus then will travel west on Torrance boulevard to Crenshaw boulevard; north on Crenshaw boulevard to 190th street; west on 190th street to Prairie avenue; north on Prairie avenue to 182nd street, west to Hawthorne boulevard, and north to Hawthorne and Broadway in Hawthorne.

Schedules from Torrance, at 5:35 a.m., 6:45 a.m. and 7:55 a.m., as well as 4:35 p.m. and 5:45 p.m. will be routed on Avalon boulevard instead of Alameda boulevard. Likewise, return schedules from Long Beach, leaving the beach city at 6:15 a.m., 7:25 a.m., 8:35 a.m., 3:55 p.m. and 5:15 p.m. will travel Avalon boulevard, instead of Alameda boulevard, between Sepulveda boulevard and Carson street.

Schedules announced effective Monday morning on the Torrance, North Torrance and Hawthorne run call for a 10-minute run to General Petroleum Corp. gate; 17 minutes to 182nd street, and Hawthorne blvd., (following Prairie avenue); 22 minutes to Hawthorne boulevard and Rosecrans avenue, and 25 minutes to Hawthorne boulevard and Broadway in Hawthorne. Buses will leave Torrance in the morning at 6:55, 8:05, 9:15, 10:35, 11:55, and in

(Continued on Page 6-A)

'Friends Indeed,' Neighbors Save House From Fire

A group of helpful neighbors was instrumental in preventing extensive damage when fire struck the home of Mr. and Mrs. La Rue Dix, 1571 W. 203rd st., last week.

The fire was caused by defective wiring in a floor lamp in the Dix's front room at approximately noon last Wednesday. The neighbors, led by Mrs. Paul Peterson who lives next door to the Dix house, attached a garden hose in the Peterson's yard and had the fire extinguished by the time the Los Angeles Fire department arrived.

Approximately $800 damage was caused by the blaze, heavier damages being averted by the action of the neighbors in preventing the fire from spreading. The living room of the house was gutted and paint was blistered from the heat.

TORRANCE CHILD RECOVERS FROM ANT POISON MEAL

Anthony Lozano, two-year-old son of Felix Lozano, has recovered from the effects of swallowing more than an ounce of ant poison at his home, 21517 Berendo ave. last week.

According to Sheriff's officers the youngster ate the poison thinking it was candy.

He was rushed to the Harbor General hospital where his stomach was pumped.

TORRANCE SALES TAX IS RENEWED BY CITY COUNCIL AS EMERGENCY MEASURE

Torrance city sales tax was continued indefinitely by the Torrance City Council Tuesday night.

The one-half of one per cent tax which has been in force since December 1, 1946, was adopted as an urgency measure to meet a financial crisis, according to the ordinance which is printed on the inner pages of this edition of the Torrance Herald.

Since the sales tax was established, for one year, a total of $32,000 has been paid into the city treasury. This amounts to approximately $8,000 a quarter.

While the city sales tax, based on the levy by the State of California and collected in the same manner, was renewed for an indefinite period, it can be repealed by ordinance or by referendum, it was pointed out.

"In effect," City Clerk A. H. Bartlett said, "there is no difference between the one-year limit measure of last year or the perpetual measure. It takes the same amount of time and effort to repeal an ordinance as it does to adopt it. The effect is the same."

In some quarters, it was anticipated that the sales tax revenue would amount to as much as $60,000 a year.

While the tax has been continued for the indefinite period, it is believed that Torrance will be able to see a stable future without the extra levy as soon as loans from the Water district are paid off.

The City Council has agreed that all sales tax receipts will be earmarked for the retirement of loans from the water district to the city general fund.

At Tuesday night's City Council meeting, Mayor J.

(Continued on Page 5-A)

Water Voted By South Bay Communities

Formation of the West Basin Municipal Water District composed of Lomita, Palos Verdes, Lennox, Moneta, Redondo Beach, Hermosa Beach, Manhattan Beach, El Segundo and other areas nearby seemed asured Tuesday as early returns from the water district formation election indicated a vote of more than 10 to one in favor of the new district. Formation of a water district is necessary before areas forming the district can petition for membership in Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and secure a share of the Colorado river supply.

The vote for 34 out of 39 precincts was 10,678 "yes" and 1,307 "no."

Lomita's five precincts voted 811 "yes" to 242 "no" on the question, a reversal of the last vote some months ago.

Salting up of wells and lowering of water levels due to heavy withdrawals of the ground supply contributed to the heavy "yes" vote, it was said.

BULLETIN

Students desiring to attend the Torrance High School vs. Fallbrook High School football game in Fallbrook on Thanksgiving day may do so by signing up for the special Torrance Municipal bus which will leave Torrance High at 10 a.m. tomorrow, it was announced yesterday. The round trip fare is $1.80, according to William Murhey, bus manager.

PRAISES TORRANCE JOB . . . Harry Reed, Jr. vice president and general manager in charge of production of American Radiator and Standard Sanitary Corp., on the left, praised the speed of construction on the big new Torrance pottery at a luncheon in Vurp's Monday. Shown with him are, left to right, Henry W. Creeger, who will manage the Torrance Pottery; Clarence M. Wooley, retired president of American-Standard, and Reed H. Parkin, president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce. (Torrance Herald photo).

Harris Goes To Y Meet

Torrance will be represented at the second Pacific Southwest Area YMCA Hi-Y Congress to be held at Asilomar, Calif., Nov. 28, 29 and 30 by Onal Harris of Torrance Hi-Y club, it was announced today by L. Milton Isbell, secretary of the Torrance YMCA.

Harris has been officially appointed by Gil Derouin, chairman of the Torrance YMCA, and is sponsored by the Torrance Rotary Club.

Over five hundred youth and adult representatives from the YMCA's of California, Nevada, Arizona and New Mexico will participate in the congress.

$1,500,000 AMERICAN-STANDARD PLANT TO BE IN OPERATION IN JUNE

The Torrance pottery of American Radiator and Standard Sanitary Corporation is progressing faster than either of the many units being built by the firm throughout the nation, Harry Reed Jr., vice president and general manager of American-Standard, in charge of production, told a group of plant and civic leaders on a visit here Monday.

Reed is making an inspection of his company's new developments in Northern and Southern California.

"We are well satisfied with the production progress of the new Torrance pottery," Reed said in complimenting the architects and contractors on the $1,500,000 plant being built on Crenshaw blvd. south of 203rd st. The construction, he said, will be completed by January, 1948, and the big plant to employ some 600 men will be in operation by June, 1948.

Reed, meeting at luncheon with company unit and department heads and Torrance leaders, declared that the progress of construction of the gigantic unit in this city far exceeds schedules of the company. He paid high tribute to the architectural firm of Prack & Prack, of Pittsburgh, and to Bernard H. Prack, who was president, for coming out of semi-retirement to complete the Torrance job. He also had similar praise for George H. Waale, president of Waale-Camplan Co., contractors, for their part in the progress.

Likewise, the Torrance Cham-

(Continued on Page 6-A)

City Observes Holiday On Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving comes to Torrance today with a traditional holiday observance.

Special services are slated today by Torrance churches. The regular annual Community Thanksgiving service will be held at 9 a.m. under the auspices of the Ministerial Union in the First Baptist church, with music by the choir of the Christian church.

Participating will be the Rev. H. Wesley Roloff, of Central Evangelical United Brethren church; the Rev. Ronald J. Menmuir, of the Christian church; the Rev. W. A. Penner, of the Nazarene church; the Rev. Clyde Ruckman, of First Methodist church; the Rev. Arthur Pedersen, of Foursquare Gospel church and the Rev. C. Miles Northrup of First Baptist church.

Special Thanksgiving mass will be conducted at Nativity Catholic church at 7 a.m. and 9 a.m.

At St. Andrew's Episcopal church communion services will be conducted by the Rev. Torben R. Olsen, new rector, at 10 a.m. with music by the girls' choir.

Thanksgiving services of First Church of Christ, Scientist, will be conducted in the church edifice at 10:30 a.m. instead of at the usual church hour of 11 a.m.

Weather Report

TEMPERATURE

	Maximum	Minimum
Nov. 19	64	44
20	65	40
21	63	41
22	62	41
23	66	33
24	69	35

PRECIPITATION

	Storm	Total (Season)
Nov. 22	.04	.27

YOUTHS CAUGHT IN L. B. ADMIT ROBBERY HERE

Three youthful bandits, apprehended in Long Beach last Saturday night, have admitted the robbery of the Torrance Bottle Shop, 2087 Torrance blvd., Thursday evening according to John H. Stroh, Torrance Chief of Police.

Fred Hansen, Bottle Shop clerk from whom $90 was taken at gun point, identified David E. Hawks, 21, 1347 W. 228th st.; Robert L. McKay, 19, 116 E. 248th st., Wilmington and Woodrow T. Davis, 19, 2706½ Carson st., Dominguez, in Long Beach Monday.

According to Hansen, two of the trio came into the store while the third sat at the wheel of the car outside. This was approximately the same pattern followtd in seven other robberies in which the youths have been implicated.

This was the third time in the past year that the Bottle Shop had been held up; the bandits having been captured in all three cases.

Joseph Miller, operator of an oil depot at 21346 S. Vermont ave., implicated the trio in a $68 robbery of his business which also occurred last Thursday evening.

The three men were picked up near Long Beach due to the quick thinking of two Long Beach high school boys and fast action on the part of Police Sergeant Jack Finley.

The two boys, Larry G. McDermott and Dean Goff, described to police three men they had seen run from a Long Beach liquor store and drive away in a green car which they also described. The liquor store had just been robbed of $65.

Sergeant Finley was leaving a hospital where he had visited his wife when he received the radio flash about the robbery, the three men and the green car. In front of Finley's police car was an auto that fitted the radio description and contained three men.

Calling for a police blockade, Finley followed the car and with the aid of a second police squad trapped the three men. In the car were found two loaded revolvers and a cash box from another Long Beach store which had been robbed of $160.

Latest count on the trio shows that they were involved in the Bottle Shop and the Miller holdups, also three in Long Beach and three others in Wilmington recently. Chief Stroh said that the case would be tried in Long Beach with all eight robberies included.

El Camino J. C. Unit Contract Is Awarded

Gallinger Construction Co. of Torrance was awarded a contract by El Camino College District Board of Trustees Tuesday night for the erection of nine temporary classrooms, a chemistry department containing two laboratories, an electrical laboratory and music room, and facilities at a cost of $125,378.

The units will be built on the campus of El Camino College on Alondra Park, North Torrance.

It was announced that plans are being drawn for permanent buildings, but it will be two years before they are ready for occupancy. The buildings for which contracts were awarded last night will augment temporary structures secured from the Army Air base in Santa Ana, now being readied for occupancy in February.

TORRANCE PAYS $201,561 TO EL CAMINO COLLEGE

Taxpayers of Torrance are paying at a rate of $5,448 per Torrance student to the support of El Camino College the first year.

It is as bad as it sounds, when all angles are considered, but an analysis of the tax roll shows that Torrance is paying $201,561.42 into El Camino College District, and there are only 37 Torrance students in the college this year.

As the enrollment of Torrance students increases, the cost will come down.

However, of the $201,561.42 Torrance taxpayers are paying to El Camino, some $88,700 is earmarked for capital improvements and will go into permanent buildings on the new North Torrance campus of the college on Alondra Park. This cuts the "per-Torrance student" cost down to approximately $3,050.

Torrance is paying, like the balance of the district, 60 cents per $100 assessed valuation to the junior college, and its $33,593,570 valuation constitutes approximately one-fifth of the total valuation of the district.

The 60 cent rate will continue for five years, with 25 cents of it going into the capital improvement fund, for permanent buildings. The building fund being created without a bond issue will produce a campus valued at some $2,000,000, it is anticipated.

The college now has a total enrollment of about 1,000, and Torrance enrollment is expected to increase materially when the temporary buildings now being conditioned on Alondra Park are ready for occupancy. Full time bus service and day-time classes then will begin.

Classes now are being conducted afternoons and evenings in Leuzinger High School classrooms.

Torrance Municipal Bus Lines will serve the college both from Torrance and Inglewood, on the new Long Beach to Inglewood line.

PARKIN, WHYTE AGAIN ON CHAMBER'S BOARD

Reed H. Parkin and Grover C. Whyte were re-elected directors of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce at the election conducted during the past week.

The Board of Directors of the Chamber met Monday afternoon and named Bob Haggard to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Charles Gotts, and W. L. Tillotson was appointed to the ninth position on the board. Each year the Chamber elects two directors and the board appoints a third.

Officers of the Chamber will be elected on January 5. President Parkin named a committee consisting of Dean Sears, chairman; Charles V. Jones and Haggard to prepare a slate of nominees.

Other members of the Board are Charles T. Rippy, vice president, R. I. Plomert, Jr., and I. Washer. Blaine Walker is executive secretary.

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT CONTINUES TO INCREASE

Enrollment of students in the Torrance City Schools continues to increase, as evidenced by figures released by J. Henrich Hull, superintendent of schools, at the end of the first quarter of the school year.

A total of 1,993 students were registered in the four city elementary schools and the junior high school, as compared with the original enrollment of 1,847 pupils at the beginning of the school year in September. This represents an increase of 146 pupils during the first 10 weeks' operation.

Torrance Elementary has the largest enrollment of the city schools, with 641 children registered. Second is Fern Avenue school with 494 students, followed by the Junior High, 403; Perry, 268 and Walteria, 187.

Torrance High School had an enrollment of 683 at the end of its first quarter, which closed one week before the elementary quarter. This was a drop of 41 students since the beginning of the school year when 724 students were registered. The decrease was due to withdrawals and transfers, according to Lloyd Waller, principal.