

TORRANCE HERALD

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Torrance, California

Section B



RED CROSS BENEFITS . . . On orders of City Attorney Otto B. Willett, the American Red Cross branch fund drive here benefited to the extent of \$180.00 early this week. Judge Willett sentenced a group charged with gambling to surrender the amount of money found on tables at the premises where they were arrested to the Red Cross. Shown receiving the money from Chief of Police John H. Stroh (center) is Mrs. Gladys Weston, treasurer of the Torrance branch. At the right is Bob Haggard, chairman of the branch. (Torrance Herald photo).

CITY MANAGER FORM OF GOVERNMENT GAINS

The movement toward efficient and economical government available through the City Manager form of government has spread rapidly throughout the nation in recent years, according to a survey revealed by President Charles T. Rippey and Executive Secretary Blaine Walker, of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

In a statement released this week, they said:

The International City Managers Association reports that its roster as of Jan. 2, records just over 800 council-manager communities. A few of these are outside the United States, a few are counties, and a number are small towns. The council-manager plan had its birth in 1908. In 1922 less than 300 cities were operating under this form. By the end of 1931, 400, by the end of 1939, 500, and by the end of 1944 more than 600 cities had adopted this form of local government.

It is significant that in the 40 years during which the council-manager plan has been growing, some 700 communities have abandoned other forms of local government to adopt, by popular vote, this plan. Another 100 cities have been operating under this plan as adopted by ordinance of council. In that 40 years less than one city a year, as an average (34 in all), have by popular vote abandoned the plan, once adopted at the polls. Meantime the job of city manager has been developing as a profession and city managers' average tenure or length of service is now 5 years, 9½ months.

In 1947, due in part to the increase in the number of cities having the council-manager plan, nearly 250 city manager

appointments were made. This is compared with 216 in 1946. Eighty-three of the 1947 appointments were either manager promotions (to a larger city) or were former managers accepting appointments. When these are added to the seasoned managers who did not move during the year, it is apparent that this 40-year calling is becoming a profession.

In 1947, men in 32 cities were promoted from within the administrative staff to managerships and 56 (including eight administrative assistants) came from administrative posts in other cities to accept manager appointments.

Eighty percent of the 1947 appointees had public administrative backgrounds. Of the 36 with no governmental experience, 24 came from business, three from teaching, two were students (appointed to small towns), five Army officers, one attorney and two had been with state leagues of municipalities.

Seventeen million people now are served by the council-manager form of community cooperative housekeeping.

COLLEGE INVITED TO ATTEND J.C. CONFERENCE

El Camino College has been invited to attend the semi-annual California Junior College Student Government Conference, to be jointly sponsored by Pasadena City College and John Muir College on April 16, 17, and 18 at the Green Hotel in Pasadena.

The delegates from El Camino will be Okey Meadows, student body president; Bill Clark, vice-president and H. J. Sheffield, student body adviser.

First District Welfare Group Anniversary Set

Four years of service to the communities of Gardena, Lomita and Torrance will culminate in the anniversary dinner of the First District Welfare Council to be held on April 20 at the First Methodist church in Torrance. Officers of the group who will greet the guests are Dr. Don C. Moshos, chairman, Mrs. Edna Smith, first vice chairman, and Mrs. William Mowatt, second vice chairman.

The dinner will be followed by a brief business meeting and the showing of a film on welfare work. Representatives of welfare agencies in the district will be special guests.

First District Welfare Council came into being in May, 1944, after communities in the district affiliated with the Los Angeles Area War Chest. Since that time the group has been concerned with health and welfare planning, operation of the district welfare center in Torrance, and interpretation of the work of Community Chest agencies to the public.

Columbia Honors Employees With 25-Years Service

Employees having 25 years or more of service in the general offices of Columbia Steel Company were honored recently by J. L. Perry, president of the company.

The employees, who were guests at a luncheon in the San Francisco Commercial Club, were presented with service pins and certificates. Perry extolled their years of service to Columbia Steel and United States Steel Corporation.

"You are the strong foundation of our company," Perry said. "Upon you rests the responsibility for the continuing success of the company in serving the growing industrial West."

Senior employees present included Joseph J. Weyand, product supervisor, rolled steel products, with 43 years of service; Robert Baker, products manager, general sales, 42 years of service, and Carl S. Warner, superintendent of field construction, with 41 years of service.

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