

Masons Install New Officers At Friday Fete

Installation of officers of the Torrance Masonic Lodge No. 447 was effected Friday evening. Worshipful Master Vincent C. Viellave, installed Fred O. Bacon in the East, ably assisted by Immediate Past Master R. Borden Park, who served as master of ceremonies.

Subordinate officers installed to serve with the new master include: Leonard D. Babcock, senior warden; John J. Gallareto, junior warden; Gordon A. Mothersell, past master; treasurer; Frederick Cook, past master; secretary; Frank Thompson, chaplain; Mark A. Wright, senior deacon; Christian A. Bartsch, junior deacon; Frank Schmidt, senior steward; John E. Harrington, junior steward and Thomas N. Foster, tier. Raymond O. Lougee was not present; he will be installed in the office of marshal at a later date.

Take Heart: Local 'Kinsey Report' Shows Decline in Drunkenness, Auto Accident Rate

For the fretters and worriers who fear the world in general and Torrance in particular—is rapidly "going to the dogs," the Torrance Police Department had an answer: They need fret not so hard, nor worry so long. People, as such, are here to stay.



CAR MEETS POLE . . . Mishap Rate on Decline in '49

On a year-end report released Monday, police figures chronicled human misbehavior in 1949 as being no worse than in 1948 or '47. Not much better, to be sure, but not worse.

Although the population of Torrance has increased by about 40 percent since the start of 1948 only 14 more injury accidents happened in Torrance traffic in '49 than in '48. There were 85 injury accidents here last year as compared with 71 the year before and 63 in '47.

Slight increases in numbers of cases do not reflect an increase in human misbehavior, but rather, our increase in population, Torrance Police Chief John H. Stroth declared.

In some departments, the incident of persons charged with various offenses has actually

gone downward despite the population increase. Sex cases showed a decline here in '49, the record show. Last year, 11 persons were charged with rape and sex offenses; in '48 there were 13 such cases.

Drunkenness, too, showed a heartening downtrend. In '49, 203 souls were led to the local lock-up in tipsy condition; the year before there were 277 picked up. But '47 was the wettest of the three, with 404 cases reported.

Commenting on some of the manifestations of his poor man's Kinsey Report, Chief Stroth pointed out that increased efficiency of law enforcement wasn't performed by mirrors. At the

start of 1949, personnel at the local station stood at a meager 22. But with the vast increase in Torrance population, six patrolmen were added; two men donned the plain garb of roving detectives, two new patrol cars were put into service and a new state-wide teletype machine was installed at the Cravens avenue headquarters. All officers, together with the Chief, and Police Matron Lucille Stroth work a five-day week as do other city employees.

"What's the picture for '50?" "If Mr. and Mrs. Torrance will keep up the cooperation they gave the department during the past year, they can expect good law enforcement during the year to come," Chief Stroth pointed out. "Call us whenever something does not look as it should."

Following is a breakdown on police activity during the past two years:

Persons Charged	1949	1948
Criminal Homicide	1	0
Rape	2	5
Burglary	2	5
Aggravated assault	3	14
Armed robbery	3	9
Larceny, under \$50	18	49
Larceny, over \$50	15	19
Auto Theft	17	12
Other assaults	20	36
Forgery, counterfeiting	3	2
Embezzlement and fraud	3	2
Weapons violation	5	8
Sex offenses	11	13
Offenses against family and children	4	2
Liquor laws	20	20
Drunkenness	203	277
Disorderly conduct	47	77
Vagrancy	4	3
Gambling	3	3
Driving while intoxicated	80	80
Violating Driving laws	212	221
Parking Violations	1679	891
Traffic and Motor	2794	2237
Motor Vehicle Accidents	126	84
All other offenses	126	84
Field for investigation	25	25
Narcotics, drugs, etc.	1	1
Stolen property, receiving	0	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	126	84
Injury accidents	85	71
Killed	1	1
Injured	120	106
Prop. damage accidents	277	250
Public accidents, not with Motor Vehicle	3	0
Number injured, not with miscellaneous	0	7
miscellaneous	15	15
Adgers cared for	15	15
raisons assisted	1471	3799
raisons found open	497	222
raisons missing	59	74
raisons found	66	71
raisons discovered	13	19
raisons outages reported	82	68
criminal complaints	222	146
cases for other jurisdictions	29	8
sanity cases handled	2	2
accide cases investigated	2	2
udden deaths investigated	22	12
reports made concerning	59	74
affecting other Depts.	1400	952
raisons served prisoners	72	77
illage of Police cars	179,516	150,636
total value of property	\$45,454.41	\$45,405.61
Total value of stolen prop. recovered	\$23,153.00	\$31,994.00
Value of property recovered for other jurisdiction	\$17,445.00	\$23,015.00
Automobiles recovered for other jurisdictions	15	18

INSECT PEST COMES

The boll weevil first entered the U.S. in 1892.

Torrance Queen To Be Crowned At Regal Ball

A parade to launch the 1950 Torrance Queen contest will be held on April 22, according to Mrs. Bonnie McCoy, publicity chairman.

C. V. JONES ELECTED TO HAEC BOARD

Charles V. Jones, retiring president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, was among six members of the Harbor Area Employers' Council elected to the board of directors of the year-old organization at the first annual meeting held in Torrance City Hall last week.

Others voted to board membership for the first time were B. M. Malone of San Pedro, and J. W. Jensen of Wilmington.

Harry M. Carr, secretary, treasurer and a member of the board, was reelected to both posts.

Reelected to the board were C. L. Prow of Los Angeles and Thomas K. Ware of Gardena.

Frank S. Selover, executive secretary of the group, in his annual report to the membership stated the council now has more than 200 members.

Remaining on the board for another year are A. J. McCown, president, H. W. Smith, vice-president, Leon Ferrier, Cecil Caldwell, and Paul Diamond.

Lions Speaker Tells of Arizona Plan to 'Rob' Water Sources

How political pressure is allegedly being exerted by Arizona to "rob Southern California of Colorado River water" was disclosed to members of the Torrance Lions Club.

Facts concerning the important water problem now facing local communities were discussed by Gilbert F. Nelson at a luncheon meeting Tuesday, January 10, at 12:30 noon.



GILBERT F. NELSON Political Pressure Greater Than Water Pressure

Nelson is Deputy Attorney General of the Colorado River Board.

"Arizona already has won the first round of the fight in Congress over Colorado River water," Nelson said. He referred to the vote by a Senate committee in favor of the \$738,000,000 Arizona irrigation scheme.

According to Nelson, this project would take water needed by the homes, farms and industries of Southern California. He said the water belongs to Southern California by government contract and must be protected.

"California is not asking for more water than its contracts call for," Nelson declared, "but we must be assured of every drop that is legally ours or we can't meet the continuing growth of population in our cities."

"To solve the long controversy, officials of the Metropolitan Water District and other water authorities favor a Supreme Court decision. Bills that would make this plan possible are before Congress now, Arizona is fighting any Supreme Court action and is attempting to get a political settlement," Nelson said.

Arrangements for the program were made through the Colorado River Association and Paul Diamond, Lions program chairman.

POW To Receive New Benefits

Disabled American Veterans announced this week that applications on which former prisoners of war may file claims for benefits will soon be available in all DAV service offices and local post offices.

J. G. Caldwell, commander of South Bay Chapter 92, said veterans who were prisoners of war during their military service will be granted one dollar for each day not "properly clothed, fed, or housed."

Following are the dates officers will visit the outlying schools:

January 17-2 p.m.; Perry Elementary School.

January 18-3 p.m.; WALTERIA Elementary School.

January 25-2 p.m.; Seaside Elementary School.

February 3-2 p.m.; Fern Avenue Elementary School.

February 8-2 p.m.; Torrance Elementary School.

February 15-2:30 p.m.; Catholic Nativity School.

February 22-3 p.m.; Hollywood Riviera (Corner of Calle Mayor and Calle Miramar).

Owners of bicycles may register their vehicles any Friday afternoon from 3:5 p.m. at the Torrance Police Station, Stroth said.

Owners of new bicycles as well as those with vehicles registered previously must obtain a city license for 1950.

Fee for a new registration is 50 cents—for a re-registration the fee is 25 cents.

No sales slip need be presented at the time of licensing nor need the parent accompany the child and his bicycle at the time it is licensed. Owners must bring their bicycles however to be stamped, Stroth indicated.

'Old' Members To be Feted

A meeting honoring charter members of the Torrance Lions Club will be held January 17. Word is out that all "old timers" are invited to attend as guests of the club.

Earle D. Baker, who was district governor when the club was formed in 1945 will be guest speaker.

Working on plans for the special meeting are C. B. Walls, Al Isen, Paul Diamond, Stan Selover and Fred Boren.

TORRANCE HERALD

1619 GRAMERCY—PHONE 444 Established Jan. 1, 1914 Published Every Thursday

Torrance, Calif. Editor: Grover C. Whyte Publisher: E. B. Brown, Business Mgr. Jack O. Baldwin, Managing Editor

Adjusted Legal Newspaper By Superior Court, Los Angeles County Entered as second class matter, January 30, 1914, at post-office, Torrance, Calif., under Act of March 3, 1879.

Official Newspaper of City of Torrance, Calif. Subscription Rates

Anywhere in Los Angeles County \$2.00 per year 6 Months, \$1.00; 3 Months 50c Payable in Advance

Outside Los Angeles County \$3.00 per year Payable in Advance

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ALMOND'S ANNUAL

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Appraisal of Park Lots Authorized

With the thought of increasing the size of El Retiro Park, the City Council Tuesday night authorized the city manager to have 23 lots adjacent to the park appraised by real estate experts.

City Councilman Nick Drale suggested the lots be purchased by the city before the land owners started construction on the property.

City Manager George W. Stevens reported he had answers from several property owners who appraised their land at prices ranging from \$800 to \$3000 per lot.

Councilman Bob L. Haggard said he felt the expenditure of \$25,000 which the transaction would require would be "pouring sand down a rat hole." He suggested that a plot of ground consisting of several acres be purchased further southward up the hill and closer to the majority of people who would be using the park. He was of the opinion that a substantially larger plot of ground consisting of several acres might be purchased at a much lower figure than \$25,000.

Realty Board Takes Trip

The Title Insurance and Trust Company of Los Angeles recently was host to Gerald L. Alter and personnel from the Alter Realty offices in the Torrance and harbor area. A complete inspection tour of the title plant, with an explanatory lecture by Carl J. Sachs, assistant secretary, was followed by coffee, sandwiches and cake in the company's cafeteria.

The Alter Realty group included Gerald L. Alter, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Ryan, M. F. Nackerman, H. J. Osborne, Jack W. Pettit, Herbert C. Lines, Bob Clayton, Dick Miller, and their guests Perry Connet, local realtor, and W. B. Hickcox, escrow officer for the Torrance National Bank.

WATER LEVEL UP
The water level of the Atlantic ocean is rising along the east coast of the U. S. at the rate of about 18 inches every century.

Recreation Building COUNCIL ORDERS PARK BUILDING PLANS DRAWN

Acting on a recommendation of the Recreation Commission, the City Council Tuesday night instructed the city manager to prepare plans for a \$3000 recreation building to be constructed in Hollywood-Riviera.

Two other recommendations as tendered by Bud Lee, chairman of the commission, were to approve the installation of lights at the softball diamond in WALTERIA and to grant to the Tartar Teens, a group of teenagers, the use of the Civic Auditorium on Friday nights.

The council voted to withhold the expenditure of the \$3000 until the plans for the building had been prepared and submitted for approval. The money is part of a recreation budget item of \$21,000 authorized for 1950.

Red Cross Offers City Free Swimming Instruction in Pool

Aid from the American Red Cross was promised in the training of life guards and non-swimmers when and if Torrance builds the much talked about swimming pool, a spokesman indicated this week.

Fred J. Schwankovsky, field representative of the Red Cross safety services, said his organization was in a position to train at no cost, life guards and institute a program of swimming instruction.

He said they would also aid in the training of a pool manager to enable him to maintain good safety practice, for mass swimming programs.

The representative said that a recent Red Cross survey indicated that 50 per cent of students of high school age could not swim and were incapable of handling themselves properly in the surf or pool.

YOUTH RALLY PLANNED BY NAZARENE CHURCH

Based on the theme "Youth Serving God," the young people of the 10 Nazarene Churches in the Harbor Zone, will present an all local talent youth rally in the First Baptist Church, on Friday, January 13, at 7:30 p.m., it was announced this week by Rev. W. A. Penner, pastor of the Torrance Nazarene Church.

Mrs. Agnes Foster, president of the zone, expressed the appreciation of the members of the Nazarene churches to the local members of the Baptist Church for the use of their edifice for the event.

The public is invited. On Sunday evening, January 15, a group of students from Pasadena College, Pasadena, will have charge of the 7:30 evening

Rev. Clarence Miller to Present Bible Origin Study Here Sunday

The Rev. Clarence E. Miller, pastor of the First Methodist Church of Torrance will continue a series of sermons on "Our Faith" at the 11 a.m. service Sunday morning. This series of sermons was started in November with "Our Faith in God." In December the theme was "Our Faith in Christ" and the theme for

January is "Our Faith in the Bible." Sunday's theme will be "What is the Bible and How Did We Get It," which will be the first of the three sermons on "Our Faith in the Bible."

The second and third in this series will be, "What the Bible Means to Us" on January 22 and "How to Read the Bible," on January 29.

A nursery is provided where parents may leave their young children during the service. On Sunday evening at 7:30 p.m. The Methodist Church will be host to the other churches of Torrance for the presentation of a Sacred Concert by the Bushell Concert Ensembles, directed by Leonard Bushell. "Requiem Mass" by Brahms will be featured. The concert will close with a choral number by James Howe, former resident of Torrance.

The Sunday School of the Methodist Church begins each Sunday morning at 9:45 a.m. with departments and classes for all ages, from the two and one-half year old nursery child to the young adult and adult classes.