



ON THE SPIKE . . . Telephone company officials found themselves on the spike this week, with a demand by the combined service clubs of Torrance for better and improved telephone service. They claim that although certain facilities (such as those being installed above) have been expanded, the service has not kept pace with the growth of Torrance. (Herald photo.)

No Immediate Relief Say Phone Officials

Dial telephones for Torrance are in the offing, but nothing definite as to a date when they will be installed was the only answer telephone officials were able to give yesterday to a demand for better service levied by the combined service clubs of Torrance.

The demand was made by the Coordinating Council of Torrance service clubs including the Rotary, Lions, Kiwanis and Optimist club. They asked Dean Sears, president of the Chamber of Commerce, to urge the board of directors of the Chamber to take a firm stand to improve the telephone service with the least practical delay.

During two press conferences in the Herald offices yesterday, two local telephone officials reported that calls to high company executives offered little hope in the immediate future for improvement in the service locally.

According to Floyd Y. Snyder, district manager for the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company, other areas with a backlog of unfilled orders for telephones were taking precedence over Torrance.

The demand, signed by Dr. W. I. Laughon, a representative of the Coordinating Council, charged the company with providing "a peculiar brand of service to Torrance residents from the same quarters, though somewhat expanded facilities, it occupied 10 years ago."

This is in face of growth of Torrance during the past ten years of nearly 125 per cent, the letter said.

Snyder explained the situation saying that while Torrance had some facilities and only a small backlog of unfilled orders other communities were completely without telephones.

"We want the people of Torrance to feel that we haven't broken faith with them. We realize what the situation is in Torrance and plans are for the eventual installation of a dial system — but just when that installation will start is too indefinite at this time," he said.

The Coordinating Council claims that business men, groups and subscribers have "lost faith" in the company and that promises of improved service for Torrance have been deferred from year to year.

They charge also that the fact that the city of Torrance is served by several exchanges and two telephone companies is "complicating communications both by slowing down service and increasing its cost."

"We believe that the telephone company has a real responsibility in helping make a harmonious community of Torrance, and that adequate steps should be taken to make this a reality, NOW," the let-



MISS HARRIET HARDY . . . Accepts New Position

Miss Hardy Gets New Dean's Post

Miss Harriet Hardy, former girls' vice principal at Torrance High School, has accepted a position with the South Pasadena-San Marino High School, it was learned this week.

She will serve as coordinator of counseling and dean of girls, according to Mrs. Addis Thomas, former landlady of Miss Hardy.

On leaving Miss Hardy expresses her appreciation "for the many courtesies extended me during my three years at Torrance High School."

Miss Hardy was one of several teachers whose resignation acceptance by the Board of Education brought considerable criticism upon members of the

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All's Quiet On National Guard Front As New War Jitters Grip Torrance

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Proposed Budget of \$859,740 Submitted to City Council

New Budget Shows Increase of 13% Over Previous Year

Though the proposed 1950-51 city budget of \$859,740 reflects a 13 per cent increase over last year, city hall officials Tuesday night expressed the desire to do all possible to "hold the line" on the tax rate of \$1.12.

Under the terms of the city charter, two public hearings will be held on the proposed budget. Dates of the hearings have not yet been announced.

The estimate of the annual budget for this year, showing an increase of \$97,964 over 1949-50, was presented to the City Council by City Manager George W. Stevens.

According to Stevens, the greatest increases have been made in the building, fire, and police departments. He said the increases were necessitated by the building boom and the resulting great increase in the city's population.

"The city is closing the present fiscal year in excellent condition," Stevens reported. He praised the various department heads for adherence to the budget established for the operation of the city last year.

Stevens' estimate of the new tax rate deemed necessary to support 1950-51 budget fell between \$1.12 and \$1.15. He pointed out that final tax rates could not be fixed until accurate information regarding assessed valuations for the year are obtained.

The proposed budget was referred to the budget and finance committee for consideration.

Based on an assessed valuation (estimate) of \$50,700,000, Stevens submitted the following

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VIC TEER . . . Steel Union Leader

Redondo Beach Carpenter Heads Steelworkers

Vic Teer, 1813 Flagler lane, Redondo Beach, a carpenter at Columbia Steel Company, was elected president of the 1160 members of the United Steel Workers of America, Local 1114, at an election held at the local plant last Thursday.

He defeated Carl Steel a former president of the Union and presently a member of the Torrance Board of Education, by a count of 408 to 311.

Teer succeeded Alex McJannett, who declined to seek reelection because of illness in his family and for other personal reasons, the former union head said

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Sale of Safe, Sane Fireworks OK'd by City

Safety rather than ceremony seems to be the keynote for Fourth of July celebrations in Torrance this year.

An 11th hour change in the city's laws will permit charitable groups to sell fireworks in Torrance—BUT, the state laws forbid the shooting of fireworks.

However, certain fireworks described as "1-A" in the State Safety Code (safe and sane) fireworks may be discharged in the Torrance City Park. Outside of the park area the discharging of fireworks is taboo.

Police Chief John Stroh said that his department and the State Fire Marshal's office will put a quick end to anyone's independence Day celebrating if the celebrants are shooting firecrackers, roman candles, sons-a-guns and similar "dangerous" pyrotechnics.

In the county areas adjacent to Torrance "the possession, sale or discharge of fireworks of any kind, except paper caps and cap pistols, is prohibited by county ordinance," according to County Fire Chief Spence D. Turner.

"Attention is called to this particularly because under the county safety measure sparklers and other types of so-called 'safe and sane' fireworks which are permitted in some localities are definitely ruled out in the county area."

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M/Sgt. LEONARD GIBBONS AND RECRUIT SAMUEL MAY . . . Only One Signer-Upper Since the Korean Incident

Board Plans First Meet

For the purpose of electing a president, the members of the new Torrance Board of Education will hold an organizational meeting Saturday, July 1, at 1 p.m. in the administration building, 2335 Plaza del Amo.

Due to be sworn in as new members of the board are Albert L. Jackson, former councilman, and William H. Tolson, a former mayor of Torrance.

Also due to take the oath is Judge John A. Shidler who was returned to the board at the May 19 school district election.

Retiring members of the board include Dr. Howard A. Wood, present president of the trustees, and Mrs. Evelyn Carr, member.

The first business meeting of the new board will be held Thursday evening, July 6.

If You're Sure You Haven't Been Counted, Then—

Although few claims of not being counted have been heard from local residents, the Torrance Chamber of Commerce is cooperating with the U. S. Census Bureau to "pick up the loose ends."

Anyone who feels he has not been counted is urged to drop a post card to the Chamber of Commerce listing the head of the family (full name), a address, telephone number, age, race, marital status, and state of birth. The same information is requested of all members of the family.

James I. Pierceall, census district supervisor, urged persons not to send cards until they are certain that someone of the household has not previously given the information to a census taker.

One Volunteer Signs Up For Military Duty

By JACK O. BALDWIN

Nerves of Torrance residents, like the rest of the world, were a bit jumpy over the news of the Korean situation this week.

However, a Herald reporter's check of various military bases and installations in the area yielded little information that would serve as grounds for such a feeling.

A California National Guard spokesman, who asked that he not be quoted, reported he had no orders to post "No Visitors" signs about Guard headquarters at the Torrance Municipal airport. The local airport and Torrance City Park serve as headquarters for companies of the 578th Combat Engineer Battalion of the National Guard.

Major General Dan Huddelson, commanding officer of the 4th Division of the National Guard, reported on a meeting held at Division Headquarters Tuesday night.

"No official action by the Guard has been ordered or is indicated in the immediate future," said the general, whose civilian job is with the General Petroleum Corporation as superintendent of stores, Vernon.

At the Army and Air Force Recruiting office at the Torrance Post Office building, Master Sgt. Leonard L. Gibbons, recruiting sergeant, reported that only one local volunteer had signed up since Russia made her move into Korea last week-end.

Volunteering was Samuel M. May, 2340 West 24th street, a graduate of Torrance High School in 1949. He signed for the full six-year hitch in the anti-aircraft division.

Aside from that, events on the local scene appear to be continuing as usual.

Ex-Newsboy, 10 Latest Youthful Cancer Victim

Cancer claimed last Saturday its third youthful victim within the past two months.

Latest victim was a former Torrance Herald carrier boy, Ten-year-old Matthew Lawrence MacArthur. The son of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence MacArthur, 24819 Eshelman avenue, lived with his parents at 1567 West 214th street until last September, at which time the family moved to the Eshelman avenue address.

Final rites for the former fourth grader at Haldale Elementary School were held yesterday morning with mass being celebrated at the St. Margaret Mary's Church in Lomita. Rosary was recited Tuesday evening at the Gamby Mortuary.

Interment was in Holy Cross cemetery.

Surviving the youthful victim are nine brothers and sisters, namely: Joseph, Thomas, William and Steven; Noma, Jean, Sandra, Mary Clare, Marguerite and Lynn. Also surviving are two grandmothers, Mrs. Clare Schwintek of Los Angeles and Mrs. Noma Ethel Robertson, of Berkeley.

Young MacArthur's death was the third such tragedy reported since April.

On April 23 15-year-old Hettie Yoes, 24461 Madison avenue, a student at Torrance High School, died in a Long Beach hospital, never aware that she was a victim of cancer.

A month later, on May 24, Harvel Guttenfelder Jr., 713 Madrid avenue, lost a two and a half year fight to cancer—just two months after he graduated from the University of Southern California.

Young MacArthur died on June 24, last Saturday, at the Los Angeles Children's Hospital after a three-month illness.

Alondra Park Frolic Panics Hucks, Beckys

Ferguson Kids Capture Lion's Share of Huck Finn Trophies

All the Huck Finns and Becky Thatchers in Torrance live at 3745 West 171st street.

That, at least, was what the judges must have thought Saturday when they started handing out Huck and Becky prizes at the Alondra Park Huck Finn contest.

First prize in the junior girls' contest for the Becky Thatcher dress-up went to Barbara Jean Ferguson, 3745 West 171st street. Her mother, who had worked hard on the costume, was happy.

First prize in the senior girls' contest for the Becky Thatcher dress-up went to Jackie Ferguson, 3745 West 171st street. Her mother, who had worked hard on the costume, was hilarious.

First prize in the senior boys' contest for the Huck Finn dress-up went to Donald Ferguson, 3745 West 171st street. His mother, who had worked hard on the costume, was beside herself by now.

The Ferguson children's cousins, Rina and Conrad Jalo, also of 3745 West 171st street, knocked off second prizes in girls' senior division and the boys' senior division.

Cosponsored by the Los Angeles County Park Department and the Alondra Park Anglers Club, the contest was billed as part of "Huck Finn," Day a day of fun and fishin'.

The contest for the Huck Finn characters was divided into junior and senior classes for both boys and girls. The junior class was for children 10 and under, the senior class for children from 11 to 16.

Local Lad Lands 10-Inch Blue Gill

Pulling a 10 1/2-inch Blue Gill from the Alondra Park lake Saturday afternoon was good enough for a second prize medal for Gary Hakanson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Orville W. Hakanson, 800 Portola.

The consolation prize went to a lad who managed to land one that measured a scant three inches.



A HUCK FINN AND TWO BECKY THATCHERS At the Old Fishin' Hole Are Barbara, Donald, and Jackie Ferguson