

War Hits Home as Torrance Youth, 18, Dies in Korea

EDITED in Torrance — PRINTED in Torrance — OWNED by Torrance Folks — SINCE 1914

5c
Delivered By Mail
\$2 Yearly

TORRANCE HERALD

36th YEAR — No. 37

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1950

12

24 PAGES



SCHOOL, BAH! . . . Fourth Grader Dennis Hansen, 1220 Elm avenue, awaits the first school bell of the fall semester at Fern Avenue School. (Herald photo.)

School Enrollment Jumps 23% Lower Grades Pack Classrooms

As school bells chimed the start of the 1950-51 school year last Monday morning, school officials found themselves hunting for room to care for a 23 per cent jump in enrollment. Pouring through the doors of the seven local schools were 4398 students, according to Warren Hamilton, district attendance officer.

4300 EXPECTED

Though school board officials were expecting an enrollment of 4300, the teachers and administrators continued to search for spots for an additional 50-100 students expected to enroll during the remainder of the week.

As the increased enrollment continued to climb, forcing some classes into double sessions, it became apparent that it was the "same old story"—building. Homes, popping up like mushrooms, have been planned, built and moved into, even during the short period of summer vacation.

ABOVE LAST YEAR

Enrollment figures as of Tuesday afternoon showed 4398 students registering compared with 3575 last year.

First grade students topped the list with 502 students showing up to start a 12-year grind. The number of students in

each class dwindled right through the 12 grades with only 144 enrolling as twelfth graders.

The new North Torrance school started classes with an enrollment of 446 students, resulting in the only drop in enrollment at Perry School where many of the North Torrance students attended last year.

SHOWS GREATEST JUMP

Seaside Elementary School showed the greatest jump in enrollment, with exactly 200 new students enrolling.

Following is a comparative table showing the number register-

(Continued on Page 2)

Recreation Draws Total Of 102,715

A grand total of 102,715 persons participated in the city's recreation program during the months of June, July and August, according to a report released this week by Frank H. Carpenter, superintendent of recreation.

Leading the parade was the Torrance playground where a total of 16,846 took advantage of the programs offered there.

The Torrance ball park and the Walteria park ran a close second and third. Torrance led with 15,045 and Walteria followed with 15,012.

Next on the list was the Perry playground in North Torrance where a total of 14,904 showed up during the three summer months.

The three-month total compares with approximately 112,000 which was the 12-month total for 1949, according to Carpenter.

With the continuation of the city's expanded recreation program throughout the fall and winter, last year's record attendance mark will fall with a thud.



FIRST DAY RUSH . . . Kids love to be first—even going back to school, as this shot taken the first day of school last Monday morning at Fern Avenue School clearly indicates. Late registrations continued this week to swell the ranks of Torrance school children to more than 4300, school officials said. (Herald photo.)

Important Issues

\$2 Million Water Bond Hearing Next Tuesday

A public hearing on the proposed water bond issue will be held in the Torrance City Council chambers Tuesday night, September 19.

Setting of the hearing followed the reading of a resolution at the council meeting last Tuesday night, which would have authorized the retention of the law firm of O'Melveny and Myers as bond consultants.

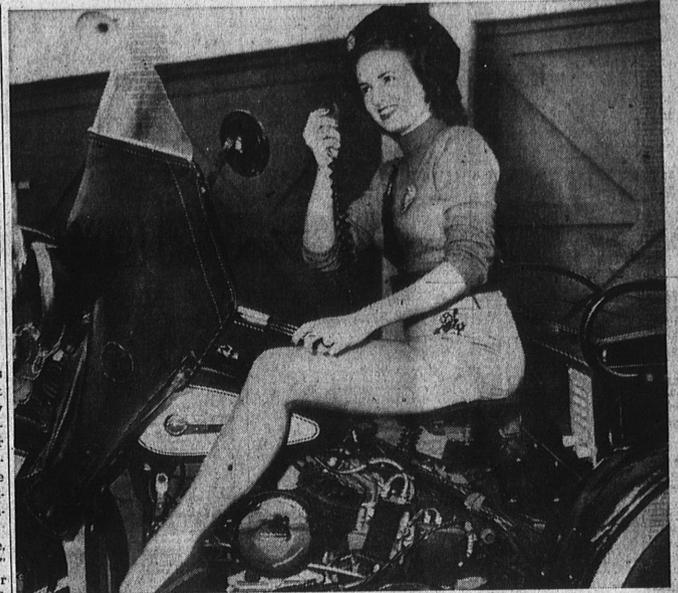
Action on the resolution hiring the attorneys was tabled until the hearing next week.

The slated hearing and adoption of the resolution next Tuesday still would allow time to put the \$2,000,000 bond issue on the November 7 ballot but not without some haste in preparing the matter for the election.

For this reason city officials and members of the council felt it might be wiser to first study all the ramifications of the proposed bond issue as to water rates, tax rates, amount needed and other details of the matter and not attempt to "railroad" the issue onto the November 7 ballot.

Money from the bond issue, described as "self-retiring," would be used to build feeder lines, Metropolitan Water District tie-ins and reservoirs—all needed to rejuvenate Torrance's antiquated water system.

The bond would be a general obligation with money to retire the bonds being provided from revenues raised through increased service to subscribers.



DAPPER TAPPER . . . Lovely Doris McQuillan, 21231 Hobart boulevard, a professional model, and a publicity man's dream of what all cops should look like, dons the official regalia of the Torrance Police Department and goes on the air to call attention to the 13th Annual Torrance Police Show, September 30. Funds derived from the sale of tickets to the two performances of the vaudeville show will be used by the Torrance Police Officers Association, a non-profit group sponsoring the TAP's, to finance the various activities of the youth group. (Herald photo.)

Council Acts to Smoke Out Reds with New Ordinances

Youth Dies in Action 26 Days After Landing

War in Korea, although more than 8000 miles away, hit close to home this week with the announcement that 18-year-old Joe E. Hooker, son of Mrs. Grace Pearson, 1645 West 228th street, had been killed in action on the Korean battle front.

Legion Hosts Hospital Commission

Members of the 19th District Hospital Commission were guests of James Parks, commander of the Bert S. Crossland Post, the American Legion, and other officers of the post, at a breakfast meeting last Sunday at the Legion Clubhouse.

Mrs. Edith White, former adjutant of the local post and presently a member of a Long Beach Woman's Post and who is commander of the 19th District, was replaced in office of the local post by Ed Hissey from the Wilmington Post, No. 237.

Breakfast was served by the Legion Auxiliary under the supervision of Mrs. Ann Olson, president of the ladies' group.

Judge Excuses Himself in Trial Of Policeman

BULLETIN

Police Chief John Stroth said at a late hour yesterday afternoon he would recommend the charges against Patrolman "Tex" Beal be dropped. He said he would tender his resignation with the Torrance Police Department tomorrow.

Suspended Police Officer "Tex" Beal, watchdog of overtime parking violators, will defend himself tomorrow afternoon in the city court against a disturbing the peace charge filed by a local restaurant owner.

WINDOW BROKEN

Beal, who made his professional debut in bouts staged here recently by the Torrance Optimist Club, is accused of practicing his art out of the ring—resulting in the smashing of a plate glass window, and using profane language. The affair is said to have taken place last week in the Gold Star Cafe, 813 Border avenue.

Beal was not on duty at the time.

COMPLAINT SIGNED

The officer appeared in City Judge Otto B. Willett's court last week following the complaint signed by Mrs. Betty Wagner, wife of the restaurant owner.

After hearing Beal enter a plea of not guilty, Judge Willett excused himself from hearing the trial tomorrow at 2 p.m. He said that since he knew both parties involved he felt he could not serve as magistrate during tomorrow's trial. Judge Bernard Lawler, of the Centinela Justice Court, will hear the case.

Acting under the sections of the Police Officers Code, Police Chief John Stroth suspended Beal pending the outcome of the trial.

A student at Narbonne High School in Lomita before he enlisted with the Army in December of 1948, young Hooker had been in Korea only 26 days. He arrived there with the Fifth Regimental Combat unit on July 31, his mother said, and the Department of Defense said he had been killed Aug. 26.

"We received only one letter from him after he got to Korea," Mrs. Pearson said. The young soldier had told his mother of being surrounded for several days by the Reds and then later added that he and other soldiers had managed to escape to the American lines.

LED GLEE CLUB

While at Narbonne, where he would have graduated in June, 1949, Hooker had been the leader in the High School Glee Club and was active in other music and social activities of the school.

Berton A. Hooker, a brother of the deceased, is a paratrooper undergoing training in Tennessee. His mother said he had obtained a furlough and would arrive here tomorrow afternoon.

Another brother, Kenneth, lives in Long Beach, and a sister, Mrs. Mildred Keaton, lives at 1557 West 238th street.

Library Board Named

Appointed to the Library Board Tuesday night by Mayor Bob L. Haggard were Mrs. Sally Jackson, Mrs. Philip Humphreys, Herman Mitchell, Kenneth W. Bloomfield, and Library Commissioner, Councilman Willys G. Blount.

School Annuals Still Available

Copies of the 1950 Torrance High School Annual are still available for seniors who did not obtain one of the yearbooks at the close of school in the spring, according to Beth Jenkins, commissioner of publicity.

The book may be purchased at the office of Charles Wallace, vice principal, upon the payment of \$3.50.

Red Cross Meets Tomorrow at Chamber Offices

Torrance Branch, American Red Cross, will meet at 1 p.m. tomorrow at the Chamber of Commerce.

At the last meeting, election of Mrs. Russell Lund as secretary, appointment of key service chairmen, and announcement of a substantial increase in volunteers to the executive board, were "most gratifying" to Mrs. R. F. Bishop, newly elected chairman, she reported.

Service chairmen who will serve include: First Aid, Mrs. William McMahon; Home Nursing, Mrs. John W. Beeman; Blood Bank, Mrs. Clifford East; Disaster, Frank Dominguez; and Staff Assistance Corps, Mrs. M. J. Beale.

Mrs. Beale stipulated, however, that she will serve only until the group has been reorganized and her successor appointed.

Mrs. John Koefler also offered her assistance in reorganizing the Canteen Corps, which she headed during World War II.

With tentative plans being made for a mobile blood bank visit to Torrance in the near future, Mrs. Beale has arranged to have staff assistants at the Chamber of Commerce from 2 to 4 daily beginning Monday.

Anti-Red Laws Follow Pattern Set by County

Reds have been ordered to register with the Chief of Police under the sections of an anti-Communist ordinance passed by the Torrance City Council Tuesday night.

The council's action followed what has been described as a precedent making move in the nation, taken recently by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors when it rushed through a series of ordinances requiring the registration of Communists residing in, or passing through, unincorporated county areas.

The local ordinance makes the same stipulations regarding the City of Torrance.

ATTORNEY EXPLAINS

City Attorney C. Douglass Smith, who patterned the local law after the county ordinance, said that in addition to requiring registration of Communist Party members the enactments would prohibit registrants from purchasing explosives, carrying concealed weapons or joining civilian defense organizations.

Passage of the ordinances was by a 4-0 vote, Councilman Harvey B. Spelman Jr. being on vacation and therefore not in attendance at the meeting.

THREE ORDINANCES

As explained by Smith, the first ordinance requires registration of Communists who "favor expansion of world Communism but do not necessarily favor overthrow of our government." The second is directed at those favoring sabotage but not the immediate use of force and violence. The third ordinance, he said, covers those advocating use of force and violence for the overthrow of constituted government.

Failure of Communists to register would be a misdemeanor.

(Continued on Page 2)

City Workers Join CIO

Members of the United Public Workers Union kicked out the union, joined the CIO, and ask the city to again deduct union dues from city employees' checks, the Torrance City Council was informed last Tuesday night.

Sherman Miller, former president of the local union of city employees and newly elected president of the Government and Civic Workers Organizing Committee, CIO, advised the

council by letter.

His request to reinstate the check-off system resulted in a 2-2 deadlock of the council. The council then voted to meet with the president and international representative of the union to discuss the matter. The council members did not appear to be against granting of the check-off system to the new union of city employees, but wished to assure themselves that the group would be recognized by

the CIO and that the latter group would issue a charter.

Deduction of union dues payable to the United Public Workers ended recently when the council voted to discontinue the practice.

Councilman Willys G. Blount moved that the city drop the practice of deducting the dues until the city workers disaffiliated themselves, with the union which has been called "CIO controlled."