

# Dollar Days—Thursday, Friday, and Saturday

## Phoney Inspector Slugs, Robs Housewife of \$75 in Own Home

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## College Coach Among 6 Hurt in Auto Crash

### 'Inspector' Escapes in Green Car

A phoney inspector slugged and robbed a Torrance woman of \$75 in her home Tuesday afternoon, according to a report on file with the Torrance Police Department.

Mrs. E. P. Bodiford, 40, of 2815 Knode street, told police she came home about 3 p.m. Tuesday and was met by a man wearing khaki clothes who said he wished to inspect the water heater in her new home. As she turned past the man he slugged her over the head, knocking her unconscious, she told police.

Her son found her lying on the kitchen floor when he came home from school.

Missing from her purse was \$75, Mrs. Bodiford reported.

The victim told police she believes her assailant to be the same man who tried to offer her a ride as she walked toward her new home in the Shady Nook tract located near Sepulveda boulevard and Western avenue.

She described her attacker as about 35 years of age, six feet tall, weighing approximately 185 pounds, and having a dark complexion. She said he was driving a green sedan.

### Income Tax Aid To Be Available

To assist local taxpayers, and that just about includes everybody, O. J. Jensen, a deputy collector of internal revenue, will visit the Torrance City Hall on Monday and Tuesday, February 26 and 27.

He will aid persons having difficulty in filing out individual income tax forms for 1950.

Since the deputy will be here only two days this year, he will be unable to actually file out the forms but will be available to answer any questions relative to the income tax return for last year. There is no charge.

He may be contacted in the council chambers on those days between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

### Burglar, Finding Slim Pickin's, Takes Door Locks

While he was moving from one house to another, someone entered his old house and moved out some things he did not intend to take along, Robert Alkire told Torrance police Sunday of this week.

While moving in at 1512 West 204th street someone entered the home from which he was moving at 18420 Roslin avenue and removed several lock assemblies from the inside doors as well as a kitchen light fixture. Moved out without permission also were some carpenter's tools and garden tools, Alkire re-



"THAT BREWSTER BOY" . . . "Father" Irwin Kasten, "Mother," Barbara Jackson; "Nancy," Irma Carstens, and "Joey" Duane Mittan, have leading roles in the Torrance High School Senior Class Play to be presented March 7, 8 and 9. Proceeds from the play will help defray the cost of graduation activities. (Herald photo).

### Seeing-Eye Dog Fund a Fraud, Says Vet Agency

The Veterans Service Center is not conducting a fund-raising campaign to purchase a seeing-eye dog, Mrs. Helen Dill, director, warned residents this week.

Several telephone complaints have been received by the Torrance Police Department from various residents in Torrance that they have been solicited to contribute to a Veterans Service Center sponsored fund campaign. The solicitor would not name the blind person for whom the dog was to be purchased nor identify himself.

### Night Prowlers Enter Perry Elementary School

What it was he was after may never be known, but the Torrance Police are certain it was not an education that prompted thieves to break into the Perry Elementary School during the past week-end.

John Selby, 1531 1/2 Marcelina avenue, a custodian at the school, reported that someone broke into the school sometime between 10:30 p.m. February 17 and the same hour on the 18th. He found two cigarette butts on the floor but could not immediately determine what, if anything, was missing.

### Milkman's Wife Hurt Seriously

An El Camino College grid coach, Norm Verry, was among the six persons injured in a two-car crash Sunday evening at 174th street and Western avenue.

Listed as receiving serious injuries was Mrs. Edith Hartel, 42, of 1513 West 215th street.

Others injured in the crash were Merritt Hartel, 46, of the 215th street address; Capt. Thomas B. Sawyer, 32, of San Pedro; Paul Porter, 56, and Della Porter, 53, both of Los Angeles.

#### Verry Driving

Verry, now serving as a lieutenant in the U. S. Marine Corps, was listed by the California Highway Patrol as the driver of one car which crashed head-on with the other auto which was being driven by Hartel. Lt. Verry, now stationed at a Marine Camp near Oceanside, listed his permanent address as 14701 Roxton-avenue Gardena.

The former Camino grid coach and USC football star had 12 stitches taken in a severe cut on his head and one thumb was badly cut. Mrs. Verry told the Herald yesterday. He also suffered painful cuts and bruises about the body.

#### Woman Critical

Mrs. Hartel, wife of a Mayfair Creamery driver, was the most seriously injured of the six and was reported near death following the Sunday evening crash. By Tuesday, however, at Harbor General Hospital attendants listed her condition as much improved, and late yesterday listed her condition as good.

Captain Sawyer, whose car Verry was driving at the time of the crash, was still in the Ft. MacArthur Hospital in San Pedro yesterday. He suffered a severe cut across the face.

#### Knee Injured

Also at Harbor General is Mr. Hartel, who suffered a severe

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SIX INJURED HERE . . . Six were injured in this collision which occurred at 174th street and Western avenue last Sunday day evening. Included among the injured were former grid coach Norm Verry of El Camino, and Mr. and Mrs. Merritt Hartel, of 1513 West 215th street. Mrs. Hartel was injured seriously and her husband, a Mayfair Creamery driver, suffered a badly injured knee.

### Zoellerating Zola Bellwood Takes Lead in Queen Contest

Zola Bellwood took an early lead in the race for the title of Miss Torrance of 1951 this week capturing a 1000 bonus points for her week's efforts and went out in front with 6,056 votes.

Earning the second place bonus points of 750 was Sandy Gulbranson who tallied 3572 points. Pat Merola was in third place and earned the 500 points for the number three spot and ended the week with a total of 3,071 points.

The standings were compiled by William A. Zoeller, a Certified Public Accountant, appointed by the Torrance Junior Woman's Club to tally each week's results.

At the close of the first turn in period on Monday of this week the contestants had earned these Zoelleratings:

Zola Bellwood	6,056
Sandy Gulbranson	3,572
Pat Merola	3,071
Dorothy Sandstrom	2,100
Donna Fuller	1,650
Shirley York	1,310
Alice Gargalis	1,310

The girl selling the most votes will be crowned Miss Torrance of 1951 on April 1. Money raised through the sale of votes will be used to augment the YWCA building fund which is rapidly going down as the new building goes up at Plaza del Amo and Carson street.

The contest is under the general chairmanship of Miss Mary Schultz of the Junior Woman's Club.

### Heads Engineers

Dale Dickson was recently elected president of the El Camino College Engineering Club.

### Mayor Cool As A Cucumber At Ground Breaking

Officials broke both the ice and ground early last Friday morning for the new Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company building to be constructed on the corner of Craven and Marcelina avenue.

Mayor Bob L. Haggard crunched his way across frost covered grass to a spot indicated by company officials and turned the traditional first spadeful of earth.

Workers of the Eschrich Brothers Construction Company early this week began actual construction work on the \$650,000 two-story building. Eventually the building will house dial switching equipment for Torrance subscribers.

### City Sees First Pay Auto Park

Torrance is a big boy now! The first pay-to-park lot made its appearance this week on the lot opposite the Torrance Post Office on Marcelina avenue.

Like anything new and different, the parking lot was met with mixed reactions.

The lot will be operated by Leonard C. Neilson, 1310 Madrid avenue, who has had 14 years experience in the parking lot business and still operates a large lot in Salt Lake City.

#### PLAN ENDORSED

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Torrance Retail Merchants Association Tuesday morning the board went on record as endorsing the plan.

Patrons of the lot will be able to have parking tickets validated for an hour's free parking with the purchase of \$1 in merchandise from a number of cooperating merchants. Those not making purchases will be charged 15 cents for the first hour and 10 cents per hour thereafter with a maximum of 45 cents.

#### PAYS ONLY TAXES

The plan was put into operation after Neilson negotiated with Grover C. Whyte and Mrs. Mary Pagac, owners of the property, to pay the taxes on the lots.

As Torrance moved closer to becoming a "big city" the plan to provide more parking space for shoppers was decided upon when it developed that most of the cars parked on the lot were all-day parkers. A two hour parking limit had been established for the lot by the Chamber of Commerce but policing of the lot was difficult and at times practically impossible.

J. H. Paget, president of the retail group, solicited the cooperation of all merchants in the vicinity to support the program.

### LOCAL I414 TO STAGE FATHER AND SON NIGHT

It will be strictly for "Men Only" next Monday night at the local steelworkers' union hall when members of Local 1414, United Steelworkers of America, host their sons at a "Father and Sons Night."

Arranged by Vic Teer, president of the local, the affair will be held at 7:30 in the union hall, 1316 Border avenue, with a regular business meeting preceding entertainment and refreshments. The sons will be invited to sit-in on the regular meeting, according to Joe McNally Jr., who has been handling the publicity for the event.

All members of the union are urged to attend the meeting and to bring their son or sons with them.

### Bump Blamed as Girl, 16, Hangs Self in Garage

An accidental blow on the head was blamed by the family for the death of 16-year-old Gwendolyn C. Gossill, a member of the Torrance Area Youth Band, who hanged herself Tuesday afternoon in the garage of her home at 25902 Cypress street.

The family said the girl had suffered lapses of memory since experiencing the injury two weeks ago.

She was a junior at Narbonne High School.

The girl, one of six Torrance Area Youth Band Musicians to be chosen to participate in the All-Southern California Band now rehearsing at USC, was discovered by her mother.

Private services for the girl, a daughter of Mrs. Alice Gossill, a teacher at the Harbor City Elementary School, were conducted yesterday afternoon at the Gandy Mortuary in Lomita.

Survivors include her father, Harry; two sisters, Mrs. Alice Hibbard of El Sobrante, and Joan, of the Cypress street address.

### First C D Drill Due Here Soon

The first of a series of disaster drills to test the effectiveness of the Civil Defense program will be staged within the next two weeks. George C. Powell, assistant director of Civil Defense, told a meeting of the Torrance Red Cross Friday of last week.

Just when or where the mock disaster would be staged was being withheld to enable the authorities to imitate conditions which might arise following a surprise attack.

Other Drills Planned

Similar drills will be held in each of the nine other city defense districts within the near future, Powell said.

The Red Cross will be called upon for mass care of "patients," and of those CD workers called to the scene of the practice disaster, he said.

Other business conducted at the meeting included the introduction of Robert J. Deininger, as the new treasurer of the local.

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SITUATION NORMAL . . . Standing in the first of what probably will be many, many lines are these 15 inductees, part of the 25 who were inducted into the service last Monday morning by Local Board No. 117. Shown (in hat with

back to camera) is J. G. Caldwell, chairman of the board, who showed up to see the boys off when they reported in at 5803 Crenshaw boulevard.

### National Supply Executive Named To Aid U. S. In Oil Planning

Charles T. Reichert, Division Sales Manager of the National Supply Company, has taken leave from his job with the



CHARLES T. REICHERT . . . Washington Beckons

local company to become Chief of the Drilling and Production Section of the Material Division of the Petroleum Administration for Defense in Washington, D. C.

As a starter, one of the important functions of Reichert's division is to determine the material requirements for the petroleum industry that will be necessary to accomplish the drilling program for the 43,400 wells to be drilled in 1951 and also the operating material requirements of some half million wells which now provide the oil and gas supply of the nation. His next job will be the allocation of materials to the various equipment manufacturers and oil companies.

Reichert has been with National since 1917, and during the last war was also on leave to take over the important job as Director of Materials on the west coast for the Petroleum Administration for War.