

Council Acts to Restore Riviera Bus Line, Buy New Equipment



THE PEOPLE'S CHOICE . . . Undisputed choice of Torrance voters, all 30, is Charles Ver Jones shown here leaving the polls last Friday with Mrs. Jones. The local hardware merchant was unopposed for reelection to the El Camino College Board of Trustees. (Herald photo).

Merchant Wins 30-0 In One-Man Election

The eyes and ears of the nation turned toward Torrance for a brief moment last Friday all because of a man named Jones.

The wires of the Associated Press through its chain of hundreds of American newspapers and radio stations carried the story about Charles Ver Jones, local hardware merchant, who caused this city 9,000 persons to go dry 12 hours, while the polls closed and the bars closed.

Mr. Jones, somewhat embarrassed about it all, found all liquor stores and all bars and cocktail lounges in Torrance had to close while he, the only candidate nominated, ran for reelection to the El Camino College Board of Trustees.

There were no other issues at stake.

UNANIMOUS VOTE

That Mr. Jones obviously voted for the best man running, was revealed in the election returns from the office precinct in Torrance. The election officials at Torrance High School where the voting took place reported that Mr. Jones carried all 30 of the votes cast in Torrance.

Of the 88,000 eligible voters in the entire El Camino College District, Jones received 3005 votes of the 5351 votes cast in the election. There were 229 blanks, 22 voids, and a scattering of five write-in candidates.

Jones who lives at 1552 Post Avenue, owner of the Torrance Hardware said he felt "a mite

embarrassed" about keeping his hardware store open while several of the pleasure places in town had to close for the election.

"You should have seen all the paychecks I cashed on Friday."

The one-time president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce did a creditable job of publicizing the name of Torrance. Clippings from newspapers in Shreveport, New Orleans, Stockton, Kalamazoo, and many other cities are arriving in each day's mail, Jones said.

Jones' landslide ballot will reseat him as a member of the College Board of Trustees on May 25 when the other members of the board canvass the ballots and declare Jones to be the winner of the unusual election.

Plans for Summer Recreation Outlined

Plans for a full summer of recreation and sports activities have been drawn up by the recreation department and published in an eight-page booklet which is being made available to various organizations this week.

Beginning with the theme that "Recreation is Everybody's Business," Recreation Superintendent Frank Carpenter and his staff have outlined the proposed summer program for each of the city's parks and playground areas.

SPORTS PROGRAM

Plans include the city's summer softball leagues, the Junior and Adult baseball teams, operation of the picnic areas, and the day-to-day programs for the younger set on the playgrounds.

Programs on the playgrounds under the supervision of the recreation department will include crafts, games, movies, and various sports and contests for the kids.

Summer softball leagues for pre-teens, juniors, and midlets will be set up, and the swim program at the Alondra Park pool will be resumed starting July 10.

those last summer are being scheduled. These include an On Wheels Parade, Doll Show, Safety Week, Talent Hunt, Health Week, and others.

The annual Open House program will culminate the summer program on Thursday, August 23. Each playground will display their best craft work, art projects, and posters; and talent from the various playgrounds will furnish the entertainment.

As it was last year, the crowning of the King and Queen of Health will highlight the final program.

Robert Hinds Serving With Navy in Hawaii

Robert D. Hinds, fireman, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mario Puretic of 1525 West 210th, is serving with the transportation division at the U. S. Naval Air Station, Barber's Point, Oahu, T. H.

Hinds, who entered the Navy December 22, 1948, received his recruit training at the U. S. Naval Training Center, San Diego.

Before entering the Navy, he was graduated from Torrance High School.



TOGETHER AGAIN . . . A simple phone call reunited Horace Nunn this week with his two daughters, Mrs. Naoma Townsend and Mrs. Ruth Emfield, both Torrance residents, after a separation of 32 years.—Herald Photo.

STEELWORKERS ENDORSE CANNING OF MAC ARTHUR

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Act to Restore Bus Service to Riviera-Seaside

Restoration of bus service to the Riviera-Seaside Ranchos area was agreed upon by the Transportation Commission of the Torrance City Council at a meeting Tuesday night.

The Commission headed by Councilman Willys G. Blount also voted to purchase some new and smaller type buses for intra-city routing.

The motion to buy the buses was passed subject to the availability of funds and equipment.

From General Fund

Blount said the money for the buses would be allocated from the General Fund. The type of buses under consideration would cost approximately \$6000 each, Blount said. He said the number of buses required would depend somewhat on the condition of the present city-owned equipment at the time the new buses would be ready for delivery.

The resumption of the Riviera Seaside run would probably be instigated with four to six runs daily except Saturday and Sundays, the Transportation Commission chairman said.

Extend Other Lines

Extension of other lines within the city is also planned he indicated.

Serving on the commission are Blount, Councilman Harvey B. Spelman Jr. and Councilman Ed Karlow. City Manager George W. Stevens also sits in on the meetings.

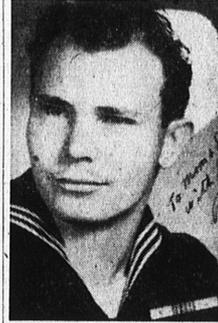
Holiday Wages 'A Must' for Memorial Day

Drug and food store operators may remain open next Wednesday, Memorial Day, if they elect to pay premium wages, Frank S. Selover, executive secretary of the Harbor Area Employers Council, said this week.

All other stores such as furniture stores, dress shops, hardware stores and other stores with contracts with the Retail Clerk's Union must close, he said.

Food store operators, can remain open if they pay double and a half wages.

Drug stores may remain open by paying double time. Butcher shops would have to pay triple time, Selover said.



ROBERT M. STEADMAN . . . Decorated

Torrance Airman Wins Air Medal For War Actions

An Air Medal with a gold star in lieu of a second medal, has been awarded to Robert M. Steadman, aviation machinist's mate, son of a Torrance couple, for his actions as a member of an aerial patrol squadron in Korea.

Steadman, a graduate of Torrance High School in 1939, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Steadman of 1020 Portola avenue.

He was decorated during ceremonies at the U. S. Naval Station, San Diego by Cmdr. Robert L. Donley, commanding officer of Seaplane Patrol Squadron 46.

The navy airman was awarded the medal for outstanding service with the squadron during an eight-month tour of duty in Korea. He flew a total of 20 missions. The air unit was flying Martin Mariner "flying boats" on missions averaging 14 hours for each man and amassed over 5000 hours in the air.

Sailor Escapes Shelling

Dick Oefinger, former Torrance HI and El Camino athlete, apparently escaped injury yesterday when his ship, the Destroyer Brinkley Bass, was shelled by shore batteries at Wonsan, on the Korean east Coast. Three were killed and several injured.

Guilty Plea on Perjury Charges Denied by Judge

U. S. Judge William M. Byrne refused to accept a guilty plea from El Camino College instructor Clarence H. Vetterli in Federal Court Monday and set June 4 as the day when the journalism instructor must reenter his plea.

Judge Byrne said he could not accept both a plea of guilty and a prepared statement Vetterli read to the court.

In refusing Vetterli's plea Judge Byrne said, "When a man pleads guilty, that is that, and a statement such as Mr. Vetterli read to this court is not allowable."

The El Camino instructor is charged with two counts of perjury before the Federal Grand Jury in 1949, during a "Red" spy investigation. He is charged with falsely denying he knew Ignace S. Witezak, former USC instructor, was a Communist agent and denying he gave money to Ichiro "Red" Miwa, a Japanese student to go to Japan in 1941.

Walter S. Binns, federal prosecutor, claims that Miwa was to contact a soviet agent in Japan.

When Vetterli, who lives at 17107 Crenshaw boulevard, reappears in court on June 4 he will go before Judge Peirson H. Hall.

Binns denied rumors that the case might be dropped and said he was ready to begin the prosecution of the 41-year-old journalism instructor and faculty advisor of the college newspaper when the trial date is set.

Before court convened Vetterli handed copies of a prepared statement to reporters and later read the statement as printed below to Judge Byrne.

"Two kinds of charges have been made against me. One is a legal charge of perjury. The other is an implied charge of being involved in Communist espionage."

SEEMS TO CLEAR NAME

"I have been advised that if I were to contest the perjury charge, court procedure would limit my testimony to that accusation alone. I have chosen to."

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Union Backs Truman Steelworkers Local Approves Mac Firing

President Truman's action in firing General MacArthur from his Far East commands received the approval of the local Steelworkers union this week. It was reported in a letter to the Herald.

Commenting on a resolution of the executive board of the United Steelworkers of America, CIO, which was adopted last month, W. J. Hoeltling, recording secretary of the Milky William's Local Union 1414, said the Torrance union is "in full support" of the executive board's resolution.

The resolution was adopted by the Steelworkers in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, last April 19. It said, in part:

"It should be obvious to all fair-minded citizens that the President could not continue to tolerate a situation in which General MacArthur repeatedly voiced policy viewpoints in direct opposition to those of the administration elected by the people to conduct the foreign policy for this country."

The resolution said the President's action was a reaffirmation of the traditional relationship between the democratic civilian government and the military forces.

The executive board also expressed "support of the basic policy of President Truman in this situation in seeking to limit, not to spread, the conflict in Asia and to find a means of restoring peace without appeasement."

Suggest 3-Man Board to Push Water Expansion

Formation of a three-man committee to sponsor the proposed \$1,500,000 development of Torrance water system was suggested by Councilman Nick Draie at a meeting of the Torrance City Council Tuesday night.

Suggested by Draie as members of the committee were City Manager George W. Stevens, City Clerk A. H. Bartlett, and Water Department Manager Bill Stanger.

Mayor Bob L. Haggard, Councilman Harvey B. Spelman and Willys G. Blount indicated they concurred with Draie's motion, but suggested he make the motion when the council sits as a water board.

City Attorney James Hall was asked to report on his trip to Sacramento earlier that day. Hall said he was attempting to push through this session of the legislature some enabling legislation which would permit the consolidation of the three water districts into which the city is now divided.

Deininger Attends Bank Meeting in Pasadena

R. J. Deininger represented the Torrance National Bank at the annual Independent Bankers' Breakfast, one of the annual features of the California Bankers Association convention which was held in Pasadena, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week.

SEPARATED 32 YEARS Phone Call Reunites Family

After searching for each other for 32 years, a father and his two daughters were reunited in Torrance this week as the result of a simple phone call.

One night last March Mrs. Naoma Townsend got to thinking about her father whom she had not heard from for 26 years. Last time she had seen him was when he was living in Kansas City back in 1919.

Acting on a wild chance, Mrs. Townsend stepped to the phone and put through a person-to-person call to Mr. Horace W. Nunn.

"I am sorry, but I don't find any Horace Nunn in Kansas City, but my listings show a Horace Nunn in Independence. Would you care to have me try that number?" the operator asked.

A few seconds later a male voice answered in Independence.

"Is this the Mr. Nunn who has two daughters named Naoma and Ruth?" asked Mrs. Townsend.

"Yes, it is. Why?"

"This is your daughter Naoma," she spoke into the phone. So it was that just such a simple phone call reunited a father and his two daughters after a separation of 32 years.

A trip to Torrance was planned immediately and this week the father and his two daughters, Naoma of 2207 Andree avenue, and Mrs. Ruth Emfield, 2213 Cabrillo avenue, were renewing old acquaintances.

The family became separated over a quarter of a century ago when both the father and the daughters, living in different parts of the country, changed their places of residence at the same time.

Letters exchanged between them came back. "No Forwarding Address."

Their father left yesterday to return to Independence.