

Torrance Flier Lands Plane After Pilot Dies in Flight

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Nine File for Council Vacancies



BOB HAGGARD



M. M. SCHWAB



ALICE THOMAS



GEORGE DOWNING

Mayor, Three Others File For Council

BY JACK O. BALDWIN

As of late yesterday afternoon, nine City Council candidates, including one woman, have indicated they would run for the three seats on the council to be filled at the election in April. Deadline for filing nomination petitions is noon today.

In the ring so far are the hats of: Mayor Bob L. Haggard, the present mayor.

Mervin M. Schwab, past president of the Torrance Council of Churches.

Jack White, president of the North Torrance Civic Improvement Association.

Ed Karlow, a member of the present council.

Mrs. Alice Thomas, a native-born Torrance woman and the first woman ever to run for council.

George Downing, a member of the Civil Service Commission.

And running as a ticket are the three TUC candidates, Nick Drake, a member of the current council; Albert Ison, attorney and liquor store owner, and Vic Benstead, a steelworker.

The names of Karlow, White, and the three TUC (Torrance Unified Taxpayers) candidates have been revealed in earlier news stories.

New in Torrance political circles is the name of Mervin M. Schwab. Before the race is over will be well aware that Schwab is in the race.

At the time he left Ohio he was serving as president of the board of Education of the Clinton School District in Tiffin, a position from which he was resigned when he moved to Torrance.

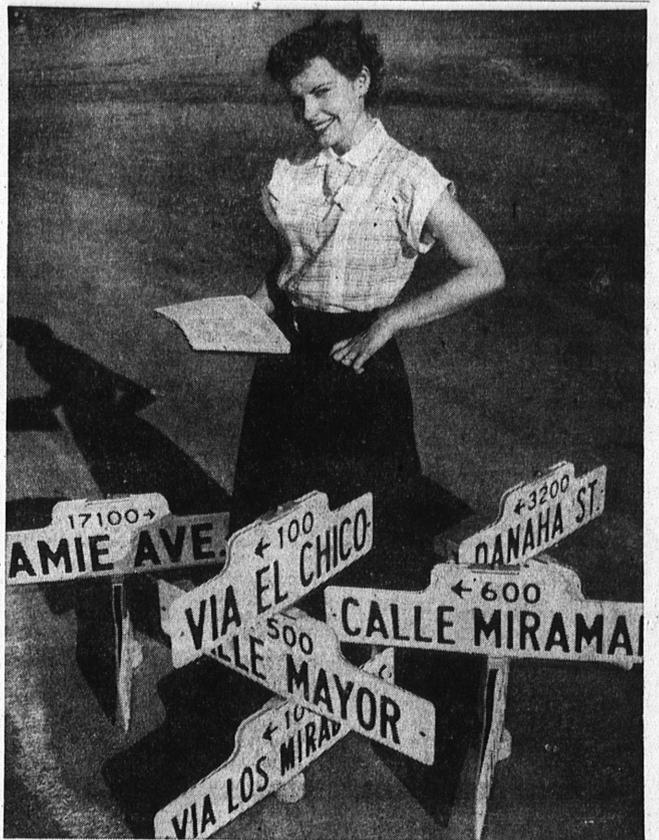
He entered the local City Council race on the urging of the Torrance Council of Churches as their bulwark against big-time gambling and a city ordinance which if repealed would return punchboards and the nickel-grabbing pinball machines to Torrance.

Although there are but five churches comprising the Torrance Council of Churches, there are 22 churches serving the City of Torrance. It is not illogical to assume that denominations might endorse Schwab as a candidate.

Schwab, who is 54 years of age, came to Torrance in 1948 to help organize the glossware department in the new American Radiator and Standard Sanitary Corp. plant on Crenshaw Blvd. He has been with American Standard for 27 years and has served as general foreman of the glossware section for 24 of those years.

At present he is a member of the Torrance Rotary Club and serves as chairman of the Youth Activities Committee. He is a former Scoutmaster and a past district commissioner of the Boy Scouts of America.

He purchased a home at 1508 Acacia Ave. the day after he arrived in Torrance and immediately became active in the local Methodist Church. He has served that church in a number of capacities, including the chairman of the church's Board of Education, superintendent of the Sunday school, and as a lay leader of the church in the absence of the pastor on several occasions. Recently he joined with other members of the community including Charles E. Wallace, vice-principal of Torrance High School, and Lester Fox, principal of Perry Elementary



SIGN LANGUAGE . . . Pretty Jacquie Holloman hardly knows which way to turn with the stacks of signs. Ralph Perkins, superintendent of the street department, has ready for posting. Perkins says crews would start putting up the signs right away. Signs shown are slated for streets in Hollywood Riviera, North Torrance and Pacific Hills. (Herald photo).

Seaside Flier Pilots Ship as Captain Dies

Two South Bay pilots who had flown together "on and off" for eight years, started from Honolulu on a routine Island-to-Los Angeles flight Sunday night, but only one completed the voyage.

He was First Officer William Manfrass, 4813 Reece Rd., Seaside Ranchos.

Capt. L. C. Brown, 46-year-old commander of the United Air Lines passenger Stratocruiser died several minutes after turning the controls over to Manfrass, two hours out over the Pacific.

Brown, a resident of Palos Verdes Estates, told his copilot he felt drowsy and wanted to stand up. Moments later he collapsed and despite efforts of crew members, one of whom is a registered nurse, never regained consciousness.

Manfrass turned the huge airplane around and headed back to the islands. None of the 43 passengers aboard knew of the captain's death until after they landed safely in Honolulu.

A former Air Corps flight instructor and Air Transport Command pilot, Manfrass and his family moved to Torrance only one year ago. Prior to that time Manfrass worked out of a Chicago airfield.

Both men had flown together at Chicago and many times during Manfrass' eight years with United. Brown was a 23-year flight veteran.

Many enlisted men of Torrance and Lantita's 67th Combat Engineer Battalion will be starting home from Korea in April in monthly quotas. It was announced in Korea Tuesday.

In making the announcement, Maj. Gen. Daniel H. Hudelson, division commander, said men whose terms of enlistment expire before October will be released.

National Guard officers must complete their full 24-month terms of service unless replacements are received, one officer said.

Maj. Thomas O. Lawson, personnel officer of the division, said commanders would give serious consideration to World War II service, length of combat time in Korea, the degree of hardship existing in the families of individuals, and prior National Guard and Organized Reserve service in selecting the order in which men were returned.

Light Signals Being Installed

Installation of traffic control signals at Torrance and Crenshaw Bldvs. got under way this week as city crews began setting the huge support poles at the intersection.

City Manager George Stevens said delivery of the control boxes was expected at any time and that the installation would be completed soon.

At the same time, Stevens said crews would start right away to install signals at the Cabrillo-Carson-Cravens "Five-Points" intersection. Installation of signals was expected at any time and that the installation would be completed soon.

Voters Favor Bonds 10 to 1 In Special School Election

Voters overwhelmingly approved Torrance's \$3,000,000 school bond proposal Tuesday, which automatically placed the "okay" stamp on plans for three new elementary and one high school plant.

Although only a handful of the qualified voters made the trip to the polls, the returns were more than 10 to 1 for approval.

Taxpayers will be assessed less than 1 cent per day or about 5 cents per week to pay off the twenty-five-year indebtedness, school board spokesmen said.

Superintendent of Schools Dr. J. H. Hull has indicated that \$2,400,000 worth of bonds will go on sale about June 1 and the remainder will be offered during other years.

No exact locations for the new plants have been given; population surveys will be studied to determine the areas in which fastest growth is taking place. Immediate improvements to existing educational facilities will

be made where needed. Exact election returns showed 1483 yes votes compared to 124 no tallies. There are some 9000 qualified voters in the Unified School District here.

Donut Man's Trial Set for March 10

Willis Warner, 21-year-old donut maker, was ordered held for trial in Superior Court, Long Beach branch, March 10, in a preliminary hearing Thursday afternoon in City Court.

Warner is being held on a grand theft rap following a "fake" holdup of George's Meat 'N Place, a downtown coffee shop, where he was employed. The donut man was left bound while a confederate allegedly made off with some \$400 in cash.



AND SHE DID . . . It took a lot of doing, but Mrs. Domina Blaskovich, 44, of San Pedro, finally brought her 1950 Olds sedan to a halt, and what could be more appropriate than this Western-Sepulveda traffic signal standard. Drivers declared "open season" on poles and signal standards during the past two weeks, knocking down four in ten days. Officer Jim O'Toole gathers dope for the report. (Herald photo).

Isbell Resigns YMCA Position

L. Milton Isbell, executive secretary of the Torrance YMCA since September 1947, yesterday announced his retirement from professional YMCA work to enter the business world.

Isbell was assigned to Torrance shortly after the local branch was separated from San Pedro. He succeeded Ted Meier in the position.

He has been in a large measure responsible for the outstanding growth of the YMCA into one of the finest organizations in the Southland.

The resignation of the secretary is effective March 1, he said. He will become a partner in the Liberty Home Economy Co. with Walt Schaefer and Isbell's brother-in-law, Jim Lawson.

A graduate of Texas Wesleyan College of Ft. Worth, Tex., Isbell has been taking graduate work at the University of Southern California toward his master's degree.

He was captain of the college football team in 1936 and always has been interested in athletics. He was Boys' Work director for the Houston, Tex. YMCA before coming to Torrance.

Married and the father of three children, Isbell lives at 1516 Beech Ave. He is a member of the Disabled American Veterans, Torrance Lions Club, Inter-service Club Council, District Council of PTA, and the Methodist Church.

"I plan to continue to work in the campaign now under way, and sincerely hope my leaving the YMCA at this time will not jeopardize the badly needed fund drive," Isbell said.

He plans to continue in "Y" work as a layman.

John Steinbaugh, chairman of the Board of Managers of the local YMCA, commented on Isbell's resignation:

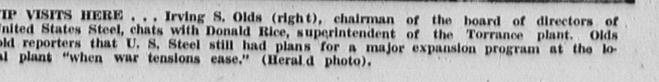
"The Board sincerely regrets the loss of Isbell, who has been so instrumental in advancing the 'Y' during the four years he has been in Torrance. We are grateful that he has agreed to serve as a lay leader."

Steinbaugh said that the personnel committee was screening candidates and would soon announce a successor to Isbell.

"In the meantime," he stated, "trained leaders will be provided to carry on the program until a permanent executive director of the 'Y' is appointed."

11,008 Voters Registered for April Election

Torrance now has a registered voter population of 11,008, it was reported yesterday by City Clerk A. H. Bartlett. Announcing the current registration totals made available yesterday by County Registrar Ben S. Ilte, Bartlett said the present registration is the highest the city has ever had.



VIP VISITS HERE . . . Irving S. Olds (right), chairman of the board of directors of United States Steel, chats with Donald Rice, superintendent of the Torrance plant. Olds told reporters that U. S. Steel still had plans for a major expansion program at the local plant "when war tensions ease." (Herald photo).