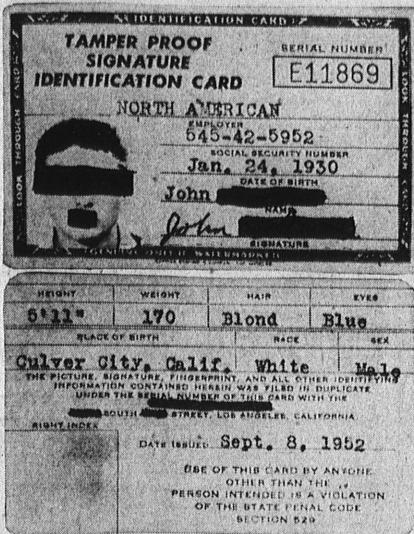


Nab Two Suspects in Chain of Four Morning Station Holdups

Phoney as a \$3 Bill



BOGUS IDEE CARDS . . . Faked identification card (above) showing age of owner to be 22, was found in possession of local youth, actually only 16 years, shortly after he used the card to buy liquor from a local dealer. Any teenager can buy the cards for \$2 with "no questions asked."

Bogus Idee Cards Sold to Teenagers

Money-hungry Skid Row racketeers are aiding minors buy liquor by furnishing Torrance juveniles with falsified identification cards.

Local police this week nabbed a 16-year old youth shortly after he purchased two bottles of vodka from a Torrance liquor dealer. Although he was known to be but 16, the boy used a phoney idee card he had purchased from a Skid Row merchant in Los Angeles for \$2.

"Anybody can get them," the youth confessed to Sgt. D. C. Cook, juvenile officer. "Fourteen of us went down town and got 'em."

So cleverly conceived are the bound-in-plastic cards that it is virtually impossible to detect the cards to be fakes. They show employer, social security number, birth date, signature, complete with picture and fingerprint.

The youth told Sgt. Cook he filled in a sheet listing what he wanted on the card, gave the man \$2 and in a few moments was handed his plastic-encased idee card.

Key to Liquor Lockers
While the cards can be used as a key to bars and liquor stores there is little if anything

that police can do about it. Police could find no crime the youth had committed in filling in a sheet of paper although he falsified the facts. Similarly, the merchant apparently violated no code by typing in the information furnished by the youth and binding the card in plastic.

Conviction Difficult
A deputy district attorney stated it would be difficult to convict a youth for falsifying the facts. "Intent to commit a crime would have to be evident," said the attorney. "And that would be extremely difficult to prove. After all, perhaps the boy was patriotic and wanted to join the Navy. It would be illogical to assume that a juvenile who wants to join the Navy and another who wants to buy a bottle of liquor should be measured out the same punishment."

Law Change Needed
Observers saw only a change or a new law by the state legislature as a means of stopping the practice.

Meanwhile, many liquor store owners and bartenders unwittingly will be duped into selling minors liquor until the "heat" is put on vendors of the cards who apparently will do anything for a buck.

Driver Has Four Horns

One in Front, Three in Back

Somewhere there is a motorist driving around with \$600 in musical instruments in the trunk of his car that he may not know are there.

At any rate, the three members of the Torrance Area Youth Band who put them there by mistake Monday night are anxious to get them back. The youths placed the horns in the car thinking it belonged to a friend who was to take them to play on a TV show in Wilmington. The boys left to get a sandwich and returned to discover their mistake.

The car was parked in front of the Civic Auditorium Monday evening about 6:30 o'clock. The young musicians described the car as a 1940, two-door, maroon colored coupe with the trunk lid painted primer gray. It was equipped with chrome twin-exhaust pipes, they told police. Missing are a tenor and a baritone saxophone, and a clarinet.

The driver of the auto is urged to contact the Torrance police regarding the return of the instruments.

Firm Has Dividend Money For Man Missing 33 Years

Charles N. Muder, wherever he is, has dividends coming to him on some stock he purchased 33 years ago.

The U. S. Axle Co., Inc. of Pottstown, Pa., enlisted the aid of the Torrance Herald this week to help locate Muder, whose last known address was P. O. Box 251-A—and that was in 1929.

Arnold Watson, assistant secretary of the eastern manufacturing firm, stated that in June of 1950 his company began paying dividends and that since that time the company has tried in vain to locate Muder in order to pay him the money he has coming from stock he purchased in 1920.

Muder purchased the stock when he was living in Tarentum, Pa., a suburb of Pittsburgh. Between 1920 and 1929, Watson writes, Muder moved to 4284 La Salle Ave. in Los Angeles. His last known address and one from which a letter was returned unclaimed, was P. O. Box 251-A.

Muder or his heirs are urged to contact Watson at the company's home office in Pottstown.

SHUTDOWN RUMOR CONFIRMED COLUMBIA TO 'RETIRE' MILLS

Mothers March Against Polio Tonight

PUBLISHED EVERY SUNDAY AND THURSDAY MORNING—the ONLY Newspaper Published AND PRINTED in Torrance. Established 1914.

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28 PAGES

Bandits Hit Four Stations

Norwalk sheriff's deputies yesterday afternoon held two suspects believed to be the armed bandits who held up four service stations early yesterday in a chain of robberies that netted them as little as \$2 and as much as \$560.

Free Victim
One of the holdup victims, John Schimp, of 1621 Pacific Coast Hwy., Harbor City, an attendant at Wale's Service Station at Carson St. and Western Ave., was taken to Norwalk late yesterday afternoon to identify the suspects.

Assisted by a heavy fog which aided their getaway, two armed bandits early Wednesday morning robbed four service stations in this area netting themselves as little as \$2 in one stick-up to \$560 in another, according to police reports.

Hardest Hit
First and hardest hit was a Redondo Beach service station. An attendant was forced at gunpoint to open a floor safe containing \$560, police of that city reported. The robbery took place about 11:30 p.m.

After a five-hour layoff the bandits struck again, this time at the Ver-Best Service Station at Pennsylvania Ave. and Pacific Coast Hwy. in Lomita. There the bandit duo forced Robert Cish, 3120 Dalemead St., to hand over \$100.

Overlook \$50
A short time later the two armed thugs drove into an all-night Torrance station at Carson St. and Western Ave., filled up their gasoline tank and then demanded Schimp to open the cash drawer. Cursing furiously, the bandits took all the cash in the drawer, \$2, and fled. They overlooked \$50 which Schimp had in his pocket.

Seek to Raise \$7000 Tonight To Fight Polio

Tonight from 7 to 9 o'clock, Torrance citizens will have an opportunity to strike back at the dread crippling, polio, as nearly 250 mothers canvass the city for contributions to the 1953 March of Dimes campaign.

"Turn on your lights to save a life!" is the plea of the mothers, who will look for burning porch lights to signal that residents wish to aid the polio mercy appeal.

Armed with pots and pans to receive contributions, the mothers hope to bring the city Dimes quota up to the top. Present figures, according to Mrs. Clara A. Conner, general chairman, show a deficit of \$4000.

Headed By PTA
Under the direction of Mrs. Conner, and Mrs. John Large, Mothers' March field representative from Los Angeles, each local PTA unit chairman has organized a committee of members and other volunteers to participate in the two-hour project.

Leading the volunteers are Mrs. A. B. Cowie, "March" chairman for Torrance Council, PTA, and Mrs. Victor J. Bonard, Council president. Unit leaders are the following:

Mesdames L. W. Dorsey, North Torrance Elementary; Glen Rumbled, Perry and El Nido; William Skiles, Crenshaw; La Vern Jones, Fern Ave.; Jack C. Cummings, Hollywood Riviera; William Crooker, Madrona; Joseph B. Miles, Greenwood; M. A. Bauman, Torrance Elementary; and Troy Collum, Harbor City.

At 5 a.m. the bandits hit again, this time at the Ryan Service Station at Carson and Main Sts. Brandishing their pistols the thieves forced the attendant to hand over \$54.



VICTIM AIDS DIME DRIVE . . . Although polio-crippled Gary Blackman can't walk he will aid the mothers when they march against polio tonight. Six-year old Gary has been unable to walk since he was stricken with poliomylitis when he was a year and 11 months old. The porch light on his home at 23875 Park St. will burn tonight along with thousands of others in Torrance as a signal for the Mothers to call for a contribution to the March of Dimes. Pictured with Gary is Mrs. A. B. Cowie, "March" chairman of the Torrance Council of PTA, and Mrs. Opal Blackman, the boy's mother.

250 Men Affected By Move

Rumors that portions of the sheet mill at Columbia Steel Co. would be shut down were confirmed yesterday in a release by Alden G. Roach, president of the Columbia-Geneva Steel Division of U. S. Steel.

Roach stated that the "gradual retirement from service of time-worn steel sheet-producing facilities" at the local steel mill would be effected by the end of February.

To Make Ammo
Reason for the shutdown of one jobbing mill and curtailment of operations on two finishing mills is a large government contract for supplying special quality steel required in the manufacture of ammunition. Affected by the mill retirement program are approximately 250 persons, according to company officials.

"Every effort will be made to absorb as many as possible of the 250 employees affected into other departments of the Torrance plant or at other plants of the division," Roach said.

Shut Down Two Mills
Officials of the steel-producing firm stated that the jobbing mill in the sheet mill would be shut down entirely and that the No. 3 and No. 4 finishing mills would be operated on a curtailed basis. At present the two finishing mills are operated on an around-the-clock basis. The three-high breakdown mill also will operate on a less active basis, a company spokesman said.

No change in the operation of the 36-inch blooming mill or the 22-inch bar mill is anticipated.

Erected In 1911
The reduced operations will be the retirement of the jobbing mill erected in 1911 and (Continued on Page 2)

Woman Helpless To Save Friend Trapped in Fire

Powerless to enter a room full of flames and rescue the victim, a Torrance housewife was forced to stand by while her friend and former employer burned to death Sunday morning.

Mrs. Virginia Field, 23462 Arlington Ave., was spending the night in the home of her friend, Mrs. Mayne Ellen Muller, 6461 Via Colinas, San Pedro. Awakened by smoke pouring from beneath the door of Mrs. Muller's bedroom, Mrs. Field threw open the door, and found the room a mass of flames.

She immediately summoned firemen, who battled nearly an hour to check the blaze—and finally reached the body of the victim, 61-year-old widow of Capt. Fred Muller, who was well known in harbor maritime circles.

Fire officials believe Mrs. Muller, who had been ill, awakened before dawn, and may have dropped a cigaret into a bedside wastebasket, starting the fatal blaze.

Father to Receive Medal for Soldier

Posthumous award of the Silver Star for gallantry in action will be made Saturday morning to Sidney Hattin Jr., former Torrance resident, who was killed in Korea June 21, 1952.

Receiving the award will be the young soldier's father, Sidney Hattin, who is now a resident of Whittier. The award will be made at Fort MacArthur.

Hattin, who had been in Korea nine months as a member of Company E, 179th Infantry, was expecting to return home in July, about a month after his death.

Military funeral services were held here at the Stone and Myers Chapel on Aug. 16, 1952. The young soldier spent most of his youth in Torrance. He attended the Carson St. School and Torrance High School. Prior to entering the service, he was well known in the area for his skillful handling of racing cars on the Carrell Speedway programs.

His parents now live at 11885 Eagan Dr., Whittier.

14 Bus Drivers Cited for Safety

Award pins signifying six pins, three received two-year years of safe driving went to two Torrance Municipal Bus Lines drivers, Sherman Miller and Lloyd Crowther, in ceremonies here last week.

Receiving the only pin for five years of accident-free driving was Wylton Zigler, according to Bus Superintendent Marshall E. Chamberlain.

Two drivers received four-year pins, two received three-year pins, and four received one-year pins. "We are certainly proud of our record," Chamberlain said. He cited the fact that 14 of the 16 drivers with the department more than one year received their awards.



DOUBLE TROUBLE FOR DRIVER . . . Although 8-year-old, bike-riding Billy Wightman, 1442 W. 230th St., looks like he is in trouble here, he was not in near so much trouble as was the driver of the auto that hit him. Police asked the driver of the auto, a 15-year-old Harbor City youth, for his license. He had none. A short time later he was arrested by San Pedro police for grand theft auto. The accident above happened early Tuesday evening in front of Lawson's Jewelry Store on El Prado. Wightman escaped with only a bump on the head.