

CHIEF STROH STARTING 30-DAY LEAVE TOMORROW, TO RETIRE FEBRUARY 5

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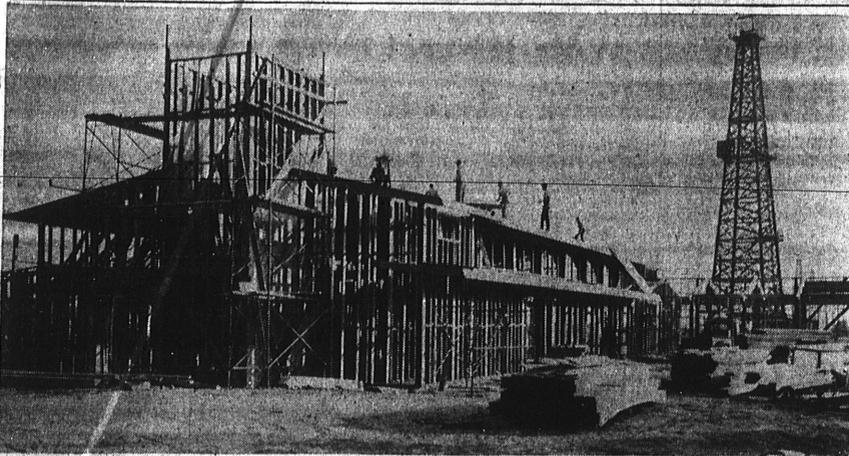
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The First in '54



FIRST FOR '54... Looking mighty unhappy about the whole thing though her pretty mama wears a wide smile is the first baby born at Torrance Memorial Hospital in 1954, daughter of Screenwriter Ray Berquist and his wife of Manhattan Beach. She arrived at 10:53 a.m. Jan. 1; mom and dad are still conferring on a proper name. (Herald Photo)



NEW CHURCH... More than 20 members of the congregation of the First Lutheran Church gathered Saturday to help construct the new church building at Carson St. and Flower Ave. With the industry of the congregation, the

new building should be completed soon and the church will be moved from its present location at 1610 Acadia Ave. Pastor of the church is the Rev. Paul Wenske. (Herald photo)

Haslam Heads Police Pending Examination

Police Chief John H. Strohm, head of the city's police department since 1936, will leave his office for a vacation tomorrow and will retire Feb. 5 at the end of his leave, he announced yesterday. Retirement of Strohm in February will mark the end of a 30-year career with the City of Torrance for the veteran police officer.

Strohm went to work for the city in the engineering department on Jan. 11, 1924, and joined the Police Department as a patrolman on Sept. 5, 1924.

When the retiring chief joined the Torrance police force, he was one of three patrolmen. Today there are 45 officers in the department, including traffic officers, detectives, juvenile officers, police matrons, and other specialized personnel.

Strohm succeeded Police Chief Gerald Calder in 1936 when he was appointed to head up the newly created Department of Public Safety for the city. At that time, he had both the police and fire departments under his supervision. He gave up the Fire Department responsibility later, however, and returned to be chief of police. A position he has held until the present time.

Chief and Mrs. Strohm have sold their home at 1732 Watson to their son, Jay, and are in the process of moving to a new home in Yucca, where the chief says: "I'll raise a few chickens, calves, and just loaf."

The Strohm's daughter, Lucille, a former police matron here, is now a member of the Compton Police Department. Their son, Jay, is a member of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's office. He was a former member of the Torrance police force.

Haslam Takes Over Taking over as acting chief during Strohm's vacation will be Assistant Chief Willard Haslam, according to City Manager George Stevens.

A Civil Service examination to establish eligibility for the position has been announced by the County Civil Service Commission. Closing date for filing is Jan. 8, and the examination will be held sometime after that date. Eligible to take the examination to succeed Strohm are two veteran Torrance police officers, Assistant Chief Haslam, and Detective Captain Ernie Ashton.

Other promotional examinations in the police, fire, and water department were announced at the same time. Plans are being made for a farewell dinner honoring the retiring chief early in February.

Spring Registration Dates At ECC Told

Spring semester registration for classes at El Camino College will take place in the college gymnasium Feb. 1 and 2. It was announced this week by Merl F. Sloan, director of student personnel.

Located at Crenshaw and Redondo Beach Blvds., the gymnasium will be open for registration between the hours of 9 a.m. and 8 p.m. in the alphabetical order specified by college authorities.

Former students planning to graduate or transfer from El Camino in June, 1954, will register for day classes on Feb. 1 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Other former students registering for day classes will enroll on Feb. 1 from 1 to 4 p.m. if their surnames begin with A through L, and on Feb. 2 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon if surnames begin with letters M through Z.

New students enrolling in day classes will register on Feb. 2 from 1 to 4 p.m. Night Classes New and returning students in extended day (night) classes will register from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Feb. 1 and 2. Those whose surnames begin with A through L will register on Feb. 1 while others will enroll Feb. 2. Sloan announced.

Classes for the spring semester will meet for the first time on Feb. 3 with registration continuing in the gymnasium on Feb. 3, 4 and 5. Enrollment will be extended throughout the following week in the Counseling office, closing on Monday, Feb. 15.

Students who are unable to register during the scheduled date may register at any time following their assigned periods if classes are still available. No student may register before his scheduled time, however," Sloan specified.

Early Registration Early registration for those currently enrolled students who have already consulted with their counselors will be possible between Jan. 4 and 20. Those eligible will be notified by letter or bulletin, it was indicated.

The English placement test required for students planning to enroll in English, shorthand, or a foreign language, and who have not completed a college English course, will be administered

Stork Has Easy Start in 1954

New Year's Day at Torrance Memorial Hospital was one of the easiest in the book for Mr. Stork, for he got a late start on the delivery job and quit early.

Carrying only three bundles all day, the long-legged bird didn't wing in with the first new infant until 10:53 a.m., when he brought a five lb. 14 1/2 oz. baby girl to Mr. and Mrs. Ray Berquist of Manhattan Beach.

The couple (daddy is a screenwriter) also have two other daughters, Terry, seven, and Linda, three-and-a-half.

The deliverer took nearly three hours for lunch, then made a couple of fast trips to bring a six lb. 11 oz. boy for the Joel S. Whitmans, 1907 Plaza del Amo, and a five lb. four-and-half oz. girl for the John C. Fragas, 21432 Berendo St., within nine minutes.

The Whitman son made his appearance at 1:24 p.m.; the Fraga girl got there at 1:33 p.m.; and Mr. Stork quit for the day.

Teacher Classes To Be Given Here By Cal Extension

Courses in seven divisions conducted by a faculty of 35, will make up the program of classes designed for teachers in the Torrance and Greater Los Angeles area and will be an important feature of the adult education offerings by University of California Extension this spring, according to Dr. Robert Haas, head of Education Extension.

During the semester which starts Feb. 10, classes for teachers will be divided into studies of History and Principles of Education, Early Childhood Education, Secondary Education, Administration, Educational Psychology, Communications and Interpersonal Relations, and Special Education and Curriculum Development. In all, some 60 courses, including concentrated professional offerings, will be given.

Classrooms are located at the University Extension Center, 813 S. Hill St., UCLA, and in Torrance, Long Beach, Arcadia, Pasadena, Riverside, Whittier, San Bernardino, Fullerton, Santa Monica, Lancaster, and Temple City.

Supplementing the education classes, numerous courses of interest to teachers are listed in the newly-published Spring, 1954 class bulletin, available without charge on request to the Hill Street Center (TUcker 6128).

U.S. Steel Names Burns To New Post

Appointment of Frank A. Burns as public relations representative at Fairless Works of United States Steel Corp., was announced yesterday by J. Carlisle MacDonald, assistant to chairman of the board in charge of public relations for the corporation.

Since 1950, Burns has been director of public relations in Los Angeles for the corporation. In this capacity, he handled public relations for the Columbia Steel Co. plant here.

In his new assignment at the Fairless Works, Burns will maintain close liaison with the newly-established Philadelphia district office.

A native of San Francisco, Burns received his early education there and later attended the University of California. He was a reporter and sports writer on San Francisco papers then joined Santa Fe Railway as a public relations representative. He joined Columbia Steel in 1942.

Succeeding Burns here will be Joseph H. Jordan, who has been director of public relations for the corporation in Duluth, Minn. He joined the company in 1941.

WEATHER

The mercury dropped to a low of around 38 degrees this morning and should rise to a high of about 60 today, with occasional high cloudiness and early morning fog along the coast, according to the Weather Bureau.

EDITORIAL PAGE ADDED ON 40TH ANNIVERSARY

A new feature of the Torrance Herald is included in today's 40th Anniversary Issue. Inaugurated today in the first issue of 1954 is an editorial page, which will be a part of the expanding Torrance Herald each Thursday and Sunday. Two outstanding Washington journalists, Edward C. Sims and Stanley James, will report on the national scene for Torrance readers. Also included on the page each issue will be a timely cartoon by Reg Manning, one of the nation's outstanding cartoonists. To be added to the page will be the Herald's "Letters to the Editor" columns, and other topical features on the events of the day. To see for yourself what is in store for Herald readers, turn to page 5 and check today's first editorial page.

Davis Baby Arrives; Father Seeking Work

Still unable to find a job, mother and baby are doing fine. Henry Davis was at wit's end today trying to figure out a way to provide for his wife; her new baby, born Thursday, and their nine other children, all under 13 years of age. Mrs. Davis gave birth to a 10 pound, six ounce baby boy at 7:30 a.m. Thursday morning at Harbor General Hospital and

Orchids are due for Dr. John W. Tippin of 1333 Post Ave., who checked Mrs. Davis free of charge prior to the birth. But Mr. Davis is not doing quite as well. Since Dec. 15, when the Herald discovered the Davises and nine of their children living in a tent in El Nido Park and found them a home to live in, Davis has been searching everywhere for work but has been unsuccessful so far. He is an expert mechanic and has worked for International Harvester Co. For the past week, Davis has been working at odd jobs for Mrs. Margot Lussman, who rented her home to the family, and Mrs. Lussman told the Herald that he has been doing the work of four men for her.

But finding a job has been difficult for Davis because of the holiday season. Any employer who has an opening for him can contact the Torrance Herald, FA 8-4000, or can go to the Davis home at 23316 S. Figueroa.

The newest addition to the Davis family is Mrs. Davis' 15th child. Nine of the children are living with the family, two more twin girls, 10 years old—arrived recently from Sacramento and are taking care of the smaller children while Mrs. Davis is in the hospital; an older brother is presently in a sanatorium with tuberculosis; another older brother lives in Manhattan Beach, and one of the 15 children is deceased, according to Kathryn Davis, one of the 10-year-old twins.

Food, clothing, furniture and a home, provided by generous Torrance residents, gave the Davises a merry Christmas. A job for Mr. Davis would assure the family a happy New Year.



LOVEBIRDS... Orine Backus, of Hollywood Riviera, answers Bud Wright's plea "Kiss Me Kate!" with a hefty boot right in the first act (of the play) which will open on Jan. 29 at Redondo Union High School. Miss Backus plays the leading part of the tempestuous Kate in the Cole Porter musical, and Wright, also of Hollywood Riviera, plays Horst, one of her erstwhile suitors. There are still some orchestra spots open for "Kiss Me Kate," according to Mel Tully, director. A bassoonist is needed and there are also openings in the viola section. The comedy, which will run for five nights, is being staged by the South Bay Civic Light Opera Association. (Herald photo)

Employee Group Gives Projector To TB Patients

Ramp 'G' at the Tubercular Ward at Harbor General Hospital was given a motion picture projector as a Christmas gift by the Los Angeles County Employees Assn., Harbor Hospital Division, according to Duncan Wright, chairman.

The projector, complete with screen, adjustable table and two sound transmitters, was presented to Alfred Thomas, director of the hospital. The money for the gifts came from the treasury of the local chapter of the Association, which aims to do things both for patients and employees. Wright stated. There are about 250 patients on 'G' Ramp at the hospital, according to Wright, who is a foreman in the Housekeeping Dept.

Hitchhiking Rules Set By Armed Forces

Beginning Jan. 15, 1954, it will be illegal for Navy and Marine Corps personnel to hitchhike on the streets and highways of the Eleventh Naval District except at specific pickup points, it was announced recently by Rear Adm. G. C. Dyer, USN, District Commandant.

In ruling on the practice, Admiral Dyer stated: "Hitchhiking by service personnel has led to numerous regrettable incidents. Men in uniform have been victimized by unscrupulous drivers. They have been accused of participation in various crimes. Uncontrolled hitchhiking is dangerous to both the hitchhiker and the motorist. In addition, as a foreign language, and who have not completed a college English course, will be administered

County Studies Plan to Put Park In Palos Verdes

Study of the advisability of a county park site in the Palos Verdes area was ordered by Supervisor Burton W. Chace Tuesday.

Acting on Chace's motion, the Board of Supervisors unanimously instructed the chief administrative officer and the county park superintendent to make a complete study of the area, looking toward the acquisition of a park site.

Chace said he felt that because there is no public park reservation, or parking facility in an area of about ten miles along the coastline between the City of Palos Verdes and the City of Los Angeles, it is essential that such a study be made immediately. "The area in question," Chace declared, "is certainly the most desirable beach frontage in Los Angeles County and it is logical to assume that it will be the first site of development in this area, therefore, failure to acquire a location for a public park or parking area can deprive the people of access to this magnificent beach frontage."

The Best Seat In the House

The best seat in the house may be that easy chair or sofa that you have stored away in the attic. It isn't doing anybody any good up there, and you could very easily sell it for extra cash. How? It's easy. Just run a low-cost Herald Want Ad. Call FAirfax 8-4000 and a friendly ad-taker will give you complete information and help you word and place your ad.