

DOLLAR DAYS THURS. FRI. SAT.

HOME BUILDER ASKS \$300,000 IN LIBEL, SLANDER COMPLAINT

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Builder Charges Attack Libelous

Tony Parravano, building contractor and owner of Princeton and Stanford Construction Corps, seeks \$300,000 damages for libel and slander according to three suits on file in Los Angeles Superior Court this week.

Defendants, according to the suits, made remarks before the Torrance City Council intending to harm the businesses of the builders.

The suits were filed through Attorney Harry S. Apter. In the meantime, investigators for the State Contractors Licensing Board and the State Division of Housing have been in the field checking the complaints and their reports will probably be made at the Feb. 23 meeting of the City Council.

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The dinner will be for the purpose of honoring all City of Torrance employees who have retired under the city's retirement system, and will be held at regular intervals in the future, Stevens said.

Price of the dinner, which begins at 7 p.m., will be \$2 per plate, including tax and tip. Tickets can be obtained at the City Hall and the public is cordially invited to attend the dinner.

Names Given Following are the employees who will be honored: John H. Stroh, chief of police, retired Jan. 31, 1954, after 30 years and one month of service; John R. Winters, fire captain, retired April, 1951, after 25 years nine months; Ralph Z. Hoerr, park maintenance man, retired May, 1952, after 18 years, two months; Samuel F. Webb, power equipment operator, retired August, 1953 after 18 years one month.

Also Walter C. Silence, fire inspector, retired September, 1953, after 17 years, two months; Leon Webb, senior water service man, retired in May, 1952, after 17 years, four months; Frank D. Davies, janitor, retired December, 1953, 16 years, two months; William H. Stanger, water superintendent, retired July, 1951, 14 years and eight months; William E. Laven, laborer, August, 1950, 14 years four months; Ollie L. Dodson, (deceased), park maintenance man, retired May, 1950 after 13 years, 10 months.

Also John W. Smith, (deceased) laborer, 1948, 12 years, one month; John H. Foss, laborer, March, 1948, 11 years eight months; Sanford G. Shepherd, city painter, September 1953, 10 years, nine months; Arthur B. Cameron, auto equipment mechanic, March, 1952, eight years, 10 months, and John S. Tolson, watchman, December 1947, three years, four months.

Outlining the present program, Van Bellehem said that Monday is set aside for badminton in the high school girls gym and basketball in the boys gym; Tuesday and Wednesday the adult basketball leagues take over; on Thursday, badminton and volleyball are played; and on Saturday a new boys basketball league has been set up for boys in the eighth grade or under.

Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, gave the TEAC members a rundown on school progress, summarizing the status of each new school which is scheduled to be built.

Bargains Galore In Every Store For Dollar Days

"Your Dollar Buys More In a Torrance Store" That was the slogan today at Dollar Days officially opened in Torrance stores for a three-day run—today, tomorrow and Saturday.

School Tot Injured When Hit by Auto

Six-year-old David Rittmiller, of 1641 Hickory Ave., received painful bruises and cuts Tuesday morning when he was struck by an auto as he dashed across the street to school.

WILLARD HASLAM APPOINTED POLICE CHIEF BY COUNCIL

Haslam Named Chief In Unanimous Vote

Willard H. Haslam, a member of the Torrance Police Department since 1934, was named Chief of Police here by the City Council Tuesday evening to succeed John Stroh whose retirement became effective Monday.

Appointment of Haslam for the city's top police job came on a unanimous vote of the Council after his name was recommended by City Manager George Stevens. Stevens' recommendation pointed out that Haslam was No. 1 on the eligible list established for the job through recent examinations. This meant he topped the only other eligible candidate for the job, Det. Capt. Ernest Ashton.

The new chief joined the Torrance force in 1934 as a patrolman. He rose through the ranks to be named assistant chief in 1952. Prior to joining the force, he had spent three years in the plant protection service at General Petroleum's refinery here. He first went to work for the city in 1927 when he was employed in the street department.

Haslam and his wife, Mable, live at 1519 Anapola Ave. A son, Kenneth, is postmaster at Picoheight, Calif., and a daughter, May Haslam, is principal of the Cabrillo Ave. Elementary School in San Pedro.

Column by Widely Known Journalist Begins in Herald

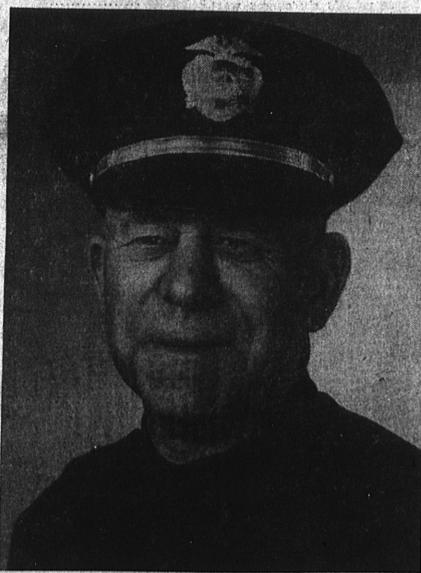
"After Hours," a column by famous world-traveler, reporter and lecturer John Morley begins today in the Herald (Editorial Page, Pg. 6) and will be published on each Thursday to keep Herald readers up-to-date on world affairs.

Morley, an officially accredited U. S. War-correspondent, and a radio-TV news analyst, recently returned from his third trip around the world in three years, and in his travels has witnessed events that will be recorded in the history books, has interviewed world leaders who have made headlines in every newspaper in the world.

The writer has been to Torrance several times to speak to service clubs here and is a resident of Pacific Palisades, Calif. In his informative, hard-punching column, Morley evaluates all the things told to him in his duties as war correspondent and reports them objectively without prejudices.

262 Pints of Blood Donated

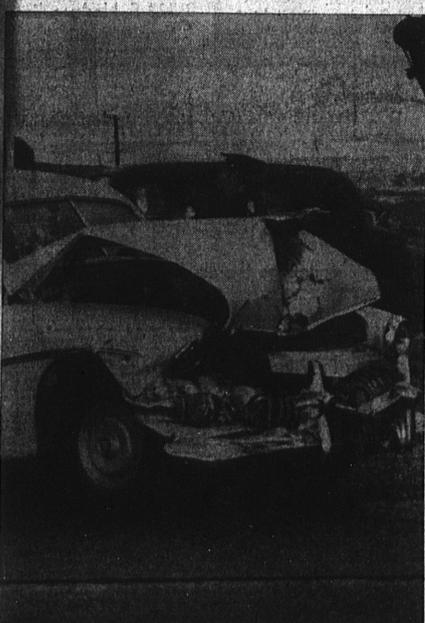
A near record was set here Monday when the Red Cross Bloodmobile collected 262 pints of blood—12 over the 250 pint quota.



WILLARD H. HASLAM Photo Arts Photo New Torrance Police Chief



DETAIL COMPLETE . . . Chief John Stroh, with the help of Sheriff Gene Biscailus (left) goes "1008" after 30 years of service on the Torrance Police Force. (That's police code, bud, for "Detail Completed.") More than 50 officers of the force, city officials, and close friends of the retiring chief gathered to honor him Monday afternoon at a dinner here.



FIVE INJURED HERE . . . Police Officer Don Hamilton joins down information concerning an accident Monday afternoon at Calle Mayor and Pacific Coast Hwy., which injured five women, four of them seriously. This auto, driven by a Laguna Beach woman, slammed into the rear of another attempting to make a left turn.

Four Seriously Injured Monday In Auto Crash

Two Torrance women and two Laguna Beach women were hospitalized with serious injuries Monday afternoon following a high-speed collision at Calle Mayor and Pacific Coast Hwy.

Taken to Harbor General Hospital were Mrs. Mary Hamel, 26, of 4830 Theo Ave., Torrance, driver of one auto, and her passenger, Mrs. Mary Furth, 59, of 4709 Moresby Dr.

Driver of the second auto, Mrs. Wella Johnson, 67, of Laguna Beach, and one of her passengers, Mrs. Delphine Tribeman, 70, of Laguna Beach, were hospitalized with serious injuries. Another passenger in the Johnson auto, Mrs. Helen Mason, 64, of Laguna Beach, received minor injuries.

Police said Mrs. Hamel was in the middle lane of the highway waiting to turn left into Calle Mayor when the auto driven by Mrs. Johnson slammed into it from the rear. The front end of the Johnson auto was heavily damaged.

Military Rites Held for Lomita Spanish War Vet

Military graveside services followed funeral rites for Joseph LaPorte, 76, resident of Lomita for 28 years and a Spanish American War veteran, who died Thursday at Long Beach Hospital following a lengthy illness.

Funeral services were held Saturday at Gandy's Mortuary in Lomita, conducted by the Rev. Frank Christiansen of Ventura and the Rev. Roy Whitum of the Missionary Church of Lomita.

The military services at the graveside in Green Hills Memorial Park were conducted by McKinley Post 23 of the Spanish American War Veterans.

LaPorte enlisted with the 20th volunteer infantry in 1898. In 1901, he married Sarah Fickard in New York. Two years ago, the couple celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary.