

Parking Meter Law Given Initial Endorsement by City Councilmen

TORRANCE HERALD



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ROOM WANTED . . . Sergeant D. C. Cook smiles approvingly as he puts the trophy, that the Torrance Mounted Police won in Huntington Beach on July 5, into the overly crowded display case. The police unit now has seven first places to their credit.

Mounted Police Win Parade Cup

Torrance's Mounted Police have done it again! That's right, the city's incomparable emissaries of good will have won another gold cup to add to their collection.

During the Fourth of July Holidays, they put on a demonstration of horsemanship before some 100,000 persons that jam-packed the streets of Huntington Beach. For the seventh time this year the unit was awarded a blue ribbon and a trophy for their excellent showmanship.

This parade was by no means a small one. It was in connection with the 50th anniversary of the beach city and was regarded as one of the largest and most talented shows in this part of the country. It contained eight divisions with 500 different entries and lasted a little more than three hours.

Organized Last Year
It was just a little over a year ago when then Police Chief J. H. Strub, called Sergeant D. C. Cook into his office and told him that he would like to see a mounted police unit formed in Torrance.

It took six weeks to organize the unit. When the group was first formed, it consisted of 12 members. At the present time it contains a maximum of 25.

First Weeks Long
Those first weeks were long and hard ones. There was much to do; uniforms had to be fitted, horses had to be purchased and saddles acquired.

Finally the troop began competing and on June 6, 1953, they won its first blue ribbon by participating in the Santa Maria Elks Rodeo. Since that time the troop has crowded its display case with seven first place trophies, two third place ribbons, and two medals for outstanding accomplishments.

Each member of the organization has a personal investment, running from \$100 to \$1200. All

TEAC to Hear Budget Outline

The Budget for 1954-55 will be discussed at the monthly meeting of the Torrance Educational Advisory Committee, to be held Monday, July 12, at the YWCA.

Also on the agenda for the luncheon is the topic "How We Teach Reading." Reservations must be in by Thursday.

Parking Meters Approved

Torrance is on its way again towards parking meters in the downtown area as a result of action here Tuesday evening by the City Council which adopted the enabling ordinance at its first reading.

The new parking meter ordinance, which sets up the downtown parking district and defines the conditions for operating parking meters, was adopted with a minimum of fanfare Tuesday only Councilman Victor Benstead voting against the proposal.

The ordinance must be passed again by vote of the Council and then published before it becomes legal. It could mean, however, that meters could be ordered on Torrance streets by the latter part of August if approved next week.

Practically no opposition to the ordinance was voiced here Tuesday evening. One letter was received by the Council protesting the proposal, and no one spoke from the audience against the move.

Adoption this week of the enabling ordinance contrasts strangely with the adoption of a similar ordinance three years ago. At that time organized opposition fought the passage of the ordinance all the way, murmurs of recall were voiced about town and a petition for a referendum on the ordinance were being circulated when the Council backed down and repealed its recently adopted law.

None Foreseen
No such opposition is foreseen this time.

Adoption of a resolution at the same time called for disbandment of the city's Parking Authority, established three years ago. The City Council will now serve in that capacity.

Final approval of the ordinance is expected at next Tuesday night's Council meeting.

Petitions Filed
Other matters before the city fathers Tuesday night included filing of petitions signed by 1546 persons asking for a special election to put a bond issue for new civic center and jail before the people in September or October.

The City Council went on record as favoring the issues, which include a separate bond issue for a swimming pool, and gave City Attorney James M. Hall authority to go ahead with the necessary legal procedures necessary to call a special election.

Firebug Keeps Crews Busy with 10 Blazes

Arsonist Keeps Firemen Hopping

Apparently celebrating July 4 a little bit late, a firebug kept fires burning brightly in scattered sections of west Torrance Monday.

Torrance firemen were busy hopping from fire to fire, as they battled 10 separate blazes set within two hours.

"There is no doubt that the fires were set," Battalion Chief Gene Walker said. "The day was very hot and the grass was dry, making it ideal for burning."

The deluge of calls began at 1:59 p.m. Monday with a grass fire reported at Sepulveda Blvd. and Orange Ave. For the rest of the afternoon, the fire department's four engines were kept busy running from fire to fire. The last fire was reported at Redondo Beach Blvd. and Yukon Ave. at 3:36 p.m.

Derrieks Threatened
Two fires near Torrance Blvd. and Hawthorne Ave. came dangerously close to oil derrieks.

Firemen had to bring one fire under control, and then move on to the next fire, returning later to thoroughly quench all the fires at the various locations.

The fires, in order of occurrence, were located at:
1:59 p.m., Sepulveda Blvd. and Orange Ave.
2 p.m., near Torrance Blvd. and Hawthorne Ave.
2:10 p.m., Torrance Blvd. and Hawthorne Ave.
2:24 p.m., Inglewood Blvd. and 190th St.
2:48 p.m., Madrona Ave. and Carson St.
3:07 p.m., Del Amo Blvd. and Inglewood Blvd.
3:09 p.m., Madrona Ave. and Emerald St.
3:10 p.m., Hawthorne Ave. and Spencer St.
3:33 p.m., Del Amo Blvd. and Victor St.
3:36 p.m., Redondo Beach Blvd. and Yukon Ave.

Shovel Brigade
At Del Amo Blvd. and Victor St., a group of private citizens were voluntarily fighting the fires with shovels, Walker said. Firemen had to rely on them, he said, because of the lack of equipment to fight so many fires.

At the end of the afternoon weary and hot firemen trooped back to the fire houses. Although the average number of fire calls in one day is three, two earlier calls at other locations brought Monday's total to 12.

Walker reminded prospective arsonists that the penalty for persons convicted of setting



SCOUT GOAL . . . Thomas Wilkes, advancement chairman of the Boy Scouts for the Harbor area, shows Scout Jack McNeil one of the five trophies that will be given to the top troops in the Harbor District at the end of the Scout year for advancement in all ranks. McNeil returned Tuesday from a trip to Lake Arrowhead, awarded him for excellence in leadership qualities. He was named third from the top in the Harbor District and just missed a trip to Philmont Ranch in New Mexico. The top two went.

Employ 3 New Principals For Elementary Schools

Employment of new principals for three Torrance Elementary Schools headed the list of preparations for the '54-55 school year at the Board of Education meeting Tuesday.

The board accepted the resignation of Charles Crecelius, principal of the Fern-Greenwood School, who has taken a principal's job in a Duarte Elementary School to be near his family. He will be replaced by Malcolm Richard, from Inyo County, who taught for five years in the Los Angeles school system. Another newly employed administrator, Herbert J. Farris, will take over the principalship of the new Meadowbrook School. He served as an elementary school principal for two years in Buellton, Calif.

Arturo Moves
Alfred Arturo, vice principal at the Perry School this year, will move to the principalship of the Walteria School. He will replace Dr. Vernon Sheblak, who has been reassigned as head of the School of Adult Education.

Ivan Malm, boys' adviser at Torrance High School, has resigned his position to accept a job as Dean of Men at Fullerton JC.

Need 12 Teachers
At the same time, the board was informed that there will be 12 vacancies for teachers in the Torrance School District in '54-55.

Six of these are elementary school jobs and six are high school positions. Some of the high school positions open are the Boys' Advership vacated by Malm, a coaching position vacated by Rex Welch and another coaching position recently vacated by Vern Wolfe.

'Drag Strip' Planned by Lions Clubs

Steps toward the formation of a "drag strip" for teenagers in the Harbor area have been taken by the Lions Clubs in the area, it was revealed this week.

The Lions of the Harbor area, including the local club, have sent papers of incorporation to Sacramento and are looking at a site for the "drag strip," which would provide a safe outlet for young hot rod drivers.

The strip will be located between Torrance and Long Beach and will be available to all teenagers in the Harbor vicinity.

"Drag strips" have been operated with great success in Santa Ana and Pomona and the Lions plans are backed by all law enforcement agencies. Local Lions who will be on the Board of Directors of the new corporation are Ruel Moulton and Hugh Bowman.

COSBY ADVANCED IN SCHOOL RANK

The reclassification of Robert W. Cosby from Purchasing Agent to Assistant Business Manager of the Torrance Unified School District was ratified by the Board of Education Tuesday night.

Cosby replaces Albert N. Posner, who was advanced to the position of Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services.

Police Stop Station Tiff; Youth Jailed

Torrance police had a fight in their own station this week as a young man suspected of car theft started to fight with a companion.

As a result, Augustine H. Saucedo, 22, Redondo Beach, is serving 180 days in the County Jail on battery charges.

Saucedo and a companion, David Molinar, 20, were picked up by police after the car in which they were riding ran into a tree. Taken to the station, Saucedo became angry with Molinar because of statements he made to police. He started to pummel Molinar.

Police quickly stopped the fight.

In South Bay Municipal Court, Saucedo was charged with car theft, assault, and battery. The car theft and assault charges were dismissed, and he was sentenced on the battery charges.

Democrats to Meet
The Torrance Democratic Club will meet on Tuesday, July 13 at the CIO Union Hall, 1316 Border Ave., at 7:30 p.m.

PHONE CALL MEANS \$\$\$ FOR SCHOOL DISTRICT

A telephone call was worth more than \$160,000 to the Torrance Unified School District this week, it was reported by Superintendent J. H. Hull.

Tracing a supplemental application for federal funds for construction of the new Carl D. Steele Elementary School near Hawthorne and 190th St., Emmet W. Ingram, assistant superintendent here, called Washington, D. C. and talked to officials there about the request. While Ingram was on the phone, Dr. Hull reported, government officials located the request, and started its processing.

Officials here were notified this week that a total allotment of \$508,125 had been authorized for the construction of the new school. This replaced a previous allotment of about \$336,000 for the school, Hull said.

The new sum will allow the construction of an additional unit of four classrooms and a multiple purpose building, he said.

ILL HEALTH GETS BLAME IN SUICIDE

After writing a suicide note stating: "I can't stand the pain any longer," Earl Gordon Ellett, 59, of 1648 W. 205th St., shot himself Saturday in Bakersfield, Calif.

Ill health was blamed for the suicide, Ellett had been suffering from a stomach ailment. There was no apparent reason why he chose Bakersfield as a site for the suicide.

A native of Montana, Ellett had lived in Torrance for five years and was employed as a boiler operator at the California Edison Co.

Funeral services will be conducted today at 2 p.m. at Stone and Myers Chapel by the Rev. John Taylor of the First Methodist Church, and interment will follow at Green Hills Cemetery.

Ellett leaves his widow, Roberta, and a son, Carl Lush, both of the home address; another son, Cpl. Charles W. Lush of the U.S. Air Force, stationed in Denver, Colo.; two brothers, Capt. Homer Ellett, of Ohio, and Harold Ellett, of South Dakota, and two sisters, Mrs. Edith Smith and Elaine Kijmyer, both of Oregon.

Thief Gets \$200

George Zimera, 24401 Madison St., told police that someone entered his house Sunday night and stole \$200 from a dresser drawer.

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