

# Two Youths Escape Serious Injury as Auto Hits Tree

# COMMUNITY FAIR HAILED A SUCCESS

ESTABLISHED 1914

## TORRANCE HERALD

PRINTED AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVENUE IN TORRANCE

Published Monday and Thursday—Entered as second class matter Jan. 30, 1914, at postoffice, Torrance, California, under Act of March 3, 1879.

40th Year—No. 65

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, MONDAY, AUG. 16, 1954

PHONE FAirfax 8-4000

12

12 PAGES

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10¢ per copy  
30¢ per month by Carrier

## Father of Queen Wins Grand Prize

Frank Pagac, father of Community Fair Queen Jackie Pagac, won the grand prize of a week's trip to Hawaii Sunday night, capping the five-day event which today was termed a "huge success" by Fair Chairman Paul Diamond.

Miss Pagac, the Soroptimist candidate for the regal title, was crowned Wednesday evening and, along with the queenship, won an expense-paid trip to Mexico City for one week.

The Fair Finance Committee was still busy today computing final figures on the event. Diamond estimates that more than 50,000 people visited the fairgrounds to view the more than 90 exhibits by local merchants, patronize the Service Club booth, patronize the Service Club booth, and ride the rides.

The settlement was reached by a negotiating committee of the independent retail druggists and Harbor Area Employers Council with Union representatives. Employers' committee was composed of Frank S. Selover, A. J. Moe, David Kline, Ben Golub, and O. Paul Abram, while representing the union were International Vice-President A. V. Crossler, International Attorney William Irvin, and officers of Local 905, Ben Scott, Walt Scheppmann, and Ivan Morris.

Principal points resolved in the agreement, which covers all Local 905 members employed in the Harbor Area until June 1, 1955, with a wage reopening on June 1, 1955, are the following:

1. Elimination of the two consecutive days off provision for seven-day operations. Premium pay Sundays was increased from 20 cents per hour to 35 cents, and additional premium pay after 7 p.m. was provided, effective upon the signing of the contract, with the highest rate applying on Sunday nights.
2. As previously agreed, the drug stores will pay \$1 per hour week increase in wages as of Feb. 3, 1954, and \$1 as of Aug. 1.
3. Both Selover and Scott cited the "improved labor-management relations" aspect of the contract and said "it is hoped by all concerned that the agreement will aid in greater development of the Harbor Area."

Plans to televise the fair Friday evening on the Oscar Magales show fell through because of technical difficulties.

On Saturday, five boys and five girls rode away on brand new bicycles, courtesy of the doctors, dentists, and attorneys of Torrance, who sponsored a special kiddie matinee with the bikes as grand prizes.

Entertainment was provided nightly by the Torrance Recreation Department, the Barber-shoppers of the SPEBSQSA, and Toni Madison and her Wonder Dogs, an act which has appeared on various television shows. Bill Welsh, KTTV master of ceremonies, emceed the show last night and awarded the grand prize, Pagac, the winner who lives at 1528 Post Ave., was not present when his name was announced.

# Officials Delay Inquest In Slaying of Young Twin

## Twin Watches as Brother Killed

A decision whether to hold an inquest will be postponed until later this week in the case of Berry Raine Wright, 10, accidentally shot by a playmate last Thursday, County Coroner's officials said today.

The boy, son of Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Wright of 2450 W. 237th St., was killed almost instantly by a playmate, Chester Eugene Miller Jr., 14, of 2456 W. 237th St., as his twin brother, Gerry, and a younger brother, Johnny, 8, looked on.

Detective Capt. Ernie Ashton said four boys had been playing in the back yard of the Miller home. Young Wright went into his house, followed by the Miller boys.

Because the Miller dog had bitten Johnny Wright earlier in the week, Mrs. Chester E. Miller Sr., the boy's mother, had warned him not to allow strangers in the house. The Millers had lived in the house only two weeks.

Boys Warned to Leave

Apparently worried by his mother's warning, young Miller warned the other boys to leave. When they laughed at him, the boy went to a bedroom closet and got his father's 16-gauge shotgun. He obtained a shell from a bureau drawer, and after fumbling for a minute, loaded the gun.

The boy's father said later that he didn't believe the boy knew how to use the gun.

The boy repeated his warning, and the Wright boys still refused to leave. Moving forward, young Miller fell over his father's shoes, which were lying under the corner of the bed.

As he fell, against the bed, the gun discharged, striking Berry Wright in the right side of the back. He apparently was killed almost instantly, Ashton said. He was pronounced dead on arrival at Harbor General Hospital.

After the shooting, the boys ran over to the Wright home, where they told Berry's mother. She called a neighbor, Mrs. Eleanor Heckinger, 2465 W. 237th, who in turn called the police.

Miller's parents were both away from home at the time of the accident. The father was working at an aircraft plant, while Mrs. Miller and a younger boy, Danny, 7, went to the doctor's office for treatment of a broken arm.

The shooting was clearly accidental, Ashton said.

He quoted the boy as saying, "I didn't mean to shoot him. I only meant to scare him."

The Wright brothers verified this statement, Ashton said.



DEATH WEAPON . . . Detective Capt. E. M. Ashton looks over shotgun which discharged Thursday, killing 10-year-old Berry Raine Wright.

The Rev. Eldon Durham of 24346 Lucille Ave., Lomita, this week assumed leadership of the community Chest speakers Bureau Division in the Harbor area.

In accepting the post, Rev. Durham is starting his first year in this top-level assignment. His main job is to recruit and train Harbor area volunteers to speak to as many professional, social, and church groups as possible during the Chest campaign.

"Our first step is to enroll our speaker volunteers immediately," he said, "and then let them visit many Community Chest agencies to see the wonderful work they contribute to the community."

"In this manner, our speakers will see and get their information first-hand so they will be able to tell the Chest story with positive, personal conviction."

Rev. Durham also stated that he hopes to have his Speakers Bureau Division up to full strength by Sept. 1. Any Harbor area resident who is interested in being a Community Chest speaker during the campaign may receive additional information by calling the Community Chest Service Center at TE 3-5227.

## Rev. Durham Takes Chest Speaker Helm

The group made the trip to Fresno by Southern Pacific, where they were met by company representatives in station wagons for the precipitous trip up to Big Creek Headquarters for two nights was the company's guest lodge, located above the tiny hamlet of Big Creek, populated almost completely by Edison company's active and retired employees.

A rugged trip was made over Kaiser Ridge at 9800 feet to the newest installation, Vermillion Dam, which will create a new lake in the company's system which already includes Florence, Shaver and Huntington. A deadline of Oct. 15 has been set for completion of the dam in the hope that next winter's snows will start filling the new lake, estimated to be at capacity within three years.

## Man Sought For Attack In Alondra

A 10-year-old Lawndale girl was seized by a man as she was starting to enter the ladies' rest room at Alondra Park yesterday, she told Sheriff's deputies.

The girl said she started to enter the rest room, when the man came out of the door, and said, "Hi." When he grabbed her by the shoulders, she started to scream, and the man ran away. She reported the attack to the life guard on duty at the park.

Deputies are still searching for the man, who the girl said was between 25 and 30.

## Burglars Take \$515

Burglars who pried off a back door to gain entry, stole about \$515 from the office cash box of the Western Drive-In at 21176 S. Western Ave. last night. Police said another \$180 was found on the floor of the cafe, dropped there apparently by the burglars.

## City Officials Visit Power Site

Torrance city officials led by Mayor Nicholas Drale, prominent citizens, and representatives of local newspapers comprised a delegation of 14 who traveled to the High Sierra Thursday to inspect Southern California Edison Company's Big Creek-San Joaquin hydroelectric development.

They returned late Saturday impressed with the immensity of the system that is a composite of artificial lakes, tunnels driven through solid granite, steel penstocks clinging to the sides of deep canyons, and finally the powerhouse through which the energy of falling water is converted into electricity for driving Torrance industries and lighting local homes.

In the group, in addition to Mayor Drale, were Lew Jenkins, district manager of the utility company; Councilmen M. M. Schwab, Albert Isen, and Willis Blount; City Attorney James Hall, Judge Otto B. Willett of the Municipal Court; City Manager George Stevens; Richard Felker, Dick Pyle, Lowell Judy and Stuart Avers, of the Edison staff; William Zappas; and King Williams.

Stay at Guest Lodge

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## WEATHER

Generally clear tonight and tomorrow but local early morning clouds or fog near the coast. Slightly warmer today with a high near 88 in the downtown area.



TWO INJURED . . . Driver Kenneth Stevens and his passenger, Frank G. Schmidt, escaped serious injuries yesterday when their late model sedan crashed into a tree and rolled across Western Ave. near 226th St. Here Torrance Police Officer Don Hamilton talks to nearby residents.

# Car Crashes Tree, Rolls Several Times, Two Hurt

Two Torrance men escaped serious injuries in a crash which completely demolished a late model sedan here early yesterday when the car caromed off a huge tree, rolled several times and came to rest in the middle of heavily traveled Western Ave.

Rushed to Wilmington Emergency Hospital were Kenneth Lee Stevenson, 20, of 1008 Maple Ave., and Frank G. Schmidt, 20, of 1918 Cabrillo Ave.

Harbor police said the auto was apparently traveling at a high rate of speed before it hit a large eucalyptus tree just north of 226th St. on Western Ave. The crash occurred at approximately 7 a.m. yesterday.

Stevenson, who was driving, received only minor injuries. Schmidt, who said later he was asleep in the seat besides Stevenson, received a broken jaw, fractured ankle, and a severe eye over his right eye. The cut required 10 stitches to close.

Both boys were transferred to Torrance Memorial Hospital.

In another crash last week, 21-year-old Margaret Altig, of 1720 Cabrillo Ave., was injured when the auto in which she was riding swerved out of control and overturned on Western Ave. near Anaheim St. The driver, Navy enlisted man Harold J. Jayes, 21, told police his car swung wildly out of control when it hit a wet spot on the pavement. He was unhurt.

## Johnson Homers Pace Bluebird Win in Thriller

Swayne Johnson blasted two home runs, one of which traveled more than 400 feet and cleared the building in center-field at Torrance Park, and batted in three runs to lead the Torrance Bluebirds to a thrilling 9-8 victory over the Union Packers in Municipal play yesterday.

GU Bennett's single in the last half of the ninth pushed home Larry Bryant with the tie-breaking run, after the Packers had knotted the score with a four run rally in their half of the ninth.

PACKERS . . . 101 020 004-8 10 7  
Bluebirds . . . 801 030 011-6 13 4  
Lee and Alexandria, Vanderpool, Roy (5) and Bennett.



NEW CHURCH STARTED . . . Church officials met here last evening to break ground for a new church sanctuary for the Church of Nazarene. Here Dr. R. J. Plumb, district superintendent of Southern California, addresses the group. Also represented there are church leaders, Rev. Arthur E. Bello of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, representing the Torrance Ministerial Assoc., and Rev. Freeman A. Brunson, pastor of the church.

## Harbor Clerks Ratify Contract

A two-year contract cited as "an example of improved labor-management relations in the Harbor Area" met ratification by Retail Clerks Local 905 Thursday night.

The settlement was reached by a negotiating committee of the independent retail druggists and Harbor Area Employers Council with Union representatives. Employers' committee was composed of Frank S. Selover, A. J. Moe, David Kline, Ben Golub, and O. Paul Abram, while representing the union were International Vice-President A. V. Crossler, International Attorney William Irvin, and officers of Local 905, Ben Scott, Walt Scheppmann, and Ivan Morris.

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## Whoopers Head Area Sick List

Ten cases of food poisoning and 11 cases of whooping cough led the list of diseases reported in the Torrance area during the week ending Aug. 7, according to the County Health Department.

These figures reflect a family food poisoning epidemic in Lawndale, Torrance officials said, and a drive to get doctors to report all communicable diseases in the area. Increasing figures indicate better reporting of diseases, rather than an increase of diseases.

Other diseases reported included four cases each of polio and measles, and three cases each of Area, Encephalitis, German measles, and mumps.

## Demo Leader to Speak in Hollywood Riviera

Mrs. Elizabeth Snyder, newly-elected chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee, will be guest speaker at the regular meeting of the Hollywood Riviera Democrats Club, to be held tomorrow evening at 8 o'clock at the Hollywood Riviera Beach Club, 201 Paseo de la Playa.

## Deadline Tomorrow for Barbecue Reservations

Tomorrow is the deadline for making reservations to attend the Harbor Area Employers' Council barbecue supper, to be held Aug. 24, Frank S. Selover, executive secretary, said today.

Setting for the 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. event will be Royal Palms, on the beach at the foot of Western Ave.

## Torrance Owl

A survey says there are only 70,000 traffic lights in the United States. How can that be when there are more than that on my way home?

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