

# Pioneer James W. Post Dies, Banker Here Since 1913

## Final Rites At 10 Today For Banker

Friends and relatives will pay tribute this morning to James Wallace Post, a resident of Torrance since its earliest days, who died suddenly Tuesday morning following a short illness.

Associated with the Torrance National Bank from its founding until its sale to California Bank earlier this year, Mr. Post had been a resident of Torrance since he came here with his father, the late Judge George Wallace Post, to establish the First National Bank of Torrance in 1913.

Mr. Post was born in York, Neb., May 2, 1888. He attended Shattuck Military Academy in Fairbault, Minn., and Amherst College in Massachusetts where he received three football letters.

Returned to York following his schooling, he re-entered to York to enter the banking business. After two years there, he came to Torrance with his father to become cashier of the new Torrance Bank.

He was married to Dorothy Armstrong of Los Angeles, and the couple raised three children, a daughter, Patricia Rudnick,

and sons George and James. The Posts resided at 1448 El Prado.

Mr. Post served for two years with the Army during World War I, attaining the rank of second lieutenant in the Infantry. Following the war, he returned to his position at the bank here and became active in community affairs.

**Organized Legion**  
He was the organizer and first commander of the Bert S. Crossland Post of the American Legion, and served as the fifth president of the Rotary Club of Torrance. He was a member of the Masons, Scottish and York Rites, and Shrine, and active in the lay leadership of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. He was a member of the City Council here in the middle 1920s.

Besides his widow and three children here, he leaves three sisters, Mrs. Mildred Lancaster of Torrance, Mrs. Georgia Visel of Santa Ana, and Mrs. Hallie Moore of Ventura.

**Services Today**  
Funeral services will be conducted at 10 a.m. today at the Stone and Myers Chapel, at Cravens and Engracia, Rev. Arthur E. Bello, rector of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, will officiate at the services. Intombment will follow in Inglewood Park Mausoleum.

Serving as pallbearers for the services will be Sam Levy, Carl Warner, Charles V. Jones, John McMillan, George Probert and Dr. George Lancaster.

Flags of the American Legion Post will be flown at half-mast until an hour after the services, in honor of the Post's first commander, Legion spokesmen reported yesterday.

## WEATHER

Early morning fog and drizzle is predicted, with clearing skies in the afternoon, and a high temperature of about 70. High temperature yesterday was 68, with lows at 51.

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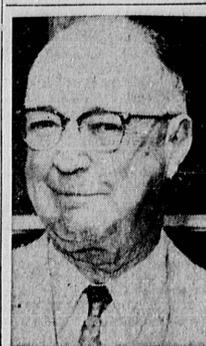
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# 2 NABBED IN \$12,000 BURGLARY



(Herald Photo)  
**JAMES W. POST**  
... Passing Mourned

## Sharp Sleuthing Yields Suspects

By DICK FRIEND

An all-day search through the dimly lit saloons of Los Angeles' Skid Row and a couple of lucky breaks ended in arrest by Torrance detectives of two men wanted in connection with a recent \$12,000 burglary here.

In County jail this week after pleading guilty to a theft charge are two Los Angeles men, John W. Faircloth, 47, and Richard Young, 25, who admitted to "thieving from the thieves" that knocked over the Vend-A-Pak Co., 2105 Border Ave., several weeks ago.

Detective Sergeant Percy Bennett hopes that information obtained from the two men will lead him to the culprits who made off with more than 70,000 cigarettes and \$2000 in pennies, nickels and dimes from the Border Ave. building.

**Work Long Hours**  
It was long hours of hard work that turned up one suspect, after a lucky phone call from a shoe-shine boy tipped off police to Faircloth.

Bennett said the boy was suspicious of six cases of cigarettes he saw in the back of Faircloth's 1936 pickup truck while it was parked in downtown Los Angeles.

"The boy knew that Faircloth didn't have enough money to buy six packs, let alone cases," Bennett said. "So he called police. Faircloth didn't have a job, just bottled around town picking up bottles."

Officers arrested the suspect, and he gave them a description of his "partner," whose name he did not know. It was then that the needle-in-a-haystack search began.

"Faircloth told us he and another man had stolen 18 cases of smokes from a storage yard near 220th St. and Avalon Blvd., and while climbing an 8-foot metal fence, his partner fell and severely cut his chin," the detective related.

"So, I took off through those Skid Row dens looking for the 'Band-Aid Kid,' a young man with a bandage on his chin."

**Cheek Honky-Tonks**  
Honky-tonks usually frequented by Faircloth were checked out in an attempt to turn up at least the name of the second suspect. Finally, a middle-aged wino tipped Bennett and a Los Angeles detective that the name of their suspect probably was Richard.

Another bar patron told them that the suspect had a girl friend, and she gave them a last name—Young.

Record checks at Los Angeles Police Department turned out two Richard Youngs, and Faircloth identified his partner from a police mug picture.

**Gives Self Up**  
The next day Young stopped two police officers and said he had decided to give himself up, as he knew he was "hot." Detectives had hit nearly every rooming house and bar frequented by the suspect.

Interrogation by Bennett and Sergeant Ted Morris revealed that the suspects had sold all but six cases of the stolen cigarettes for \$5 or \$6 each. Young said he

took the cash, got drunk, and later was rolled by two punks who took all his money.

Faircloth took his share of the profits in cigarettes and left them in his truck. These led the shoe-shine boy to suspect something was afoot.

All of the cases recovered were stamped with the "Vend-A-Pak" name.

Police now are attempting to learn who put the stolen cigarettes in the 220th St. storage yard.

## Red Feather Quota Pegged At \$20,720

Red Feather volunteers will seek to raise a goal of \$20,720 during the Community Chest campaign this fall, it was revealed here yesterday.

Torrance's quota of the \$83,170 Harbor Area goal was revealed here as the needs for the 164 Red Feather agencies were reviewed by Chest officials.

The city's residential, advance gifts, and small business solicitors will be expected to raise \$11,373 under the leadership of Mrs. Edward L. Schwartz.

Another \$9347 from the commerce and industry division will be sought by volunteers under the leadership of Warren W. Hamilton and Sam Levy.

## Church Show Slates Stars

Several major film and TV stars are slated to appear in the Torrance Civic Auditorium tomorrow night in a surprise show, Hollywood Varieties, presented for the benefit of a new parish hall and Sunday School for St. Francis Episcopal Church in Palos Verdes.

The show will be a number of one-act plays and variety acts accompanied by Curt Massey and his band. Tickets will be on sale from 10 to 4 today and tomorrow in front of the auditorium. Remaining tickets will be sold at the performance.

## An Editorial

National Newspaper Week gives local newspapers like THE HERALD an opportunity to remind their readers of the role played by a conscientious newspaper in community affairs and the lives of their readers.

The present ownership of THE HERALD extends over a period of only four months. In that time, however, we think we have come to know many fine men and women of this community and have learned a lot about the community, its past and its future possibilities.

THE HERALD, we feel, reflects considerable achievement in these four months, a very short span in its nearly 40 years of uninterrupted publication as a weekly and semi-weekly newspaper. News and editorial service to this rapidly growing community has been expanded and improved. Mechanical improvements have been made and others are contemplated. The fine building at 1619 Gramercy avenue has been improved and completely redecorated. The building, housing the office and plant equipment, is a credit to the community and generally superior to establishments in other cities of like character.

The physical properties of THE HERALD represent a considerable investment in this community and the operation accounts for a sizable payroll most of which goes directly to help swell the economy of Torrance. Most important, however, is the unflinching policy of this newspaper to always be of conscientious service to its readers and the community at large.

The real worth of any institution still is measured in character. The publisher and employees of THE HERALD are striving to do a sincere job of giving Torrance a good newspaper, one in which readers may have complete confidence and can take into their homes as a warm friend and benefactor.

The present publishers are expanding THE HERALD carefully and soundly. It is first with local news and editorial interpretation. It does not rely on any other newspaper for material with which to fill its many columns of local news and gives fair and impartial treatment to all of its advertisers. Our policy declines the "fast buck" and is predicated on the belief that sound business men prefer to spend their advertising dollars with a reliable institution, one with a very considerable investment in this community.

We are appreciative for the fine reception given us in these few busy months. We will continue to strive throughout the years to merit this support and to win new friends everywhere.

## Beach Discussion Slated

Torrance councilmen, Recreation Department officials, and City Manager George Stevens will get together Oct. 26 to discuss future plans for development of Torrance Beach.

The department requested the meet in order to clarify the city's position regarding beach expansion. Acquisition of beach property by the state and county will be discussed.

City Manager Stevens said that the state has plans for development of the beach, but necessary funds are not available from the county.

Some quick action was considered advisable, before subdivision build on the property.

## Labor Endorses Bond Proposals

Two powerful labor organizations joined other community groups this week with endorsements for the two bond proposals which will be put to Torrance voters on Oct. 19.

With the election less than two weeks away, the United Steelworkers of America (CIO) and the Oil Workers International Union (CIO), both representing a large number of Torrance workers, reported their endorsement of Bond Proposition No. 1 for a new civic center and police station and for Bond Proposition No. 2 for a new swimming pool.

In letters to the Torrance City Council, both unions indicated that the endorsements came from the union local and from the parent organization.

**Plans Shown**  
Local 1414 of the United Steel Workers of America endorsed the civic center bond issues and the issues also were endorsed by the organization's legislative committee for District No. 38. Stephen H. Darcy, secretary of Steelworkers Local 1414 reported that group's endorsement while Gordon A. Lewis, secretary-treasurer of Oil Workers Local 519 reported U.S. endorsement for that group.

City officials received a preview of the proposed civic center at their meeting here Tuesday evening when Architect Marion J. Varner, who is doing preliminary design work on the project, submitted an elaborate artist's rendering of the site.

"The combined facilities of the city hall and the police station will provide Torrance with approximately 30,000 square feet of municipal administration space," Varner stated.

The city hall is a two-story structure in one wing of which will be housed civil defense activities. The police station is a single-story building. Provision has been made in the designs for the addition of another wing when city growth requires it.

**Less Money**  
"Our cost analysis shows," the architect stated, "that the city hall and police station can be erected for less money per square foot than any other comparable civic structures in California. Through the use of the same cost analysis system and control that enabled us to complete the \$250,000 modernization of the Inglewood city hall within the allotted budget, we will erect Torrance's proposed buildings within whatever final figure is set."

Members of Varner's organization pointed out that Torrance can profit greatly by the provision of adequate city administration space.

As proof of this they quoted excerpts from communications by Inglewood city officials in

which it was pointed out that civic affairs have never before been handled so well and so promptly, as since the city staff has been provided with modern and ample working space.

Varner also pointed out today that the very large amount of research done by his organization prior to starting construction on the Hawthorne police station has been applied to the planning of the projected Torrance police station.

## Three Youths Questioned On Gas Theft

Three teen-agers were nabbed by Torrance police early yesterday morning as they were secretly getting ready to steal gasoline from a truck storage yard at 236th St. and Walnut Ave.

Booked on a petty theft charge was Carl Jerome Misker, 18, of 17823 S. Evelyn Ave. Two other boys, both juveniles, were released to their parents pending investigation by the juvenile bureau.

Misker pleaded not guilty yesterday morning at South Bay Municipal Court. Trial was set for Oct. 13.

Police said they had received numerous complaints of pilfering from trucks parked in the area. Gene W. East, of 1939 W. 236th St., owner of the trucks, said he and his wife had been watching the lot at night with hopes of catching some of the thieves.

Nearly 400 gallons of gasoline had been stolen in a month, Mrs. East said.

East ran out when he saw a car pull into the lot with no lights. Two of the boys ran, and he grabbed one. Police Officers Bob Wright and Bill Mitchell rounded up all three suspects.

## California Bank Bid On Warrants Approved

California Bank was the low bidder to the City of Torrance for bids for sale of Tax Anticipation Warrants in the amount of \$200,000, this week.

## Board Chooses 2 School Sites

Two sites for future schools were approved by the Torrance Board of Education Tuesday night at their meeting.

Both sites were in a soon-to-be-built tract proposed for development by builder Milton Kauffman between Torrance and Sepulveda Blvds., and west of Hawthorne Ave. Plans for the development are still being considered, but indications are that the tract will contain between 2500 and 3000 homes.

One site, containing eight acres, is located near Sepulveda Blvd. and a projection of Anza Ave., while the other 10-acre tract is near Torrance Blvd., west of Hawthorne.

If present development plans go through, the board will take steps to acquire the site.

**Growth Creates Problems**  
Torrance's mushrooming population is creating added pressure for new facilities. Superintendent J. H. Hull told board members, New facilities to house adminis-

trative personnel may be needed in the near future, he said.

Population increases in the Ellinwood tract and Riviera school areas will create a need for added facilities at Pacific and Riviera Schools, or for a new school in the western part of Hollywood Riviera, Hull declared.

He estimated the number of school children in the area will be at least 2200 next year.

**Annexation Urged**  
A letter was sent to the Redondo Beach Board of Education urging them to take over administration of land recently annexed by (Continued on Page 12)

## Barricades Stay Up Redondo Residents Tell City Fathers

Redondo and Torrance city fathers may have settled their differences on the boundary dispute, but apparently that isn't good enough for residents of blocked off Ave. E in Redondo Beach.

Councilmen met last week and decided to take down the barricades, but two men told the Torrance council Tuesday night that as long as our "70 children living in the area must walk in the streets to get to school, the barricades stay up!"

Arthur Cohee, of 1607 Ave. E, appeared as spokesman for the group, and said that the street is unpaved, uncurbed, has no

sidewalks, is barely wider than 20 feet in many locations, and actually is seven feet wide at one spot.

**Want To Help**  
"We want to help Torrance, but we want you to realize that the safety of our children is important to us. If you can figure out a solution to our problem, we'll go along with you," Cohee asserted.

Council members suggested that the residents form a Special Assessment District and then they could get needed street improvements. "The street improvements are your problem. Our problem is to

keep public roadways open to Torrance traffic," one councilman said.

**First Step Listed**  
Mayor Nickolas Drale and Councilman Willys Blount, advised that removal of the barricades still would be the first step in getting street improvements in the area.

Without formation of a special district, county engineers estimated that widening of the street to 80 feet, and other improvements would cost \$250,000. Through provisions of a district, residents could secure minimum improvements at a much lesser cost.



PROPOSED CIVIC CENTER . . . Presented to the City Council this week was an artist's impression of the new Torrance Civic Center to be constructed at Torrance Blvd. and Maple Ave. If voters approve Bond Issues No. 1 and 2 at the special Oct. 19 election, Bond Proposition No. 1 provides funds for a new city hall, at extreme right in the picture, and police facilities, center building. Proposition No. 2 is for construction of a swimming pool, at left

in the picture. A ball park and other recreational facilities are above the pool. The civic center will replace the small facilities now available in downtown Torrance. Architect is Marion J. Varner, who designed Hawthorne's new civic center. Labor, industry and civic groups have recommended a YES vote on the bond measures.