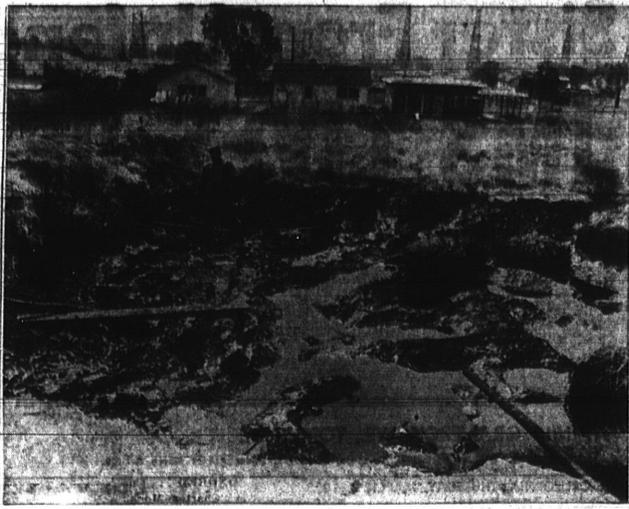
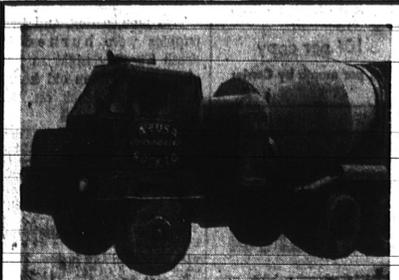




THE DOGMOBILE . . . This peculiar-looking contraption was actually patented in 1870. Powered by a dog, it never became practical for reasons discussed in Tom Rische's "Freakshow" column on page 30. It was unsatisfactory both from the human and canine points of view.



SUMP DRAINED . . . Workmen began draining the sump yesterday which nearly cost the life of 3-year-old Jackie Fornell, of 23011 Narbonne Ave. The young lass was saved from a certain death only when her 6-year-old brother snatched her by the collar and yanked her out after she had tumbled headlong into the oily sump.

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History of Probation Department Explained by Veteran Official

BY ED WILSON
CITY NEWS SERVICE

The Probation Department of Los Angeles was the first in the nation to set up what is known here as the "intake and detention control office," for the screening of juveniles who come to the notice of public authorities.

The history and operation of the unit, which was established last April 28, were explained Tuesday by Harry Simons, unit chief, whose direction the office follows.

"The traditional problem of juvenile officers everywhere has been detention," Simons said. "Many juveniles in trouble require some sort of protective custody pending complete investigation of their cases and the formation of plans in their behalf."

"In some cases this is necessary because their welfare is threatened by unwholesome home or neighborhood conditions. In other instances of se-

vere individual maladjustment, it results from the threat they themselves pose on the community."

Fair Toured Nation
Simons said presiding Juvenile Court Judge William B. McKesson and Probation Officer Karl Holton toured the nation in search of a solution to the detention dilemma where juveniles are involved.

These two officials found that detention facilities in most large communities were sorely overtaxed, but that Los Angeles County had the most highly aggravated housing problem because many runaway juveniles land in this area.

At the same time, Judge McKesson and Holton learned that little had been done to solve the problem. They concluded that Los Angeles would have to work out its own system.

Judge McKesson, who has an extensive background in juvenile problems, spearheaded a move to improve detention practices. He was joined by Judge William B. Neeley, who served many years as a public defender. A criminal jurist, and in the juvenile department of the Superior Court. These two, with Holton, set up a plan with

COUNCIL BRIEFS

Torrance City Council
March 1, 1955

Council meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Nicolas O. Draie. Councilmen present: Victor E. Bonstead Jr., Willys G. Blount, Albert Isen, Mervin M. Schwab, Mayor Draie. Others present: City Attorney James M. Hall, City Manager George Stevens, Fire Chief J. J. Benner, Police Chief Willard H. Haslam, I. J. Halanger served for City Clerk A. H. Bartlett. Meeting opened with pledge of allegiance. Rev. Harry Sippel, of the First Christian Church, offered the invocation. Minutes of special meeting and regular meeting of Feb. 23 approved.

Letter from Planning Commission submitting three items for the Council's consideration submitted. Three items included recommendation that the Council consider a new ordinance changing minimum lot size to 6500 square feet with a 60 foot frontage, that the Council require ornamental street lighting in all new subdivisions, and that setback restrictions be changed on property adjoining a cul-de-sac. All three items were ordered placed on the March 8 agenda.

Letter from Planning Commission suggesting certain amendments to Land Use Ordinance which would require all residential sites to face on public thoroughfare or private road referred to March 8 Council meeting. Also to be considered at that time are additional changes including a provision to make rezoning of A-1 areas to R-1 automatic with the recording of final tract map, and to require parking where certain structures such as schools, colleges, churches, hospitals, and theaters are to be built.

Request of Torrance Cycle and Sport Shop for permission to encroach approximately 4 feet onto sidewalk with new brick facade for buildings on Marcelina Ave. granted.

Lease-option agreement submitted by Hody's for a restaurant site at Crenshaw and Pacific Coast Hwy., tabled until next regular meeting.

Resolution identifying Palos Verdes hills area to be annexed to Torrance as the "Rolling Hills Addition" describing the boundaries of the territory, and setting the date of a formal public hearing under the provisions of Government Code adopted. Hearing set for 8 p.m., April 5, in City Council chambers. (The March 7 hearing next Monday will be held as scheduled).

Request of Milton Kaufman Construction, Corp. for permission to continue use of house trailer facility for period of 90 days in Tract No. 17880 because construction is still underway in that development approved.

Letter from Walteria Civic Organization expressing appreciation for action on rezoning of Walteria received and filed as a matter of record.

Memorandum from City Clerk Bartlett recommending that city ordinances be amended to provide a reciprocal exemption for sales taxes for persons living outside the city filed as a matter of record.

Recommendation of City Manager Stevens that Airport property lease executed by Gilman Corp. be terminated at the lessee's request only when another tenant is secured approved by Council.

Resolution No. 2694 authorizing City Manager to make application for \$3,969.78 of Chapter 47 funds as reimbursement for fund preparation for the Torrance Civic Center adopted. Previously adopted resolution authorization application only for 2,920.02. Additional funds were made available by the state, councilmen were informed by John Patrick, assistant to the City Engineer.

Resolution No. 2695 setting time of hearing at 8 p.m. March 22, for hearing on vacation of certain streets in tract 10807 adopted.

Resolution 2696 authorizing execution of grant of easement to Southern California Edison Co. to permit construction of electric line to serve the city dump adopted.

City Engineer Bishop's recommendation that subdivision bonds totaling \$36,500 held against Southern Property Development Co. be released, approved.

Mayor Draie suggested that the city "do everything possible to eliminate three-lane highways wherever possible," making reference to the Rosecrans cash last month that cost the lives of four teenagers. He suggested that such streets in Torrance be made two-lane roadways, and referred specifically to Narbonne Ave. south of Sepulveda.

Torrance Bus Driver Oral Hunter asked the Council relieve him of responsibility for the loss of about \$50 worth of commutation tickets stolen from his money box, looked in his auto last July. He said that the tickets were not valid until punched, and that none of them had appeared. The matter was held over until Bus Superintendent Marshall Chamberlain could meet with the Council.

Visits Club In Glendale
Thirty-five members of the adult club of the Recreation Center of Torrance went to the Glendale Recreation Center by bus last Saturday where they were entertained by the Glendale adult club.

Members of the club played shuffleboard, croquet, and cards and watched lawn bowling. Coffee and doughnuts were served as refreshments.

Members of the Glendale club are expected to visit the local group sometime next month.

In recent years a disproportionate number of juvenile cases dismissed at the first court hearing had involved detention of children pending such a hearing," Simons continued. "As a result of an alarmingly overcrowded condition, children were being detained on a 'first come, first served' basis, rather than on a basis of careful investigation and screening. A further study revealed that frequently the probation officer's field inquiry did not substantiate the need for detention of many children who were in custody primarily on information from other agencies and before any investigation by the county probation officer."

The detention control section

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