

# Zamperini, Others Pay Tribute to Herald Veteran

A tribute to Miss Lute Fraser, who joined the HERALD staff on Aug. 13, 1923, and stayed until her retirement about two years ago, took the form of the popular Ralph Edwards program, "This Is Your Life" this week as members of the Torrance Chapter of the National Business and Professional Women's Club named her "Woman of the Year."

Parading through the program, held at the Wayfarers in Lomita, were many of Miss Fraser's friends of years past, including George "Mike" Strasser, former HERALD editor; Louis Zamperini, world famous athlete and World War II hero; and Bob Lewellen, an associate with Miss Fraser on the HERALD staff for nearly 25 years.

Highlight of the evening's program was the presentation of a plaque as the club's first "Woman of the Year" by Postmaster Clara Conner, and the awarding of a certificate for Miss Fraser's outstanding work with the BPWC by the club president, Mrs. Sanford Whiting.

The appearance of Zamperini, Strasser, and Lewellen was a complete surprise to Miss Fraser, who was almost speechless as the parade of her long-time friends started.

Introduced along with these friends were Mrs. Paul Vonderabe, HERALD society editor for many years, and Mrs. W. E. Bowen, active in the BPWC with Miss Fraser for many years.

Script for the evening, prepared by Bernice Arnold, was read by one of the club's past presidents, Arvilla Owens, and it recalled many of the hundreds of events which highlighted Miss Fraser's career in Torrance.

"I'm completely at a loss to express my thanks," Miss Fraser said after Strasser, now community sections editor for the Los Angeles Times, gave her a low, low bow from the waist. (It was something Strasser had promised, he said.)

"I just expected to come down here and say a few words about the club 30 years ago," she said at another point. Finally, her voice broken with emotion, Miss Fraser said, "Thank you very much. I'm so happy to be the object of so much affection. I haven't done anything to deserve this, but I appreciate it, and I'm darned glad you did it," she blurted out.

The Only Paper Blanketing All Sections of Torrance plus Lomita, Harbor City and Adjacent City and County Areas

## Torrance Herald

Sunday AND Thursday

News & Adv. FA 8-4000

OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE.

Circulation FA 8-4004

42nd Year—No. 76

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1956

10¢ Per Copy 36 PAGES

# Neighborhood Wins Battle of the Ditch

## Knifing Suspect In Court

Alvin L. Osborne, accused of slashing his ex-wife and her husband late last Thursday after a family argument, is in County Jail with bail set at \$25,000 after he was arraigned on two counts of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to commit murder, Monday in South Bay Court.

The suspect slashed Russell Hillman, 42, of 18920 Felbar Ave., and his ex-mate, Mrs. Lois Hillman, 40, in the wild foray. Hillman is still listed in critical condition at Harbor General Hospital, from numerous abdominal cuts with a kitchen knife.

A transient, a transient, came to the Hillman's house, and caused a ruckus, which resulted in the knifings. Mrs. Hillman received extensive face cuts, trying to break up the violent battle between the two men, but is at her home now.

Osborne, self-described former mental patient, was disarmed by Det. Sgt. Ted Morris after Hillman crawled to a neighbor and asked them to call police. The suspect is to appear next Monday for preliminary hearing in South Bay Court before Judge Otto B. Willett.

Has Relapse  
Detectives here said Hillman had a relapse Saturday after emergency surgery was performed at the hospital Thursday night. He will be in the hospital some time if he recovers, they indicated.

The attack was provoked by Osborne's insults to his former wife, authorities here said. He had cooked a chicken for the Hillmans, but when they refused to eat it, he began insulting her, they said. That was when Hillman, who was outside watering the back lawn, came into the house and challenged Osborne, witnesses concluded.

## Democrats To Hold Fair

Members of the Hollywood Riviera Democratic Club will hold a "Country Fair" at WALTER PARK, off Hawthorne Blvd. on Highway 101, Sunday afternoon and evening from 4-9 p.m.

The program for the event includes games, music, dancing, and food. New and old members of the local club will be on hand with their families as will several popular Democratic candidates.

Tom Anastassiou, president of the club, extends an invitation to all Torrance residents to attend the affair. Funds raised by the "Fair" will go to local, state, and national Democratic candidates' campaign funds.



JOHN K. KESSON  
Re-elected NTCIA Head  
Kesson Tabbed Again As NTCIA Top Official

John K. Kesson, who was recently re-named to the post of president of the North Torrance Civic Improvement Assn., plus other officers of the group will be feted Saturday at the association's annual Inaugural Ball at the Western Club, 15516 Western Ave., Gardena.

Kesson and the following slate of officers will be installed at the dance: John Crain, vice president; Margaret Clark, secretary; Leroy Forsythe, treasurer; and Raymond Dumas, auditor.

Kesson has been active in organization of residents of the North Torrance area since the rapid growth of the area became apparent a few years back. He also has served in various other civic capacities, with the Red Cross and the North Torrance Lions Club.

Festivities will start at 9 p.m. Proceeds from the affair will be earmarked for the NTCIA's building fund, a club spokesman revealed this week. A donation of \$1.50 per person will gain admission.

Ticket may be purchased either at the door Saturday or from any NTCIA member.

Bay Cities OK Bond Issue For Area Hospital

A bond issue of \$1,500,000 to finance construction of a district hospital in the bay cities area apparently passed by a narrow margin in voting in the area Tuesday, according to unofficial tabulations.

## Teachers' Salaries Lagging In District

Torrance is beginning to lag in teachers' salaries, in comparison with other nearby school districts, Schools Superintendent Dr. J. H. Hull told the Board of Education Tuesday night in the district office.

In this light, Hull added, that if the special schools' election gives approval to the state loan and the override tax in October, there is a strong possibility a salary increase for Torrance teachers may come this year. Several years ago, Torrance was one of the leaders in the state in minimum starting pay, he said, but placement of budget monies heavily on building schools has not advanced the salary schedule as much as other districts, he added.

Plans for a \$300,000 district library, to contain the latest in modern facilities for the teacher and pupil alike, also were presented to the board. The library now is in its planning stage, but will offer complete curriculum tools for a 40-school district.

The library will include a professional library for teachers, a large single library for the use of teachers and classes, a browsing corner for the youngsters.

A special report on the enrollment of district schools on Monday, the first day of the fall term, also was presented to the board of administrators. As of Monday, 18,061 students were enrolled in all grades here. Last fall on opening day,

## Crews to Fill Ditch Across Area Backyards

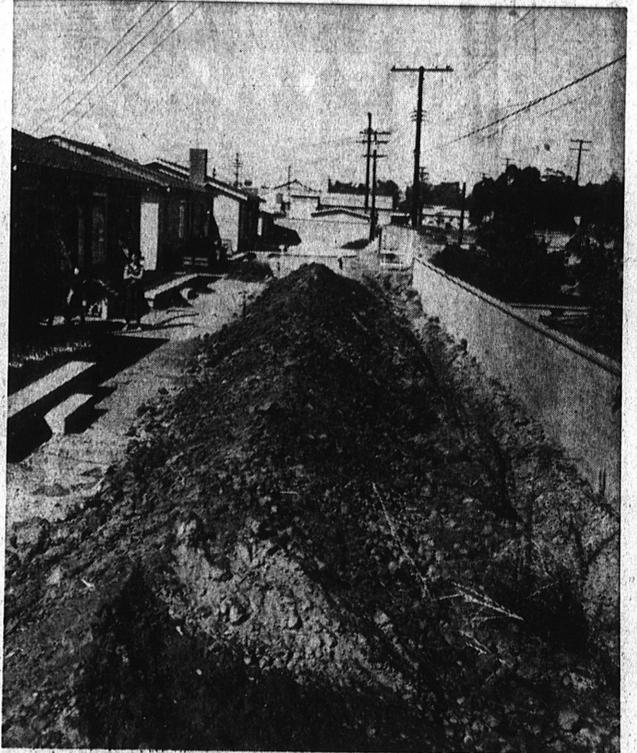
Residents of the 3300 block of Onrado who were awakened this week to the sounds of heavy equipment digging a drainage ditch through their limited backyards won the first round of a battle before the City Council Tuesday night when the Councilmen agreed with their protests and ordered the ditch filled in.

And nobody, including City Engineer Ronald Bishop, could explain how the city crews got on the job in the first place.

Residents of the area appeared before the Council Tuesday to protest the ditch, which was five feet deep in some places, which was being excavated across the back property lines of nearly a dozen homes on the north-side of Onrado.

Purpose of the excavation, they said they were told, was to provide an outlet for water running off the back of lots facing Eldorado Ave. on the north. The Eldorado lots are about four feet lower than their adjoining lots to the south in the Madrona Square section.

Easements through lots in the area contain a pipe several blocks long which dumps the water on the streets. The pipe has been installed, and the ditch being dug this week was to form a feeder basin for this outlet.



FILLER UP... After city crews had excavated this huge drainage ditch across the backyards of more than half a dozen Madrona Square homes this week, the Council ordered it filled up as being unnecessary. The ditch was supposed to drain water from low lots behind the area which are four feet lower than those in the new development. An underground pipe has been installed to carry the water away.



MEETS OLD FRIENDS... Miss Lute Fraser (center foreground) was surprised when friends out of her past began parading through the meeting of the Torrance Business and Professional Women's Club Monday evening. Left to right are Louis Zamperini, Bob Lewellen, Miss Fraser, Mrs. Paul Vonderabe, George "Mike" Strasser and Mrs. Sanford Whiting, club president. Seated at the table is Mrs. Kathleen Head, district president of the BPWC. The local club named Miss Fraser its first "Woman of the Year."

## First Youth Band Concert Scheduled For November 8

Four well-known musical artists and the dates of their Torrance appearances were announced this week by the Youth Band-Artist Assn., a branch of the Torrance Area Youth Bands, backers of the annual series of musical offerings.

Lorenzo Alvary, bass singer, will inaugurate the series on Nov. 8. Jean Casadesus, pianist, will follow on Jan. 23, coloratura soprano Adele Gebr, will be next on March 9, and Julian Olevsky, will conclude the series on April 7. Season ticket buyers will enjoy these four artists, plus the treat of

hearing the Youth Band's 11th anniversary concert, also included in the series, which will be staged May 22, 1957.

At the Youth Band's concert, the four winners of annual student music competition scholarships will be presented as soloists.

W. E. Bowen, president of the Torrance Area Youth Bands, has revealed that the kick-off dinner to start the ticket sales will be staged Oct. 4. Mrs. Gordon Northington is chairman of the dinner committee for the organization. Since the music series is a non-profit project, only a limited

number of season tickets are sold to pay the cost of obtaining the talent and other expenses.

Alvary, first artist in the series, has been a member of the Metropolitan Opera since 1942. He will give his local concert immediately after a two-week engagement with the San Francisco Opera Co. at the Shrine.

Casadesus will make his appearance in Torrance as part of a nationwide tour.

Miss Gebr, a native of Czechoslovakia, has sung in Europe and South America in addition to her work in America. She now makes her home in Hollywood.

Olevsky has performed with most of the major symphony orchestras in the United States.

## Pair Face Theft Count

Two Los Angeles men, Paul Kelly, 18, and David Thompson, 19, entered a plea of not guilty Tuesday at their arraignment of petty theft charges in South Bay Municipal Court, detectives here report.

The pair is accused of taking cash from coin meters on laundry machines at an apartment house at 167th St. and Crenshaw Blvd., on Sept. 12. They were picked up by West Los Angeles Police the next day, authorities say.

Trial has been set for Oct. 18 in South Bay Court.

## Visitor Reports Burglary Of Auto at Marineland

A San Franciscan reported the loss of more than \$300 in clothing and other articles from his car while it was parked at the Marineland lot Saturday afternoon, sheriff's deputies revealed.

## News Index

Ann Landers	20
Barney Glazer	20
Editorials	20
Letters to Editor	20
Society	9-12
Sports	24, 25
Want Ads	30-35