

Order Crash Program to Provide New Jobs for Aircraft Workers

Local Agencies Work Overtime

By VONDA CARLTON
Herald Staff Writer

"Let's get them back to work as soon as possible." With this goal in mind, the Torrance office of the California Department of Employment began staying open evenings this week to aid workers who have been dismissed by North American Aviation.

The office is open from 6 to 8 p.m. today and tomorrow, strictly to aid former North American employees who live in this area.

An estimated 800 localities are expected to be dismissed this week by the aircraft plant which recently lost its government contract for the Navajo missile project.

Other Plants Affected

And feeder plants are also expected to begin laying off employees in this area, causing a temporary scarcity of jobs.

Local employment agencies already are reporting a 25-30 per cent increase in traffic as unemployed workers file applications for new jobs.

Some private agencies indicated they would remain open in the evenings also to take care of the expected increase in business.

Main difficulty in placing persons exists in fitting workers into the right jobs, agency spokesmen declared.

"There are plenty of jobs available," one agency declared. "It's just a matter of finding the right person for the right job."

Most agencies reported jobs available were mainly in the fields of secretarial work and for skilled labor.

Employers Choosy

One agency reported employers now are getting choosy. Formerly engineers were snapped up immediately, regardless of qualifications.

"I've sent one engineer on four interviews," said one personnel counselor, "and he hasn't found a job yet."

Also, employment agencies declared high school diplomas now were an absolute necessity for those trying to find jobs.

Even college degrees are becoming a requirement for most positions.

Slow Months

Since November and December, May and June, are usually slow months in the employment business due to closing of fiscal years by employers, it is expected to take some time to get all the unemployed back to work.

Businessmen are expecting a slump in sales and credit loans may be more difficult to obtain.

However, most employment

agencies remained confident that jobs will soon be available.

More than 5000 new people enter Southern California each month and find positions, one man said. "So this shouldn't cause too much trouble."

Machinery Falls From Fork Lift; Worker Crushed

Funeral services were conducted yesterday for William Reader Wagnon, 58, of 20315 Denker Ave., who was killed Monday when a piece of heavy equipment fell on him.

The Torrance mechanic, employed by the BMW Manufacturing Co., was fatally injured when a fork lift truck was moving the heavy machinery.

The sling that held the machinery slipped and the piece fell over on top of the victim, police reported.

Wagnon died soon after being taken to Harbor General Hospital.

Services yesterday were in the Halverson-Leavell Mortuary Chapel with interment in Pacific Crest Cemetery.

Survivors include his wife, Arlene, of the home address; two daughters, Mrs. Betty Harrison of Lawndale and Mrs. Lella Abernathy of Dallas, Tex.; two sons, William R. Wagnon, Jr., and Samuel Wagnon, both of Torrance; four sisters, a brother and six grandchildren.

School Staff Gets Pay Hike

A 5 per cent increase in salary for auxiliary personnel of the Torrance Unified School District, ranging from clerical help to bus drivers and custodians, was granted Tuesday night by the school board.

The raise will be effective on Sept. 1. The California State Personnel Board completed a survey in April, indicating that salaries of these employees were out of line with comparable employees in the area.

Schools' Reporting Schedule Changed

Times of reporting to parents were changed by the Board of Education Tuesday night, with provision for a parent conference just after written reports are sent home.

The changes were among the recommendations of a committee which studied reporting in Torrance Elementary Schools. The committee recommended that parent conferences be held just after written reports are sent home, to insure that the parent understood exactly what the teacher meant on the report.

Schedule Told

According to the new schedule, reporting will be as follows:

1. A group conference of all parents will be held within the first month after school opens.
2. An initial report on children's progress—a written report followed by an individual parent conference—will be completed by the first week in December.
3. A second report similar in nature will be completed by the first of May. At this time, eighth grade parents will confer with teachers about the child's high school assignments.
4. Final promotions or retention will be at the end of the school year.

More Conferences

Parents or teachers may request additional conferences at any time, and duplicate copies of the report will be filed for future reference.

Parents also may request A, B, C, grades for seventh and eighth grade students.

Member of Gang Caught After Police Crash Auto

One juvenile was in custody yesterday following a wild evening in which two cars were stolen, two coin boxes were stolen, two accidents reported and six shots fired by police.

Torrance police reported two suspects were seen removing a coin machine from a soft drink machine at a service station, 174th St. and Crenshaw Blvd., Tuesday night.

Bond Election For Recreation, Airport Slated

Torrance voters will be asked to approve \$3,000,000 for recreation and \$1,000,000 for the Torrance Airport at a special bond election this fall, probably in October, the City Council decided at a special Monday meeting.

Bond revenues probably will be matched by federal allocations, if approved, City Manager George Stevens said.

The Council whittled \$2,000,000 off the \$5,000,000 asked by the Recreation Commission. Of bonds up for vote, \$2,500,000 would go for purchase of sites and \$500,000 for capital improvement. Stevens was ordered to survey sites to see what sites could be purchased with the money.

15 Cents Added
About 15 cents would be added to the tax bill by the \$3,000,000 bonds, Stevens reported.

Mrs. Herma Tillim, Recreation Commission chairman, pleaded for the \$5,000,000 figure recommended by Robert L. Gold, who made a survey of local recreation, but Councilmen were critical of several parts of the survey.

Councilman Nickolas O. Drake termed the placement of parks only two blocks apart in one case "ridiculous." Council-

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Scourge of Polio Still Calls For Extra Care in Summer

Although only two cases of polio have been reported in Torrance so far this year, the worst of the polio season probably is yet to come, if the last two years are any indication.

According to records at the Torrance District Health Center, in 1956, only six of 29 reported cases occurred before July, and the previous year, only four of 50 cases struck in the first half of the year.

More than 140,000 polio shots have been given in the Torrance health area, but more still are needed to insure the public against the dread crippling disease, according to Dr. B. A. Kogan, district health officer.

Shots Urged
He urged everyone, particularly persons under 40, to have the shots if they have not already done so. Shots are available from family doctors or, at the present time, at the local health center.

According to the State Department of Public Health, a single polio shot offers up to 65 per cent protection against the disease, increasing to about 80 per cent with two shots and to about 90 per cent with the series of three shots.

Kogan said that more than 110,000 shots have been administered by the county health department in this area, while an additional 30,000 have been given by family doc-

tors with vaccine furnished by the health department. Authorities have no way of knowing how much vaccine has been ordered by doctors in the area, but said he believed it was considerable.

140,000 Shots
He pointed out that the number of shots given did not mean that 140,000 people had received the Salk shots, since many of that number received their second and third shots. There are about 260,000 people in the Torrance health area.

Last year, the Torrance health area, embracing five cities and county territory had a rate of 17 cases of polio per 100,000 people, exactly the same as the county-wide average. The city of Torrance had a rate of 14.9 cases per 100,000.

To date, only two cases of polio have been reported in Torrance—a seven year old boy and a 10-year-old girl, both of whom had received two Salk inoculations. Both cases were of the non-paralytic variety.

Studies Cited
National studies of the effectiveness of the Salk Vaccine indicate that polio inoculations greatly decrease the chances of getting polio and that among inoculated persons who do contract polio, the chances of getting polio are greatly reduced. Since many children have received the polio shots, the

average age of the victims has risen somewhat.

A study of cases in Torrance and nearby unincorporated areas last year indicates that of the 29 cases, only three had previously received shots. Two persons died, 48 and 19 years old, but neither had had the shots.

Polio Drops
In Los Angeles County, polio so far this year is far below the five-year average. To date, 111 cases have been reported, compared with the average of 273 for the 1952-56 period.

Ages of the victims were as follows:

Age	1956	1955
0-10	13	22
11-20	8	10
20-30	5	14
30-40	2	9
Over 40	1	0

For the past two years in Torrance, the polio seasons has seemed to run roughly from May to October, with most of the cases reported during hot weather. By months, the cases were reported:

Month	1956	1955
January	1	1
February	0	1
March	0	1
April	0	0
May	2	0
June	3	2
July	7	7
August	3	9
September	7	9
October	4	6
November	2	7

Board Approves School Budget Of \$8,280,264

A budget of \$8,280,264 was approved by the Torrance Board of Education, Tuesday, with the final tax rate to depend on final assessed valuation figures.

Indications are, however, that the schools will levy about 35 cents override tax or the 75 cents authorized by the voters. This will mean a tax of about \$2 per \$100 assessed valuation (\$1.65 regular taxes plus 35 cents override tax). This figure is based on an expected assessed valuation of about \$153,000,000.

The \$8,280,264 figures do not include the district's building fund, the state school building fund, cafeteria accounts, child care center fund, bond interest and redemption funds, or the Public Law 815 fund. These make a total of more than \$22,000,000 in funds for local schools.

Expenditures in the budget include the following percentages:

Teachers salaries and other instructional expenses, 71.24 per cent; operation of plants, 12.06 per cent; various fixed charges, 4.12 per cent; administration salaries and costs, 3.88 per cent; plant maintenance, 3.49 per cent; auxiliary services, 2.88 per cent; and transportation, 2.33 per cent.



(Herald Photo)
BANK PROMOTIONS . . . Receiving confirmation of their appointments by Bank of America to new positions are Dean Sears (left) and H. G. Frenz (right). Ira E. Ogden, vice president of the bank in the Los Angeles office reveals that Sears has been named assistant vice president while Frenz will be manager of the Torrance Bank.

Building Plans Eyed by Board

The Torrance school board moved ahead with alternative plans for students who were to have gone to the strike-delayed South High School Tuesday night, and made plans for construction of additional facilities for the city's elementary school population.

More bad news was received by the board, as it learned that the contractor had been unable to obtain suitable bricks called for in the original South High contract, necessitating another delay. This will cause an estimated delay of 40 days, some of which will run concurrently with delays caused by the strike of plumbers, hod carriers, and sheet metal workers.

Bid Accepted
A \$29,915 bid for the construction of temporary physical education facilities at South (Continued on Page 4)

Other Facilities

Previously educators had announced plans to use 13 classrooms and the school auditorium at Torrance Elementary School and seven Torrance High classrooms full-time.

Other South High classes will use the same classrooms at Torrance High as THS students.

For athletic teams at South High, plans are being studied to use Torrance park as a practice field. Torrance High's fields are crowded with Tartar athletic teams.

A temporary cafeteria will

New Torrance Safeway Store Opening Today

A special six-page section heralding the opening of the new Safeway Store at Carson St. and Western Ave., is included in today's HERALD. The section starts on page 13.

Newest addition to Torrance's growing list of super food markets, the Safeway unit will be managed by Howard C. Quiggle, a veteran of 19 years service with Safeway Stores and manager of the downtown Torrance unit for the past year.

The company is presenting scores of special values and gifts in connection with grand opening festivities.

Bank of America Names Sears to Vice Presidency

Harold G. Frenz, former general lending officer for the Bank of America in Los Angeles, has been named manager of the Torrance branch of the bank to share top-level duties with Dean L. Sears, manager here since 1935, who has been advanced to an assistant vice presidency, it was announced here yesterday.

The new arrangement will release Sears from many branch operating duties and give him more time for customer relations, according to Jesse W. Tapp, chairman of the bank's board of directors, who made the announcement.

Sears, a member of the Torrance Kiwanis Club for many years, and a leader in civic affairs, had a small office with five employees when he became manager 22 years ago. The office now has 69 members on the staff, and has moved to large, modern quarters in recent years.

Wins Civic Honors

His civic activities won Sears the Distinguished Citizen award here in 1955, and he has been active in Boy Scouts, the Torrance Memorial Hospital, Chamber of Commerce, and other area organizations.

Frenz, who has been with Bank of America for 19 years, started in South Gate as a junior clerk. After serving in World War II in the Pacific, he attended the Pacific Coast Banking School in Seattle. He was made an assistant vice president in 1956, and has since engaged in all types of lending, notably in real estate and tract loans of large proportions.

The new manager was active in the Huntington Park Kiwanis Club and is a past commander of the Walnut Park American Legion. He and his wife, Elsie, have long taken part in PTA and youth work because of their three children, Diane, 15, Joan 12, and James 8.

Boy Gets Severe Head Injury in Crash Yesterday

A 6-year-old boy was treated for a severe head injury at Harbor General Hospital after his bicycle collided with the trailer of a huge semi dairy products truck yesterday afternoon.

The little victim was Leonard Dechand, 21605 Ladeene Ave., who was rushed to the hospital after the accident on Sepulveda Blvd., just east of Ocean Ave. The truck was driven by Elmer Sylvester McLafferty, 49, Los Angeles.

Witnesses told police that the boy and two companions, one of them his brother, were riding their bicycles west-bound on the dirt shoulder along Sepulveda Blvd. The boys apparently swerved to avoid a parked car and Leonard's bicycle careened into the eastbound lane.

McLafferty told police he swerved to avoid the boy, whose bicycle bounced off the trailer, beside the rear wheel. The front wheel of the bike was mangled and pieces of the vehicle scattered over the street.

The boy's 7-year-old brother was taken to a neighboring house, apparently suffering from shock.