

# ARMSTRONG APPOINTED JUDGE

## Sept. 5 Is Last Day to Register For Bond Vote

Torrance residents were warned by Chamber of Commerce President A. E. Thompson that Sept. 5 is the deadline for registration for voting in the special city election on Oct. 29.

Thompson said residents must be registered at least 54 days before the election which will include a \$3,000,000 park bond issue and a \$1,000,000 airport bond issue. Also are charter amendments providing method of airport bond payment and the election of a seven-man City Council. The latter provided that the mayor be elected separately.

Those who have moved since the last general election or who did not vote in the last general election may register at the City Clerk's office in the Civic Center or at any certified registrar.

## Police Seek New Clues in Theater Death of Youth

Police and sheriff's deputies were continuing to track down leads in the stabbing of John Emmett Edwards, 17-year-old Hawthorne boy, this week, but at present are holding no one, according to Acting Chief Percy Bennett.

The Leuzinger High School student was fatally stabbed last Wednesday night in the men's restroom of the Radium Drive-In Theater, 2500 Redondo Beach Blvd. Five men were arrested at the scene, but later released.

Bennett said officers are checking on a number of patrons at the drive-in movie in an effort to locate the killer or killers. A woman bystander reported seeing some men run out of the restroom shortly before young Edwards staggered out, collapsed, and died.

## Gun Injures Man

Charles Briner, 31, of 1008 Kornblum Ave., received multiple lacerations in a gun accident Tuesday.

He was taken to Harbor General Hospital.

## Shopping Center Will Open Today

The new \$15,000,000 South Bay Center, 174th St. and Hawthorne Blvd., three years in the planning, has its official grand opening today, Aug. 22.

Opening celebrations are slated including a full-scale circus on Saturday, Aug. 24, that will include three performances. Prizes include a new 1957 Ford.

The 700,000 square foot, 55 acre, 35-store Center is owned by the Brody Investment Co., of Beverly Hills, and was designed by the nation's leading shopping center architects—Jones & Emmons and Victor Gruen and associates who combined their talents in the contemporary design of South Bay Center.

Sidney F. Brody, president of Brody Investment Co., acquired the land in April of 1954, and just over two years later the first phase of the Center was completed when the South Bay Bowling Center opened. Construction on the Bowling Center, called the country's finest by bowling experts throughout the nation, was finished in eight months. The 54-lane, \$2,500,000 sports center also houses the Steak Knife Restaurant.

Actual construction on South Bay Center began in September of last year.

## Delegation in Sacramento Seeking Freeways in Area

A score of local officials and civic leaders will appear before the California Highway Commission in Sacramento today to press for completion of the San Diego Freeway southward from Culver City through Torrance.

The delegation, members of the Inter-City Highway Committee, will be headed by Chairman Wilburn E. Baker of El Segundo, who has said his group seeks to obtain allocations for this important freeway link.

### Hahn to Appear

The local delegation will join one headed by Supervisor Kenneth Hahn which is seeking to obtain funds for the completion of the Harbor Freeway southward from 124th St. Hahn has asked for funds to construct the freeway at least to 190th St. Design and engineering on that portion has been completed and the right of way acquired, the supervisor pointed out at a special meeting last week.

Inter-City Chairman Baker said his group would support Hahn's request for Harbor Freeway funds, but did not want the Commission to lose sight of the pressing need for the San Diego Freeway.

### Land Acquired

Torrance Councilman Nick Drae, who is headed this city's delegation to Sacramento, pointed out that much of the right of way had been acquired for the San Diego Freeway, and that the federal government would supply up to 92 per cent of the funds for its construction because it is a major, inter-regional highway.

Present bottleneck is in the Culver City area where the site for an interchange between the San Diego and Marina Freeways has been protested.

The original design put the interchange near Lincoln and Jefferson Blvds. he pointed out. Objection was voiced by Hughes Aircraft officials who said it would interfere with landing patterns at the Hughes field. Drainage problems in the area further complicated the procedure.

### Protests Raised

An attempt to move the interchange northward into Culver City raised a storm of protest from officials of that city. At that point, the freeway design has been halted.



(Herald Photo)  
**A SHOCKING EXPERIENCE . . .** "Don't plug old electric cords into the wall," 3-year-old Allan Jones warns his twin sister, Carolyn, as he points to a badly burned thumb. The lad found a frayed old cord Monday and decided to plug it in. He was knocked unconscious by the resulting jolt. His father, Lloyd Jones, 811 Elm Ave., gave him artificial respiration and firemen revived the boy, who was all right, aside from a burned hand. He and his parents agreed that electrical appliances should be kept out of children's reach.

## Schools Will Open Again on Sept. 12

It'll soon be "back to the books" for some 20,000 children in the Torrance Unified School District.

Torrance schools will open Thursday morning, Sept. 12, at 9 a.m. with full sessions of classes planned on the first day. School cafeterias also will be open at 22 elementary and three high schools.

One new elementary school—Parkway—will open its doors for the first time. South High School students, originally slated to open in September, was held up by a construction strike. However, South High School students will attend classes at Torrance Elementary and Torrance High Schools until the new

Children entering first grade will be admitted if they were born on or before Dec. 2, 1952.

Parents or guardians of children must present proof of the legal minimum age for admission to school.

### Answers Set

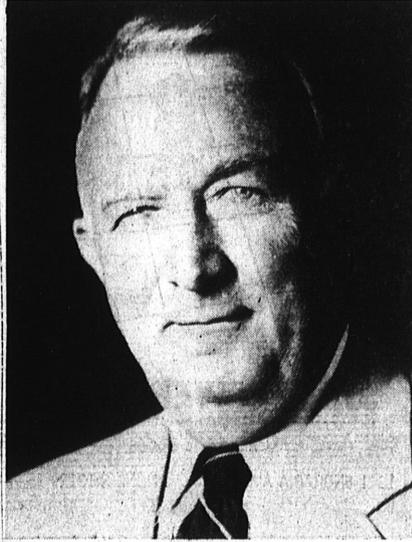
Parents new to Torrance may call the Special Services Offices, FAirfax 8-8080, for information concerning the school their child is to attend. Questions relating to the child's program in school, the teacher, room or class should be directed to the principal, who will be at the school beginning Sept. 3.

Children currently enrolled in the Torrance schools need not be concerned by pre-enrollment. They are to be present Thursday, Sept. 12.

### Plane Lands in Field

A Torrance man started out for a ride in a plane but wound up getting a lift home from local police officers.

James Reddick, 4239 W. 180th St., made a forced landing in a vacant field north of Maricopa Ave., between Crenshaw Blvd. and Maple Ave.



ATTORNEY DONALD ARMSTRONG  
... Appointed to Municipal Bench

## Woman Dies After Auto Hits Viaduct

A 22-year-old Torrance woman died late Saturday at Harbor General Hospital about three hours after her auto crashed into a concrete abutment of the Pacific Electric viaduct over Torrance Blvd. west of Western Ave.

Victim of the spectacular crash was Mrs. Marcelle May Hoppel, wife of Ernest Hoppel, 1633 W. 227th St. Police were unable to identify her for some time after the crash.

Requiem mass was celebrated yesterday for the woman at St. Margaret Mary Church, Lomita. Rosary was Tuesday in the Stone and Myers Mortuary.

Surviving are her husband, Ernest; a son, Ernest Jr.; a daughter, Garnet; parents, Mr. and Mrs. Odien Casavan; a brother and two sisters.

Five persons were injured Sunday in an accident at Crenshaw St. and Eldorado.

Treated at Harbor General Hospital for minor injuries were five passengers in a car driven by Daniel Lee Johnson, 20, of 2423 W. 233rd St.

They were Lucile Johnson, 19, of the 233rd St. address; Betty Pointer, 22, and three Pointer children, Robert 11; Sheryl, 5, and Valorie, 3.

The other driver involved was Joseph Wilcox, 59, of Hawthorne. Wilcox, according to police reports, was traveling north on Crenshaw. The other vehicle was proceeding south on Crenshaw.

## Recreation Department Open House Set Friday

"Recreation Through the Ages" will be the theme of the Torrance Recreation Department open house tomorrow at the Civic Auditorium, El Prado and Cravens, from 6:30 to 10 p.m.

Designed to show crafts made at the various parks and playgrounds in the city during the summer, the open house will feature work from all areas in the city. Ribbons will be awarded in various age groups for best work shown.

A show will be presented to show various other recreational facilities throughout the area. The theme will illustrate recreation from the time of "cowboys and Indians," through the Gold Rush Days, the Gay 90's, Roaring 20's, and up until today.

A quartet will sing "Moonlight Bay," "Bicycle Built for Two" and "Strolling Through

## Knight Picks Torrance Man

Appointment of Torrance Attorney Donald Armstrong as the third judge in the South Bay Municipal Court was confirmed by Governor Goodwin J. Knight in Sacramento Tuesday. The new judge will take office Sept. 11.

Armstrong, 58, who lives at 812 Via Conejo in Palos Verdes Estates, will join Judges John A. Shidler and Otto B. Willett in the local court.

An announcement of Armstrong's selection confirmed a report published in Sunday's HERALD that he was apparently slated for the appointment. The new jurist is a senior member of the Torrance legal firm of Armstrong, Mewborn, and Hitchcock.

### Court Readied

The Torrance city council, which spearheaded official efforts to get a new court established in Torrance and a third judge appointed, greeted news of the appointment by offering congratulations to Armstrong, and by asking City Manager George Stevens to wrap up negotiations with the county for use of the former city hall in downtown Torrance as a temporary local court building. Stevens reported that agreement on most aspects of the matter were nearly completed.

A new courthouse, to cost in excess of \$250,000, is to be constructed during the coming year on the city's new civic center site at Torrance Blvd. near Maple Ave. One of the three judges, possibly Armstrong, will be assigned to that court.

### Was City Attorney

A resident of Palos Verdes Estates for 23 years, Armstrong has been practicing law since his admittance to the bar. He received his legal training at the University of California at Berkeley. During this time he has been an assistant U. S. attorney and has practiced law privately in Los Angeles and Torrance in addition to serving as city attorney for Torrance and Palos Verdes Estates.

Armstrong's appointment to the \$17,500 a year job will stand until the general elections of 1960. He must seek election to the position at that time if he wishes to retain the office.

### Is Civic Minded

Armstrong has been active in community affairs during his practice here. He is a member of the Torrance Rotary Club, Chamber of Com-

merce, and other civic groups, and has spearheaded YMCA, Red Feather, and other community campaigns. He has been active in the support of Governor Knight's campaigns, and was area chairman three years ago.

He also is a director of the Torrance Memorial Hospital, and a past trustee of the Los Angeles County Bar Assn.

He and his wife, Grace, have two children, James, of Bakersfield, and Mrs. E. B. Hall, of Los Angeles.

## City to Acquire Two Off-Street Parking Sites

Purchase of two sites for off-street parking on El Prado at Torrance Blvd. was approved by the city council this week when it was determined that the chances of forming an off-street parking assessment district downtown were dead.

Decision of the council to accept an offer of George Binder, owner of the two pieces of property, came after Chamber Manager Dick Fitzgerald and a representative of the Retail Merchants Assn., A. Robinson, told the council that they held no hope of being successful with the assessment district.

Purchase of the sites will be made from parking meter funds.

Mayor Albert Isen said he had heard that the assessment district was "dead as a dodo," and he suggested that merchants get together and form a corporation to raise funds for purchase of parking lots.

"You've seen what cooperation you get," Robinson said. He said "you couldn't hold the town back for a couple of people."

Willys Blount added his belief that the assessment district would never materialize.

Conditions on purchase of the property from Binder suggested by Boh Jahn included cancellation of work on the assessment district, adoption of a policy that the purchase of the two lots would not be the final effort to provide downtown parking, and dropping the condemnation suit on the former Mayfair creamery property on Post Ave. His suggestions were adopted.

## Rivets Reports

Today's weather will be more of the same kind we've been having, Rivets reported, except that it might be a degree or two cooler. Mostly sunny with variable high cloudiness is the forecast. It'll be about 80 at the beach and a little warmer inland.

So far this week, high and lows have been Sunday (87-63); Monday (87-64); Tuesday (85-65); and Wednesday (79-63).



SUNNY

# Downtown Torrance Stores Offer Dollar Day Values